

# UNITED for EDUCATION

**Stop the cuts: join the coalition to defend education**

## DAY OF ACTION 21 JUNE

**Our education system is under attack.**

- \* £1bn has been cut from higher education budgets over the next three years.
- \* £200 million has been cut from adult learning budgets, with a further £300 million expected
- \* Thousands of jobs have already gone
- \* Thousands more are at risk

After decades of expansion, the further and higher education sectors are shrinking.

Now, the new coalition government is

threatening yet more cuts to public spending.

That's why staff and students have united in an unprecedented sector-wide coalition to oppose the cuts. ATL, GMB, EIS, NUS, UCU, UNITE and UNISON have joined forces to defend education.

**We are calling on college and university leaders to unite with us in lobbying the government. We want the sector to speak with one voice to say that enough is enough—it's time to stop the cuts and to invest in the future of education.**

## Counting the human cost of cuts

- \* 200,000 qualified applicants could miss out on a university place this autumn.
- \* 70% of FE colleges are planning to close courses.
- \* If the cap on top-up fees is removed, current and future generations of young people will be priced out of university education.
- \* 1 million 16-25 year olds are unemployed and not in education or training.
- \* 7 million adults in Britain are illiterate, and 14 million innumerate.

Education is an engine of economic recovery and social mobility, but it also changes the lives and builds the hope of individuals, families and communities.

For the first time in decades, that hope is fading as people of all ages face being locked out of our education system.

Education is a condition of future prosperity. Yet further cuts threaten to build new barriers to equality and stifle potential.

## Join United for Education Stop the cuts

### What you can do to help:

- \* Show your support: join the day of action on June 21.
- \* Contact your union group or branch to find out what's being organised.
- \* Sign the petition calling on the government to stop the cuts.
- \* Help us to build a united sector—write to your college or university principal or vice chancellor urging them to join United for Education.

<http://unitedforeducation.org.uk>

