

Support Striking University Staff!

Workers at **58 universities** across the UK are on a 3-day strike starting December 1st! Why? University bosses have refused to negotiate to reverse the over **35% cut to guaranteed pensions**. One-third of academic workers are on **insecure contracts**. The **gender pay gap sits at 15%** and there is massive underrepresentation in the workforce. The average worker puts in more than **two days unpaid** each week. Finally, there is a crisis of work-related stress with over half of education workers in higher education showing probable **signs of depression**. Meanwhile, management is flush; with vice chancellors' average pay reaching **£269,000 per year**.

Are you not sure how to feel about the strike as a student?

It's important to remember that a strike is a last resort and happens only when employers refuse to do the right thing. It's a university's **unwillingness to treat staff fairly** that has led us here. Drops in staff working conditions also mean that your **quality of education decreases**, even though your fees keep going up. We believe that teachers and students deserve the best and that the way to get that is by **fighting together**. You can support the strike by joining, or, at the very least, not crossing, picket lines. You can also ask your student union to endorse staff in their fight for fairer and better working conditions.

What is the IWW Education Workers' Industrial union?

The Education Workers' Industrial Union is the section of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) that represents **all workers employed by Education and Research Institutions.**

This includes students, academics, support staff, archivists, cleaners, or researchers at nurseries, schools, universities, museums, libraries, or research laboratories.

We believe that **knowledge is a social good** and should be accessible and available to all. We believe that those engaged in educational work, i.e. teachers and learners, should be determining what is being taught and how. This can only be achieved once gatekeeping under market relations is abolished.

To achieve this goal, we help workers and students build **independent and democratic workplace committees** that represent all workers so they can fight for better working, learning, and pay conditions using tactics of direct action.

If you like what you hear, and would like our help to build a workplace committee, reach out to us on any of the below links

