



Nominate Mairead for Membership and Equalities Officer 2026-28

I am writing to ask you to consider nominating me to continue in the post of Membership and Equalities Officer. I have been Membership and Equalities Officer since September 2024, and I have been a member of the national executive since the inception of the NEU in 2019. I am committed to professional unity for the education profession. I have worked very hard over the last year to represent all members as a National Officer of Britain's third largest union.

I have been a member of the NEU (formerly NUT) throughout my teaching career and have been active in the Union both locally and nationally. I was elected as Executive member for Wales in 2019, and I was re-elected to that role twice. I have held the post of district secretary in Vale of Glamorgan since 2015 and branch secretary until recently. I have built the district from moribund into a strong and active district, vastly increasing attendance at meetings and engagement of members. I have also been a long-standing workplace rep in my school and from experience, I know that organising members in the workplace is most important in building the strength of our union. I have been instrumental in building international solidarity in Wales, and I have led 3 volunteering delegations to Calais. I have taken part in delegations to both Palestine and Cuba, and I have represented the NEU at Education International twice in Bangkok and Argentina. This year as a national officer I have been delighted to represent the union at many conferences abroad and to lead a delegation of members to Srebrenica. I also encourage and support members to apply for other international delegations.

I was **Chair of the Executive Member Defence Strategy Committee for 2 terms**, the remit of which is to take account of the implications and impact of Union policy on race, sex, LGBT+ and disability equality together with leadership, post-16, independent school and support staff sections in all aspects of its work. I am **current Chair of the Women's Organising Forum**, and I represent the NEU on the **TUC Women's Committee**. I am also chair of the **National Executive Equalities Committee**. I have led on rule changes to support the fair representation of women as the largest section of our membership at 75%. I have co-organised 5 consecutive International Women's Day conferences in Wales which have increased women's participation in their branches and nationally. I have been a member of the NEU conference committee, and conference committee Cymru and I am a trustee for the NEU trust fund.

In Wales, I have been a member of the general council for Wales TUC for five years. I am also an active member of the Wales TUC equalities committee and women's forum.

I am committed to a campaigning union. During my time as a local officer and national executive, I have encouraged members to become more active, I have supported members in struggle and defended members under attack, and this has always been a priority for me. It is essential that we continue to use our resources to defend members' pay and conditions, to fight cuts, and to challenge the unrealistic level of workload that is driving members out of the profession.

I believe that I have the knowledge, skills and experience to continue to develop this officer role and I will continue to work hard to represent members, listening to your views and campaigning around issues that are important to you.

Thank you for taking the time to read my material and I hope that you feel able to support me to continue for another term in this important role.

Nominate Louise Lewis for Membership & Equalities Officer



I've proudly served on the National Executive since 2021, where I currently sit on Members Defence and chair both the Supply & Home Tutors Organising Forum and the Legal Appeals Committee.

As a Black woman, a part-time teacher, and a mum of two living with a hidden disability, I understand how the barriers our members face can overlap and intersect. I want every member to be seen, valued, and protected and I'll continue to be a strong, compassionate voice for equality and inclusion across our union.

My fight for justice is rooted in the belief that every member deserves fairness, dignity, and belonging. I will always stand up for our LGBT+ members, challenge racism, and champion the rights of disabled members and women. I will continue to push for alternatives to agencies for supply members through direct employment through the use of LEA, MAT and Diocesan supply pools ensuring pay parity, and for our union to win full recognition on the NJC for support staff. Our union must remain a space of safety, unity, and strength, one that confronts hatred and division wherever it arises. The far right must be challenged through campaigning, grassroots organising, and demonstrations but also in counterposing a fighting alternative to the politics of austerity promoted by Starmer and the Tories..

I am an internationalist so my commitment to anti-racism and workers' solidarity extends to people around the world fighting for peace and freedom especially in Palestine. That same belief in collective power drives my work within the union, pushing the Government to properly fund education and inspires my support for Your Party, a movement rooting itself in hope, fairness, and equality. I was proud to chair the Conference of Resistance in Huddersfield alongside Jeremy Corbyn and other socialists who share this vision for change.

Together, we can build a union that leads with care, courage, and conviction and one where every member's voice truly matters.