

# Are Your Kids Worth Less?



For the first time, teachers in East Sussex are being paid less than those in Brighton and Hove for doing the same job

## **Why are teachers striking?**

Teachers across East Sussex are asking their schools to pay the national 2% wage increase to our newest professionals, to help them meet the cost of living and to keep them in our classrooms.

East Sussex County Council is refusing to ask schools to do this and our pay is now behind most of the rest of the country's teachers despite the high cost of living in the area.



# How will this affect your kids?

East Sussex is already suffering a teacher shortage. Paying teachers less will mean that teachers are less likely to take a job here, making recruitment and retention of teachers even harder. This, in turn, will disrupt your child's learning.

## What's the cost?

The average cost in East Sussex to give eligible teachers the full pay award is just £1,700 per year for the whole school. We are asking East Sussex to fall in line with the rest of the country. Schools can individually chose to pay the proper rates and we will call off industrial action.

## What's the next step?

Teachers have reluctantly decided to take strike action. Many teachers striking will not personally benefit from the pay increase, but believe that fair pay for colleagues will, in the longer term, secure the education and life chances that your children deserve.

## Worth it and more?

In September this year, the County Council leader awarded himself a 37% allowance pay increase, stating he was "worth it and more".

Children and teachers in East Sussex are certainly worth it and more.

## What can parents do?

Support teachers with the strike. Talk to your children and explain why it's important. Talk to the head teacher at the school and say why you support us and contact your local Councillor and MP to ask them to support us.

