

IMMEDIATE
Tuesday 6 July 2004

NASUWT endorses young people's music manifesto

Commenting on today's launch of the Music Manifesto, **Chris Keates**, Acting General Secretary of NASUWT (the union representing 223,500 serving teachers), said:

"NASUWT is committed to ensuring that young people have as many opportunities as possible to enjoy music. I was pleased, therefore, to be asked to endorse the Music Manifesto on behalf of the Association.

"The Manifesto is an important step on the road to enriching the lives of young people by providing them with a wide range of musical experiences.

"NASUWT is a major sponsor of Youth Music and is currently promoting and supporting a number of workshops designed to assist non-specialist music teachers to encourage the development of singing. We are seeking to promote music generally to groups of pupils who might not otherwise seek to engage with the subject in schools.

"NASUWT looks forward to discussions with the DfES on strategies for tackling the shortage of music teachers and specialists in schools.

"In addition, we will seek to establish how public sector provision of music education services can be supported. Hopefully, the Manifesto will assist in reversing the trend, prevalent in local education authorities, for disbanding central music services.

"It will also be important to ensure that charging for music tuition at school does not inhibit participation."

....Ends....

Further:

Chris Keates Acting GS Office: 0121 453 6150 Home: 0121 475 4016 Mobile: 07966 202403
Jerry Bartlett Acting DGS Office: 0121 453 6150 Home: 01562 742498 Mobile: 07966 202407

PRESS OFFICE: 020 7420 9670