

10

reasons for prison educators to join UCU

1

There has never been a better time to join your union

With economic uncertainties and OLASS 4 leading to redundancies and changes to the core day, you need a union that stands up for you – and with over 116,000 members UCU is the largest post-school education union in the world.

2

Supporting members

Whether it is stress, contracts, bullying or redundancies, we help our members with problems at work and undertake extensive casework and representation on your behalf. Our reps work in prisons and provide support to members – backed by branch officers and full-time regional and national officials. We also have an excellent legal scheme. However, you need to be a member before you have a problem – so join us today.

3

Negotiating on your behalf with Manchester College

UCU's Manchester College prison education branch meets regularly with management to negotiate on behalf of prison education staff. We pro-actively fight your corner, raising your concerns and difficulties at the highest levels and affecting positive change.

4

Results for Manchester College prison education staff

The branch has formally lodged a claim with the college seeking parity between tutors in OLASS and tutors in Core College whose salary scale is far higher. The branch has also been in negotiations to secure improvements to the trainers' contract so these staff have limits to their delivery hours and DD time to do the associated work. The branch has negotiated an improved contract – the annualised contract – for sessional hourly-paid staff carrying out regular timetabled work.

5

Tackling the issues that matter to you

OLASS 4 has led to redundancies and changes to the core day. UCU has been representing members and negotiating to make sure staff are treated fairly. Where prisons have closed UCU has made sure members have received their entitlements, that the correct procedures have been followed and that staff have been re-deployed wherever possible.

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University and College Union

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A national voice

Nationally we negotiate your pay. We have negotiated an exclusion policy with NOMS and defend members' pensions. UCU raises prison education issues in Parliament and with professional bodies while our branch secretary represents your interests directly on the union's National Executive committee.

7

Confidential support 24/7

As a UCU member you have access to confidential support by phone or online, provided by trained professionals at Recourse – an independent organisation providing personal and practical help with issues such as stress, financial problems and dealing with difficult people.

8

An investment in your career

Membership subs are banded depending on how much you earn eg £2.58 per month if you earn less than £5,000 and £4.88 if you earn less than £10,000 a year. And you can claim tax relief against a proportion of your subs.

9

Saving you money – and a free personal injury service

You can make savings on a range of financial products and get advice on your finances or pension. For work-related accidents or illnesses, we have a cost-free compensation scheme provided by personal injury lawyers.

10

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Pay, parity, workloads, health and safety and other working conditions are always at the forefront of our negotiations with management on your behalf. From benchmarking to curriculum review we make a positive difference to the working lives of all professional prison educators. UCU is proud to represent you. The more members we have, the more we can achieve. In these difficult times there has never been a better time to join your union. **Join us today!**

- **Join at:** join.ucu.org.uk
- **Membership information:** www.ucu.org.uk/whyjoin
- **UCU Manchester College Prison Education branch:** <http://tmcprisons.web.ucu.org.uk>
- **UCU prison education:** www.ucu.org.uk/prisons