

New Secretary of State for Education

Commenting on the changes made to the ministerial team at the Department for Education and Skills, Steve Sinnott, General Secretary of the National Union of Teachers since June of this year said:

On Charles Clarke, Mr Sinnott said: "I was only just getting to know Charles Clarke and to respect him. I wish him well in his new role."

On David Miliband, Mr Sinnott said: "David Miliband was concerned to help children overcome the disadvantages linked to a poor socio-economic background, an issue close to the heart of the NUT. I hope that determination continues at the department under its new leadership."

On Ruth Kelly, Mr Sinnott said: "Ms Kelly's appointment and that of the new Minister of State brings new faces and new opportunities for the department. I look forward to meeting her and establishing a positive working relationship and allows the views of the largest teachers' organisation in the UK to be heard in the department.

"I am writing to Ms Kelly to seek an early meeting."

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