

IMMEDIATE
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RANDOM DRUG TESTING IN SCHOOLS

Reacting to the study by the John Grieve Centre for Policing and Community Safety on random drug testing in schools, **Chris Keates**, General Secretary of NASUWT, the largest union representing teachers and headteachers throughout the United Kingdom, said:

"The fact that this study was successful and commanded the wide support of pupils, parents and teachers comes as no surprise.

"NASUWT supported the concept of random drug testing when it was first mooted by the Government several months ago.

"NASUWT extended the concept when we proposed random airport-style security checks for offensive weapons, a strategy which is now supported by the Home Office.

"Pupils, teachers and other school staff are entitled to work in a safe environment.

"Headteachers should be able to commission teams to undertake random checks as part of a menu of options to address pupil welfare and school security. The random checks act as both a deterrent and detection strategy.

"NASUWT will be pressing the incoming government to make such checks widely available."