

OFSTED on reading - NUT reaction

Commenting on the OFSTED report on primary reading published today (Tuesday 14 December), Steve Sinnott, NUT General Secretary, said:

“Teachers will welcome OFSTED’s recognition that the teaching of reading is a success story. Schools have committed enormous time and energy in ensuring pupils’ reading develops to the highest level.

“Teaching assistants have a major role in schools. But the report makes it crystal clear that they cannot substitute for teachers.

“The responsibility of local authorities and Government is to emphasise that the extremely important and valuable role of teaching assistants is to support: it is not to attempt to take on the job of teaching.

“Schools experiencing difficulties must be able to turn to their local authorities for help and to the Government for sustained professional development.”

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