

Anti Academies Alliance



www.antiacademies.org.uk

“A good local school for every child”

Academies: Time to think again

- Academies are not democratically accountable. The sponsor appoints the majority of governors and controls the school’s curriculum. Ownership of the schools buildings and grounds are transferred to the private sponsor. They break up the family of local schools.
- Academies create more selection. They are allowed to set their own admissions policy. Government claims of improved results cannot be verified.
- Academies reinforce competition based on school league tables. This will further divide schools into winners and losers, and add to the segregation of students on the basis of race and class. There is evidence of very high exclusion rates in Academies. >>>

“Is adding a new category to the current pecking order of schools what the English education system most needs in the 21st century? The pity is that had ministers, local authorities and representatives of the teaching profession engaged in serious dialogue about the needs of the most disadvantaged pupils, a less divisive project could have emerged. Is it too much to hope that this might still happen before England’s education becomes as fractured as its railways?”

■ Peter Mortimore, former director of the Institute of Education, University of London

“I urge all those who support the idea that every school should be a good school, to demand that government takes account of the mounting evidence that academies take an unfair slice of precious capital and revenue from the education budget, provide poor value for money, distort local education provision and that the programme should be halted.”

■ Ken Purchase MP

“The Anti Academies Alliance keeps the flag of comprehensive education flying high. They ensure that those who wish to promote markets in education >>>

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- Academies are outside the maintained sector of schools and so they are not bound by education law that protects the rights of students and parents.
- Academies also set their own pay and conditions outside of national frameworks.
- The Anti Academies Alliance says we need “a good local school for every child”. Please help us spread the word. Please affiliate your organisation or campaign.

>>> have their arguments countered. The AAA are not simply against things – they promote the idea of a good local school for every child. All those involved in education and who are not persuaded by the privatisation and competition lobby should join the Anti Academies Alliance.” ■ Steve Sinnott, NUT General Secretary

“Our education system needs public investment not the privatisation and fragmentation typified by academies. The Anti Academies Alliance is an integral part of a wider alliance building across schools, colleges and universities against the marketisation of education. UCU is proud to support their vision of a better future and opportunities for all our children, not just the fortunate few.”

■ Sally Hunt, UCU General Secretary

“ATL believes that the driving up of standards, improving community cohesion and raising aspirations are the important educational roles of government. Democratically elected local authorities not independent sponsors should ensure the provision of effective and efficient education in their areas. Union recognition is threatened by the creation of academies and this is in turn a threat to the employment conditions of school staff.”

■ Mary Bousted, ATL General Secretary

“The Anti Academies Alliance (AAA) are an excellent campaigning organisation. They bring together concerned parents, staff, governors and pupils and we are always happy to work with them on both local and national campaigns.” ■ Christina McAnea, UNISON National Secretary for the Education and Children’s Workforce

Affiliate to the Anti Academies Alliance

Trade Unions organisations: £250 national, £100 district and £40 local.

Parent & other organisations: £50 national, £25 district and £10 local;

Individual membership: £5

Please find enclosed affiliation fee of £_____ and a donation of £_____

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