



## **LIBERAL DEMOCRATS MANIFESTO ASSESSMENT**

GENERAL ELECTION 2024

**WILL THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATS DELIVER A NEW DEAL?**

NASUWT wants the next government to commit to delivering a New Deal for Teachers that will create the conditions for all children and young people to flourish and succeed.

We have examined the Liberal Democrat Party's General Election Manifesto to see if they will deliver that new deal.

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<b>NASUWT ASK</b>	<b>IN THE MANIFESTO?</b>
<p>A national commission to secure fully funded real-terms pay restoration and the conditions that enable teaching once again to be the profession of choice for graduates.</p>	<p>The Liberal Democrats Manifesto commits to reforming the School Teachers' Review Body to make it properly independent of government and able to recommend fair pay rises for teachers, as well as to fund those rises every year in full.</p>
<p>The right of every child to be taught by a qualified teacher, or a teacher en route to qualified teacher status.</p>	<p>The Liberal Democrats Manifesto commits to ensure that every secondary school child is taught by a 'specialist' teacher in their subject, but this term is undefined.</p>
<p>A national framework of statutory, contractual conditions of service for all teachers and headteachers that includes a maximum 35-hour working time limit.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>A commitment to increase teacher numbers and improve teacher-pupil ratios so that teachers have more time to meet the educational needs of pupils assigned to them.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Strengthening legislation and guidance to tackle violence, assault or harassment of teachers from pupils and parents.</p>	<p>No, but the Liberal Democrats Manifesto does commit to bringing statutory services together with schools and criminal justice organisations to 'adopt a public health approach to the epidemic of youth violence'.</p>
<p>Ending the two-tier teacher workforce by securing equal rights for supply teachers, including equal pension rights and protections.</p>	<p>The Liberal Democrats Manifesto does commit to 'modernise employment rights to make them fit for the age of the "gig economy"', including 'reviewing rules concerning pensions so that those in the gig economy don't lose out, and portability between roles is protected'.</p>
<p>Action to tackle workforce discrimination including requiring school and college employers to publish details of their gender, ethnicity and disability pay gaps.</p>	<p>The Liberal Democrats Manifesto does commit to 'requiring large employers to monitor and publish data on gender, ethnicity, disability, and LGBT+ employment levels, pay gaps and progression, and publish five-year aspirational diversity targets'. Whether schools and colleges would be included in this is unclear.</p>
<p>Requiring school and college employers to publish annually the salaries, remuneration and other benefits provided to trustees, governing boards, headteachers and principals.</p>	<p>No</p>

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<p>Improvements to the Early Career Framework and the national professional qualification programme, including better opportunities for coaching and mentoring.</p>	<p>The Liberal Democrats Manifesto commits to 'funding teacher training properly so that all trainee posts in school are paid'. It also commits to 'introducing a clear and properly funded programme of high-quality professional development for all teachers, including training on effective parental engagement'.</p>
<p>A right for all teachers to paid time off to develop their knowledge and skills, and the right to paid sabbatical leave every five years.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Workforce social partnership, stronger collective bargaining rights and prohibiting the use of fire and rehire practices.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Ensuring access to affordable housing for teachers who work in areas of high housing cost.</p>	<p>The Liberal Democrats Manifesto commits to 'increasing building of new homes to 380,000 a year across the UK, including 150,000 social homes a year'.</p>

Read the full manifesto from the Liberal Democrats at:

<https://www.libdems.org.uk/manifesto>