

GMBYOUR UNION IN
SCHOOLS

SCHOOL WORKFORCE NEWS

Issue 10 of the new series. **Yorkshire and North Derbyshire**

.....nursery nurses, classroom assistants, secretaries, bursars, school meals staff, TAs, learning support practitioners, sitekeepers, learning mentors, cover supervisors, administrators, cleaners, librarians, midday supervisors, personal care assistants, technicians, HLTAs, School Business Managers.....**GMB, your union in schools**

GMB invited onto expert group to review medical care in schools

AFTER a lot of GMB campaigning, the Government has set up an expert group to look at how schools support pupils with medical needs. GMB has been invited to take part and we intend to play a leading role.

As part of our campaign, GMB recently carried out a second annual UK-wide survey of our school support staff members. Results show that two out of five support staff with medical duties don't have access to proper training or facilities. 54% feel vulnerable about what they are expected to do.

The most common medical duty that support staff such as TAs and secretaries undertake is first aid (39%). Large numbers also help children who have asthma (37%) and diabetes (18%). On average there are now two children with asthma in every classroom.

Other medical procedures include feeding children through tubes in their noses or stomachs, helping them with their toileting, and sorting out catheters which remove urine from the bladder.

33% of staff say they're still not getting the support and supervision they need from their school.

The Government's new expert group is due to make recommendations by Easter. Among other things it will examine the training given to staff, and the role of school nurses. The review covers England only, but GMB will also be raising these issues with the devolved administrations.

Sharon Holder, GMB National Officer for Schools, has this message for all headteachers: "Don't wait for new Government guidance to be published, it's your responsibility to put proper training and

facilities in place now. Schools should be commissioning services from school nurses and other community health professionals, not relying on non-medical support staff to perform complex procedures."

If you have concerns about medical provision at your school, let your GMB representative know or contact your local GMB office. If you are not already a GMB member, why not join today? Go to www.gmb.org.uk/join or fill-in the form on the back.

Extracts from the GMB survey

Have you ever felt vulnerable about being expected to give medicines or medical support?

Yes	54%
No	46%

Please give details of the medical facilities at your school.

Medical room	60%
No medical room	32%
"Nothing"	8%

What needs to be done to improve the system of medical support in schools?

Top 5 answers:

1) Better, more frequent training	31%
2) More school nurses	22%
3) Better facilities	11%
4) Pay that recognises responsibilities	7%
5) Tighter guidelines	5%

Get the full results at www.gmb.org.uk (search for "medical care")

GMB is the union for School Support Staff across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Wherever you work, GMB is here to help. **Join GMB** online at www.gmb.org.uk/join
Contact Bill Chard Lead Schools Officer bill.chard@gmb.org.uk 0845 3377777

Term-Time Only £6.50 per month

How do I join?



Just fill in the form below and hand it in to your local GMB workplace organiser, or post it to GMB Yorkshire and North Derbyshire region, FREEPOST NEA524, Grove Hall, 60 College Grove Road, Wakefield WF1 3SY (you do not need a stamp).

JOIN GMB AT
www.gmbbyorkshire.org.uk
 Or if you have any questions call **0845 337 7777**



Remember - GMB membership covers you for all of your jobs, wherever you work. GMB contributions are £2.65 if you work 21 hours or more per week, £1.50 if you work between 10-20 hours per week and just 85p if you work less than 10 hours per week. ***85p rate excludes cash benefits**

FOR UNION USE ONLY Section Branch No Membership No Date of joining

GMB Yorkshire and North Derbyshire region membership application form

1 TELL US ABOUT YOU

Surname First name Title Mrs/Miss/Ms/Mr Date of birth

Home address Home Tel Email

Postcode Mobile I agree to abide by GMB rules Signature

Date We ask for your ethnic origins as part of our equal opportunities policy of improving services to all members
 Bangladeshi /Black African /Black Caribbean /Black British /Chinese /Indian /Pakistani /White /Other

2 TELL US ABOUT YOUR JOB

Employer Your job

Address where you work Postcode

How many hours a week do you work? Pay No

Work Tel Pay Date

3 CHOOSE EITHER AUTHORISATION OF DEDUCTION OF YOUR TRADE UNION CONTRIBUTIONS FROM YOUR PAY

Section 68, Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidated) Act 1992 as amended

- I authorise my employer to deduct from my pay each week/month the sum of £ or other amounts as may be fixed by the GMB from time to time.
- Please start the deductions immediately and pay the amounts to the GMB. Cash
- I note that this agreement may be cancelled by one month's notice in writing.
- I give permission to my employer to notify the GMB of any future change of address.

Signed Date

4 OR INSTRUCTION TO YOUR BANK OR BUILDING SOCIETY TO PAY DIRECT DEBITS



Please fill in the form and send to **GMB Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region**, Grove Hall, 60 College Grove Road, Wakefield WF1 3RN

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society branch

To the Manager of Bank/Building Society

Address Postcode

Name(s) of account holder(s)

Bank/Building Society Account Number

Bank/Building Society Sort Code

Reference number (Office use only)

Service User Number

For GMB official use only. This is not part of the instruction to your Bank/Building Society. If your A/C number is not available fill in your address below.

Instructions to your Bank or Building Society.
 Please pay GMB Direct Debits from the account detailed in this Instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this Instruction may remain with GMB and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Signature(s)

Date

Banks or Building Societies may not accept instructions for some types of account