

NORTHERN IRELAND TEACHERS' COUNCIL

GM/CMcD

4th May 2022

Mrs Faustina Graham - Chief Inspector
Department of Education
Rathgael House
Balloo Road
Bangor
BT19 7PR

Dear Chief Inspector

I write on behalf of the Northern Ireland Teachers' Council (NITC) concerning the news that the NASUWT has indicated its intention to begin industrial action on May 9th, 2022. This action I understand will include NASUWT members withdrawing co-operation from your organisation.

On behalf of the INTO, UTU, NEU and NAHT I wish to be assured that our members will not be subjected to a disproportionate level of scrutiny from the ETI(NI) as a consequence of the NASUWT's decision to direct its members to cease co-operating with your organisation. Our members are not currently engaged in industrial action and are engaged in normal working which includes continued co-operation with the ETI. They will be observing the normal industrial action protocols for trade unions which include not undertaking any work or assuming additional responsibilities for any duties normally carried by the trade union members engaged in industrial action. It would be detrimental to our improved working relationships should they begin to report an increased level of activity directed at them from the ETI on the back of the NASUWT action.

It is the view of those I write on behalf of that the improved relations between the ETI and the teacher trade unions have the potential to be beneficial to all parties including the children and young people in our schools and should be protected. An assurance from you that members of the INTO, UTU, NEU and NAHT will not be subject to increased levels of scrutiny due to you having spare personnel available as a result of NASUWT action would be welcome and helpful.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely



GERRY MURPHY
Northern Secretary INTO
Chairperson NITC