

PROTECT PROMOTE PARTICIPATE

Whatever your position in a School, Nursery or College - Teacher, Support Staff or Leader - we are working harder than ever before.

I am standing to be the elected Deputy General Secretary because I am determined to protect the hundreds of thousands of NEU members wherever they work and in whatever role. I will promote the honest, authentic voice of the whole education workforce and the power of education to change children and young people's lives.

As professionals we all know that education should be a creative and dynamic experience which enables children and young people to explore, understand and contribute to society. Each of us plays a vital role in making this exciting journey a reality.

As Deputy General Secretary I will ensure we have a strong, vibrant and active Union driven by one central ambition - to bring about a genuine change in education for education professionals and their pupils.

Support Niamh Sweeney and follow the campaign via



@NiamhSweeneyDGS



@Niamhs23



"I am a full time teacher. I know how hard education staff work. I will work with you and for you as DGS of the National Education Union."

www.niamhsweeney.online

As the first elected Deputy General Secretary of the NEU my priorities are to...

Protect Members

I am a full-time teacher, I know how hard education professionals work.

Whatever your position in a School, Nursery or College - Teacher, Support Staff or Leader – we are all working more unpaid overtime than ever before. Workload is relentless and excessive and has increased throughout the pandemic because of government incompetence and its disdain for education workers.

As a Workplace Rep, and previously as Branch Secretary of the largest single workplace Branch in the Union, I have the courage and the skills needed to defend members against the discrimination, poor treatment and unacceptable working conditions they too often experience.

I have, personally, stood up to bullying management and protected colleagues from unjust and derogatory treatment. I have defended members against discrimination because of their race, sexuality and sex. I am committed to equality for all within the workplace and within our union.

Promote Education

The Covid pandemic and subsequent exam fiasco created by the Government, has exposed to young people and their families what many of us have known as education professionals for many years. Our high stakes testing system - from Baseline to GCSE and A Level, is too pressured and too reliant on rote learning and teaching to the test. It labels too many of our young people, particularly those who suffer from poverty and deprivation, as failures. It is not fit for purpose.

Promote Equality

As the voice of the profession the NEU must promote the vital importance of an inclusive education system and the positive impact this has on developing a fairer society. The NEU must continue to campaign to end child poverty and inequality in education and the wider society.

Education in the 21st Century must be global in its vision and perspective, enabling young people to participate as citizens and to change society for the better.

Participate Powerfully

The NEU has reinvented collective trade unionism for the 21st century with its fantastic, pioneering use of technology to involve and empower its members throughout the pandemic. We must not go backwards. The union must build on its successes.

I believe that all members must be offered the same opportunities to be represented, to participate, be heard and to contribute towards the policies of the NEU. We must drive forward Branch and District renewal to ensure they reflect our diverse membership.

As a full time teacher and workplace representative, I understand the difficulties that members have in finding time to participate in NEU activities and events.

As a former National President I have the knowledge, skills and ability to critically appraise the successes of the last three years since the formation of the NEU. I have the experience and objectivity to oversee areas for development and I have the strategic vision to drive our policy direction to have a real impact on the working lives of all our members, and to affect educational change.