

Association of Teachers and Lecturers

Press Release

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FOR EDUCATION CORRESPONDENTS/ NEWS

ATL congratulates ESSA on its launch

The Association of Teachers and Lecturers (ATL) congratulates the English Secondary Students Association (ESSA) on its official launch, which takes place today at its first annual conference.

ATL fully supports ESSA's commitment to ensuring that children and young people are listened to - and taken seriously.

The Association recently shared the platform with ESSA at a TUC fringe meeting, at which speakers challenged the narrow agendas currently operating within education. ATL is collaborating and supporting the organisation with various aspects of its work.

Dr Mary Bousted, general secretary of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers said:

"ATL is delighted that ESSA is being officially launched at its inaugural annual conference. It's vital that the voices of secondary school students are clearly heard.

"We believe that when young people are genuinely given a say over what goes on, they set far higher, more imaginative and more creative standards than those imposed by adults - and are more likely to see that they are adhered to.

"It is important that organisations such as ESSA exist to enable young people to have an influence on what they are taught and what they learn across the curriculum. ATL looks forward to developing its working relationship with ESSA and we wish them all the very best for the future."