



Press information from Aspect

Association of Professionals in Education and Children's Trusts

Woolley Hall, Woolley, Wakefield,
West Yorkshire, WF4 2JR

info@aspect.org.uk
www.aspect.org.uk

Nick Wright Aspect Communications

mobile 07976943514
office 01226 383428
e mail wright.nick@btinternet.com
skype nickbwright

Early years professionals call for parity and a national pay structure

11 March 2008

Union leaders representing Early Years Professionals have called for a national pay framework and are to lobby the government for guarantees that their status is genuinely equivalent to Qualified Teacher Status.

John Chowcat, general secretary of the Association of Professionals in Education and Children's Trusts said: "The work of Early Years Professionals is the key to delivering vital elements of the government's Children's Plan. The National Committee established by this first cohort to graduate under the government's new scheme is insistent that a clear lead is necessary to ensure that their pay and status matches their training, qualifications and responsibilities.

Rosie Bloomfield, chair of the Aspect Early Years Professionals National Committee, said: "It is vital that, as the number of Early Years Professionals working in education and children's services grows, their voice is heard and their collective interests represented. We are proud to be pioneers in partnership with our Aspect colleagues."

ENDS

Note to editors

1 Aspect's newly elected Early Years Professionals National Committee was established at a national meeting in March and is chaired by Rosie Bloomfield.

2 Aspect is the only professional association and trade union exclusively representing professionals working in educational improvement and children's services and has the largest representation of any professional body on the Soulbury Committee. These professionals play a vital role in shaping and influencing the lives of millions of children and young people. Aspect members include early years professionals, advisory headteachers, directors and managers of children's services, school improvement and early years advisers, education welfare officers, 14-19 coordinators, heads of Sure Start, Ofsted inspectors, parent partnership staff and self-employed consultants.

Over the past five years membership has doubled and Aspect now represents over 4,000 professionals working in the field.