

The School Support Staff Negotiating Body (SSSNB)

The School Support Staff Negotiating Body (SSSNB) – which was abolished in 2010 by the previous government – is to be reinstated in recognition of the vital role support staff play in the workforce and young people's education.

Support staff make up over half the school workforce and include a wide range of roles including teaching assistant, administrative staff, catering staff or caretakers. GMB is one of the unions representing school support staff members on the SSSNB.

Members in schools know their role has significantly changed in the past 10 years but this has not been properly acknowledged, let alone rewarded.

The numbers of pupils with SEN continue to rise and Government figures show that since 2016 there has been an 84% increase in the number of children with EHCPs.

GMB London is working with members in schools to get their roles re-evaluated, if there has been a change in the work they are doing.

Low pay is also an issue for members in schools and Teaching Assistants and School Secretaries are now on the Low Pay Commission's 'Low Paid Occupation List'. The reason for this is Term Time Only Contracts which mean workers receive pay for just 10 months a year but the payments are spread out over 12 months to ensure they receive money when the schools are closed.

GMB has a campaign calling for the end of Term Time Only Pay and you can find out more [here](#).

If you would like the GMB London Schools Team to visit your school please email schoolsteam@gmb.org.uk.

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