

18 April 2005

NASUWT LAUNCHES ELECTION BRIEFING

NASUWT, the largest union representing teachers and headteachers throughout the United Kingdom, has today launched its *Election Briefing Pack* for members. **Chris Keates**, General Secretary, said:

"The General Election on 5 May is of vital importance for teachers.

"The agenda and policy direction set by Government in Westminster impacts on the school workforce in all parts of the United Kingdom.

"NASUWT is not affiliated to any political party but believes it has a responsibility to ensure that members and all teachers are aware of the views of the main political parties on key issues which affect their daily working lives.

"The issues on which we have provided information in the pack are the ones raised most frequently by NASUWT members.

"This *Election Briefing Pack* serves a number of purposes.

"It aims to help members to make an informed choice when casting their vote.

"It is designed to encourage them to engage in the election process to exploit the opportunity to promote the Union's policies to the main parties and the public to ensure that education remains high on the political agenda.

"In particular, a key message is to encourage teachers to vote.

"NASUWT believes that teachers, their welfare, pay and conditions, are crucial to achieving the shared ambition for every child to receive the highest quality education. The NASUWT Election Briefing will help members to identify those standing for election who share this belief and who are genuinely committed to engaging with NASUWT to continue to improve teachers' working lives."