

MARTIN POWELL-DAVIES

for NEU DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY

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LEADING FROM THE FRONT BUILDING FROM BELOW

A DGS WHO WILL WORK WITH YOU TO WIN:

1. Collective action to protect the health, safety and welfare of staff, and our communities, from Covid-19.
2. End excessive workload – and end the high stakes testing that drives so much of it. Win a National Contract for all staff.
3. A Union that builds the workplace strength that makes sure that we are a force to be reckoned with.
4. A Union that supports NEU reps and officers to defend members, individually and collectively.
5. No to a pay freeze, no to cuts – fund schools and colleges to fully meet needs.
6. Reverse the privatisation of education, and academisation. Campaign for LA supply pools.
7. A union leading the battle against discrimination and inequality in schools and communities. End Performance Pay.
8. A union that recruits, organises and fully represents all education workers working in our schools and colleges.
9. A genuinely democratic union – where members are ‘listened to’, not just ‘talked at’.
10. A campaigning, socialist Deputy General Secretary who stays in touch with you. I will not accept more than a teacher’s salary for carrying out my role.

After over 20 years as the Lewisham Local Secretary, 5 years as an NUT NEC member and 3 years as the NEU London Regional Secretary, I believe that I have the campaigning record, skills and experience that can best strengthen our leadership team at the top of our Union.

The successful use of Section 44 showed what can be done when a clear national lead is given, calling on members to act together. I will be a DGS that calls for that collective approach to be followed in future so that we can meet the challenges ahead of us successfully.

Those challenges will be significant. Ministers will try to make us pay for their Covid failures with more cuts, greater workload and a pay freeze.

League Tables, Performance Pay and Ofsted/Estyn will be used to divide us. We need a clear national strategy. My ten campaign points above set out what we will need to organise and win.

My record is one of winning struggles, defeating academisation and cuts, challenging racism, defending jobs and workload. I will ensure reps and Local Officers are confident that they can take both the practical steps needed to meet ballot thresholds and broader campaign steps that can win support from members and parents.

Many of us are concerned that the Union is becoming too ‘top-down’ in its decision-making. I’ll be a DGS that says we must be “a lay-led Union” in practice, not just on paper. I will strengthen our efforts to have trained,

confident reps in every workplace, but I also know that reps need well-supported Districts to back them up. We need to better defend Reps and Officers and rights to facility time.

I will be a DGS that proudly builds our Union, that works as a full part of the NEU leadership team – as I did as Regional Secretary – but I will also be a DGS of independent mind, ready to question decisions and speak out when necessary.

I will listen and consult, keeping up a dialogue with Reps and Local Officers.

I am not standing for personal gain but because I have been asked to by colleagues across the Union who think I can best provide the clear leadership needed. I believe I can.

Martin