

**IMMEDIATE**  
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## **NASUWT BACKS CAMPAIGN TO TACKLE BULLYING**

Commenting on the first national anti-bullying week, launched today by ministers and celebrities and supported by research revealing high levels of parental concern about bullying in schools, **Chris Keates, General Secretary of NASUWT**, the largest union representing teachers and headteachers throughout the UK said:

"NASUWT welcomes and supports this anti-bullying initiative which through the use of well known figures, readily identifiable to young people, will ensure that the profile of this very serious issue is raised.

"It is entirely understandable that parents should be concerned about this issue and that the vast majority surveyed believe schools and teachers require more support in tackling the problem.

"The launch of a high profile anti-bullying week is a positive move in keeping the issue in the public eye and making young people aware of the damage that bullying can cause to children at such an impressionable stage of their lives. However, the public attention on the scourge of bullying must be maintained throughout the year. Schools also need to have easy access to practical support and resources to tackle the problem. "

"Children tormented by bullies can be traumatised for life and in certain cases it can lead to tragic consequences. Bullying is unacceptable behaviour which must be met with zero tolerance. I hope that the national anti-bullying week becomes an annual fixture, backed up by high profile activities throughout the year."

"The implementation of School Workforce remodelling is bringing more adults into schools and has the very real potential to enable bullying to be tackled through early intervention and support. The remodelling agenda offers a unique and powerful opportunity to make a real impact on what is an unacceptable problem."