



Include all school staff for priority testing in Wales

22 Sep 2020

In their letter to First Minister Mark Drakeford and Education Minister Kirsty Williams, **GMB; ASCL; NASUWT; NAHT; NEU; UCAC; UNISON** and **UNITE** unions said keeping schools open and properly staffed is a key priority for the sake of all school age children.

They letter stated the unions position that "*the more widely available of fast testing of all school staff, the better it is for pupils*". This would mean staff testing positive could immediately self-isolate and those testing negative and feeling well enough to do so could speedily return to work.

Rosie Lewis, speaking on behalf of the education unions said :

“Workforce planning to keep our schools safe is difficult already without the threat of increasing members of staff unable to attend work because they can’t access a Covid test.

“Prioritising tests for all school staff is now the only way to maintain safe and fully operational schools environments until test supply issues are resolved.”