

NEWSLETTER UCU

University and College Union

Build The Union Month Special Bulletin

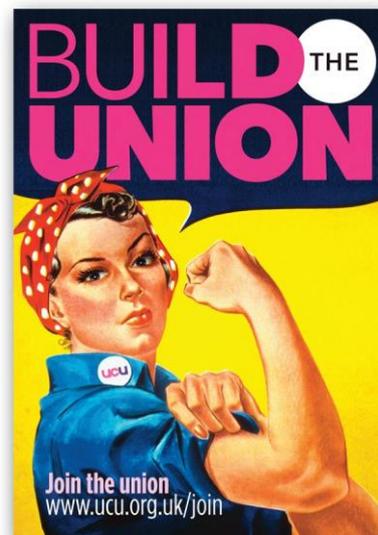
October 2023

UCU – the union for prison educators

UCU is the largest post-school union in the World. We are proud to represent members in higher, further, adult and prison education.

To join and eligibility: www.ucu.org.uk/join
Also see: [UCU - UCU member benefits](#)

The more members we have, the more we can achieve.
During **Build The Union** month please pass on this newsletter and ask colleagues to join UCU.



Prison Education Pay Campaigns

In the other three prison education providers, we have submitted pay claims, taken part in negotiations and had pay offers endorsed by the UCU members. 71 members of staff at Weston (including at HMP Five Wells) signed the UCU open letter demanding a decent pay rise. This was presented to senior management on 13th October but we have not yet been invited to pay negotiations.

We asked members to let us know what **one thing** Weston could do to improve working conditions and your answers are represented in this word cloud. We want management to listen to you, and you can do this by joining together and raising your collective voice. In Build the Union month, we're asking every member to speak to one colleague about joining the union. You can find resources here: <https://www.ucu.org.uk/article/13127/Build-the-Union-Month>



UCU Prison Education in the media

UCU continues to campaign nationally to return prison education to the Department for Education and develop a national contract for prison educators. Some of our work on the New Fair Deal for pensions was covered in FE Week: <https://tinyurl.com/prisonpensions>

Reasons To Join UCU

Your collective voice locally - your reps raise members' issues with management

Local reps, backed by full-time officials, help members with problems at work

Nationally UCU has over 120,000 members and is the voice of your profession. We want to see: higher pay, agreements to tackle excessive workloads, insecure contracts and equality pay gaps; and decent pensions.

Our legal scheme covers employment rights and free personal injury claims

Counselling, support and financial assistance through Education Support

Subscription rates are banded according to how much you earn. Claim tax relief and reduce the cost.

If you aren't yet a member, join UCU today: www.ucu.org.uk/join

For more membership benefits: www.ucu.org.uk/ucuplus

Claim income tax relief and reduce the cost of your subs: [UCU - Tax relief on subscriptions](#)

If you are already a member of another trade union please just recycle this newsletter

CPD

UCU offers a range of CPD courses which are free for members.

These include: tackling the climate crisis; equality and diversity; excessive workload; and casualisation

For more details email Glen Pickard gpickard@ucu.org.uk

More Reps Needed

You could become a rep, health and safety rep (this role covers excessive workload and stress), equality rep or environment rep. Or become a contact and raise UCU's profile. Paid time off, rep training and support is provided to carry out union duties. Please contact your UCU rep to discuss. Have a look at the training courses here: www.ucu.org.uk/training