

## **The Powerpoint**

This has been designed so that it can be used easily without special expertise. It could be used by heads or union reps explaining to staff meetings or to parents. Most of the information is on the slides.

The powerpoint also provides arguments to help teachers speaking back to Ofsted inspectors, many of whom will not have thought through the implications of the new curriculum.

The slides highlight the major changes and points out the problems but also makes some international comparisons, specifically with Finland. (See especially slides 2-9, 13, 25-7, 32.) We have done this because Michael Gove repeatedly argues that his new curriculum is intended to bring England into line with this high-achieving country. The reality is very different. We are not trying to put Finland on a pedestal, but to show that a worthwhile education does not depend on rigid central control or punitive regulation.

NB quotations are shown in *italics*

*Slides 3-10* Major characteristics of the new National Curriculum, including its treatment of educational aims, the lack of breadth and balance, its failure to relate to the development of young learners,

Slides 11-21 (mainly green background) English

Slides 22-27 (mainly pink) Mathematics

Slides 28-32 (mainly yellow) Science

Slides 33-46 (purple) Other subjects

## **Some issues for discussion**

Slide 47 provides some suggestions for discussion. It would be better to treat this as an open agenda, allowing participants to add their own issues and also to concentrate on issues which concern them most. It would be helpful to provide a paper copy of these issues, so that you can return to earlier slides.

Although some of the questions are expressed in terms of 'how can we cope', they imply a stance of resistance, whether covert adaptation or overt rejection. We acknowledge that this is being made very difficult and that government control has become more rigid. However, we believe that parents will support teachers' attempt to protect children from this damaging curriculum, if the issues are properly explained.