

IMMEDIATE
Tuesday 30 November 2004

TERRIBLE TRAGEDY FOR ALL CONCERNED SAYS NASUWT

Commenting on emerging reports of the death of a 15 year old boy in an incident at a Greater Manchester school, **Chris Keates, General Secretary of NASUWT**, the largest union representing teachers and headteachers throughout the UK, said:

"This is a terrible tragedy for all concerned, the pupils, the school and its staff but particularly the youngster's family.

"If reports are correct that the death was as a result of an incident on the school premises, it will unfortunately fuel speculation about the safety of pupils when they are in school.

"However, it must be remembered that schools place a high priority on maintaining high standards of pupil behaviour and that compared with the growing incidents of violence on the streets, they remain relatively safe havens of peace and security.

"Tragic incidents such as this remain extremely rare."