

Are you ready for professional registration?



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Issue No. 1

Welcome to our first UNISON members update about Professional Registration with the Education Workforce Council (EWC)

This email is a quick overview of the latest developments relating to school learning support staff professional registration. For further information visit www.unison.org.uk or www.skillsforschools.org.uk

Fees

If you work in a learning support role you will be automatically registered by your employer and an annual registration fee of £15 will be deducted from your salary. However, UNISON has been lobbying local authorities to pay the fee on your behalf. Many other local authority professionals, like social workers, have their fees paid. We're pleased to let you know that Cardiff Council and Bridgend County have taken the lead and are the first to agree to pay the £15 fee to the EWC. We hope that this will encourage other Councils to follow suit and UNISON will continue to lobby for this on your behalf.

Who should be registered?

The EWC have issued draft guidance to local authorities and schools as to who should (and shouldn't) be registered. UNISON is currently disputing one aspect of this guidance. It is UNISON's view that schools need to clearly define their roles to ensure that staff are not undertaking responsibilities outside of or inappropriate to their core job descriptions. We think that the current EWC poster is not strong enough on defining who **doesn't** need to register (the 'No' column.) We have raised this with the EWC who have committed to clarifying this with additional guidance to schools in due course. If you are unsure if you should be registered – contact UNISON today!

School Visits

Our Learning Support Staff Professional Registration team have been busy contacting schools across Wales to update members about the changes that registration will bring. Has UNISON visited your school yet? If not, or if you would like us to come back, contact us today on 029 20729463 or email j.griffin@unison.co.uk.

Who is your UNISON representative or contact?

In order to ensure that you have a voice and are fully updated with the latest information relating to professional registration and wider schools issues, the best action is to appoint a school representative or contact. As a school representative we provide you with specific training, help and guidance to help you in your role. Alternatively, you may wish to consider being a contact person for UNISON within your school. Contacts ensure that information is shared among fellow UNISON members.

If you are interested in becoming a rep within your school Tel: 029 20729463 or email j.griffin@unison.co.uk.

