

Embargo: 00.01 hours,
Wednesday 19 May 2004

Ofsted Report: Five year olds struggle with transition to formal education

Commenting on the Ofsted report, John Bangs, Head of Education and Equal Opportunities at the National Union of Teachers, said:

“Ofsted’s report is a damning indictment of the Foundation Stage Profile. The Profile is a just another version of tick box testing which has received a massive thumbs down from teachers and inspectors alike. It reflects the malign influence of the tests at Key Stage 1 which appear to be making it tough for youngsters to enter formal schooling.

“Our annual conference rejected the Profile and called for an alternative supportive of children’s education. It called for a campaign involving parents, governors and early years organisations to remove the Profile. If the Government fails to respond positively this could lead to a ballot to boycott.

“I call on the Government to withdraw the Profile. It has no alternative.”

E N D S

pr.31.04

For further information contact the NUT Press Office on 020 7380 4706