



# Anti Academies Alliance Briefing Order Form

## WHY YOU SHOULD SAY NO TO 'FREE' SCHOOLS

The Conservative led government wants private organisations to set up and run new state-funded schools. These so-called 'free' schools are academies, which means they are outside local authorities oversight, 'free' from local authority control, free from national union pay and conditions agreements, with greater freedom over the curriculum and able to set their own admissions policies.

'Free' schools can be set up by groups of parents, community organisations, charities and businesses.

Many applications are from academy chains such as AKS, E-ACT and Harris, from groups of middle-class parents wanting grammar schools type education, from private schools seeking state funding, and from religious groups (over one third of all applications).

This Briefing argues why you should say no to free schools:

- Because they take pupils and money from existing schools.
- Because they increase social segregation.
- Because they aren't the answer to raising standards.
- Because they will be run by business for profit.
- Because they threaten pay, working conditions and union rights.
- Because they are not democratically accountable.

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