

What support is available for contacts?

Being a contact ensures that you and other members at your workplace will have a direct link to the NASUWT's network of local and national support.

You and the members in your workplace are part of a Local Association led by other serving teachers.

Members and Local Associations have access to the support and advice from the NASUWT's professional staff in NASUWT Northern Ireland Centre in Belfast.

The NASUWT's website provides comprehensive, easily accessible online support, advice and information for contacts.

For more information

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NORTHERN IRELAND

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NASUWT
The Teachers' Union
NORTHERN IRELAND

KEEPING IN CONTACT

Helping us to help you



The largest teachers' union in Northern Ireland

This leaflet contains essential information for members interested in becoming a workplace contact for the NASUWT.

As the largest teachers' union in Northern Ireland, the NASUWT has trained Representatives in many schools, supporting and advising members on issues such as health and safety, discipline, grievances and equality, communicating information to them and supporting workplace learning.

The NASUWT recognises that although not everybody wants to become involved at this level, many members have told the NASUWT that they are willing to support Union activity by ensuring that members in the workplace are well informed about the latest developments in education policy and by acting as a communication link between the Union and its members. **It is for this reason that the NASUWT is developing a network of workplace contacts.**

Who can become a workplace contact?

Any member of the NASUWT in a workplace can volunteer to the NASUWT to become a contact in those workplaces where there is no accredited NASUWT Representative.

What does a workplace contact do?

The NASUWT recognises that teaching is a very challenging and time-consuming role but we also know that there has never been a more important time to ensure that members are directly linked to the NASUWT to ensure that they are receiving the information, advice and support that they need.

The workplace contact provides that vital link by:

- updating the Union notice board with the information the Union regularly provides;
- receiving information from the NASUWT and bringing it to the attention of members either via the notice board or circulating it directly to members as appropriate;
- prompting members to respond to ballots or surveys;
- reminding members, from time to time, to inform the NASUWT of any changes to their membership information;
- welcoming a trainee or newly qualified teacher and any teachers new to the workplace, and passing on information about the benefits of being a member of the NASUWT;
- publicising NASUWT events and training courses;
- communicating any concerns members may have to the NASUWT to enable advice and support to be provided to them.

All the information you will need is provided by the NASUWT.

Why are contacts important?

As members of a democratic union, you and the other members in your workplace are vital to the effectiveness of the NASUWT in representing the interests of members. As a democratic, member-led organisation, the NASUWT seeks to ensure member input to inform policy and decision making.