

Does your school pay the Living Wage?

You deserve better

You always go the extra mile; you probably do unpaid hours without being asked; and you make your school a safe and happy place to learn.

We think the least you deserve is a proper wage.

UNISON has campaigned hard in recent years to get schools to pay the independently set Living Wage as their minimum hourly rate of pay. We have agreements with the Catholic Church and the Church of England covering all their schools, as well as many local authority and academy schools. UNISON aims to get all schools in the UK to pay the Living Wage as a minimum.

So what is the Living Wage?

Every year the independent Living Wage Foundation sets out the minimum amount people can expect to manage on. It is based on research and annual price changes – and is called the Living Wage.

Turn over to find out what you can do...

I want to
 **live**
not just
exist

**UNISON – campaigning
for a Living Wage**

The nitty gritty

- The Living Wage is not a legal requirement like the national minimum wage but is agreed voluntarily.
- Confusingly, the government also refers to the national minimum wage as the 'national living wage'.
- There are two rates: a UK-wide rate and a London rate.
- The new rates are announced annually in early November and can be found at: www.livingwage.org.uk



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I want the Living Wage in my school – what can I do?

Talk to your colleagues, your union rep and your management team:

- Find out if your school is a Living Wage employer.
- Ask if anyone has ever raised the issue with the school.
- C of E or Catholic school staff should talk to their head teacher about the agreement to pay the Living Wage. Search 'Living Wage' at www.churchtimes.co.uk or <http://catholiceducation.org.uk>
- Visit www.unison.org.uk/livingwage for more information and resources to help your campaign.
- Talk to your local UNISON rep or branch and ask for their help in getting the Living Wage in your school. Find your branch at www.branches.unison.org.uk
- Get more involved in your union in schools.
- Get more out of your union, visit www.unison.org.uk/benefits
- Let us know how things go; email the schools team at: education@unison.org.uk

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