

IMMEDIATE
Tuesday 27 July 2004

NASUWT calls for an urgent review of Key stage 3 tests administration

NASUWT has written to the Director of National Tests following contact by teachers highlighting serious concerns about this year's Key Stage 3 tests administration.

Chris Keates, Acting General Secretary of NASUWT (the teachers' union representing 223,500 serving teachers), said:

"Year after year, the hard work of pupils and teachers is undermined by the failure of one or other of the organisations charged with administering and marking of tests and examinations.

"This year it appears to be the turn of the private contractors responsible for administering the Key Stage 3 tests. Their failures have caused disruption for pupils and additional workload for teachers.

"Even the slightest lapse by schools in the conduct of examinations is subject to intense scrutiny. It is about time the same standards were applied to these organisations."

Further:

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Note to Editors

A copy of the letter to the National Assessment Agency is attached.