

SCHOOLS NorthEast News Round-up – Easter Break 2010

Regional news

Darlington

- [Darlington student makes Lego Amy Winehouse](#) (Evening Gazette)
- [Star Radio DJ Chris Hakin quits job after schoolgirl contact](#) (Evening Gazette)
- [Industrial contamination found in new school's playing fields](#) (Northern Echo)
- [DJ quits for contacting girl of 14 on Facebook](#) (Northern Echo)
- [School expands thanks to new classrooms](#) (Darlington Borough Council)

Durham

- [Top scores for school's business idea](#) (Durham County Council)
- [Schoolgirl goalkeeper Sophie Losh stars in E.ON photo exhibition](#) (Journal)
- [Headmaster to run the Wall](#) (Northern Echo)
- [New school could offer more places](#) (Durham County Council)
- [North schoolchildren stuck in China until May](#) (Journal)
- [Consett academy protesters' fury at billboards](#) (Evening Chronicle)
- [Barnard Castle students win public speaking contest](#) (Northern Echo)
- [Head Teacher runs along Hadrian's Wall](#) (Northern Echo)
- [School welcomes green quest](#) (Durham County Council)
- [Political scuppering of primary curriculum is a farce](#) (Letter in this week's TES from Wendy Smith, Head Teacher in Durham)

Gateshead

- [Pupil amazed after he gets letter from Queen](#) (Evening Chronicle)

Hartlepool

- [Inspectors praise Hartlepool primary school](#) (Hartlepool Borough Council)
- [Pupils in wildlife project](#) (Hartlepool Borough Council)

Newcastle

- [North youth gets a voice](#) (Journal)
- [Cheryl Cole invited to talent show at old school](#) (Evening Chronicle)
- [New voice for Newcastle youth as city creates UK's first independent Youth Council](#) (Newcastle City Council)
- [School buildings a class apart worth keeping](#) (Journal)
- [Mum of truant children bailed for appeal](#) (Evening Chronicle)
- [Newcastle mum of seven jailed for truant kids](#) (Evening Chronicle)
- [New Executive Director of Children's' Services announced](#) (Newcastle City Council)

Northumberland

Hexham and Tynedale

- [Students help out at school](#) (Hexham Courant)
- [School is rightly proud of its green credentials](#) (Hexham Courant)
- [Ben meets his Black Cats hero](#) (Hexham Courant)
- [High school charity day is strictly fun](#) (Hexham Courant)

- [New law clears the way for mobile phone mast ban](#) (Hexham Courant)
- ['Council knew station site had school field status](#) (Hexham Courant)
- [Branching out for experiment](#) (Hexham Courant)
- [Pupils make music with hands and feet](#) (Hexham Courant)
- [Maths market adds up to success](#) (Hexham Courant)
- [Pupils unveil new wooden play hut](#) (Hexham Courant)
- [Maths quartet are runners-up](#) (Hexham Courant)
- [Belsay garden grant blossoms into award](#) (Hexham Courant)
- [Super savers join water campaign](#) (Hexham Courant)
- [School charity day under fire](#) (Hexham Courant)
- [School digs deep for Tibet fund](#) (Hexham Courant)

Morpeth

- [School bus routes given major overhaul](#) (Morpeth Herald)
- [Teachers drum up interest in new band](#) (Morpeth Herald)
- [Ex-classmates invited to take a school trip down memory lane](#) (Morpeth Herald)
- [Cash on the menu for winning school](#) (Morpeth Herald)
- [Curious kids swap classroom for building site](#) (Morpeth Herald)
- [Success is sweet for fund raisers](#) (Morpeth Herald)
- [Victoria's voice puts her at top of the class](#) (Morpeth Herald)
- [Pupils get court up in trial](#) (Morpeth Herald)

Other Northumberland

- [Plans to extend Scremerston school backed by planners](#) (Berwick Advertiser)
- [Bid to help tiny Northumberland schools stay viable](#) (Journal)
- [County launches its schools food strategy](#) (News Post Leader)
- [Pupils dig in with tree planting to create woodland](#) (News Post Leader)

Teesside

- [Guisborough Head Teacher nominated for Gazette award](#) (Evening Gazette)
- [Teesside students shine in regional test](#) (Evening Gazette)
- [Eco-friendly youngsters get a lesson in going green](#) (Evening Gazette)
- [Ofsted report hails outstanding Brotton school](#) (Evening Gazette)
- [Young Americans bring performing arts glee to Teesside schools](#) (Evening Gazette)
- [Boost for kids as 100 spaces created over 5 years](#) (Evening Gazette)
- [KIT team helping Middlesbrough buck the national rise in 'NEET' teenagers](#) (Evening Gazette)
- [The King's Academy works to raise £25k](#) (Evening Gazette)
- [£10m cash pledged for Stockton schools](#) (Evening Gazette)
- [Report praise for Ormesby School despite notice to improve](#) (Evening Gazette)
- [Plans unveiled for Oakfield Community College](#) (Evening Gazette)

North Tyneside

- [New head Teacher passes test set by her pupils](#) (Evening Chronicle)
- [TyneMet College now starting to make grade](#) (Evening Chronicle)

South Tyneside

- ['Despicable' drug dealer targeted schoolgirls](#) (Shields Gazette)

Regionwide News

- [Sats opposition puts unions at loggerheads](#) (Journal)
- [Families can support schools](#) (Journal)
- [Who is top of the class?](#) (Journal)

General Election education policy in the news

Labour News

Education reforms

- [Sex education and primary curriculum reforms abandoned](#) (Guardian)
- [Ed Balls drops key education reforms](#) (BBC News)
- [Ed Balls forced to drop key reforms](#) (Guardian)
- [Compulsory sex education scrapped](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Tories kill off compulsory child sex education law](#) (Times)

Budgets and spending

- [Ed Balls throws down challenge on school budgets](#) (BBC News)
- [Conservative spending plans would hit schools, claims Ed Balls](#) (Daily Telegraph)

Federated schools

- [Will Gordon Brown's pledge to let parents help run schools work?](#) (Guardian)
- [Brown calls for federated schools](#) (BBC News)

Other Labour

- [Parents of disruptive pupils should be fined, Ed Balls tells teachers](#) (Times)
- [Heads will fulfil Sats obligations – Ed Balls](#) (Independent)
- [Ed Balls: Conservatives might be forced to sack teachers](#) (Independent)
- [Labour has failed to reduce 'Neets', say MPs](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Labour promises Mandarin in schools](#) (Daily Telegraph)

Conservative News

Saturday schooling

- [Saturday school for 'poor' pupils](#) (BBC News)
- [Tories plan to offer lessons on a Saturday to poorer children](#) (Guardian)
- [Tories' school on Saturday plan rejected by ATL teachers conference](#) (Times)
- [Schools should open at weekends, say Tories](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Tories plan Saturday school for poorer pupils](#) (Independent)

'Free schools'

- [Tory free schools 'barking mad', says teachers' leader](#) (BBC News)
- [Tories challenge teachers to start their own school](#) (BBC News)

Other Conservative

- [How Eton inspired Conservative 'national service' plan](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Cameron says cuts must be made in the DCSF](#) (TES)

- [Tories try to harness parent power](#) (Independent)
- [Cameron's parent school promise](#) (BBC News)
- [50 heads attack Conservative education plans](#) (Guardian)
- [Take That star and Cameron back school talent search](#) (BBC News)
- [Interrogation by email: Michael Gove explains his plans for Britain's schools](#) (Daily Telegraph)

Liberal Democrat News

- [Lib Dems call for different levels of league tables](#) (BBC News)
- [Liberal Democrats' class size call](#) (BBC News)
- [Nick Clegg grilled by schoolchildren ahead of TV debate](#) (Independent)
- [Nick Clegg appeals to youth vote as Liberal Democrats maintain poll surge](#) (Observer)
- [Parties target youth as student vote swings to Lib Dems](#) (Times)
- [Nick Clegg's fag had an easy ride](#) (Daily Telegraph)

Other election news

- [Keep politics out of school and let us get on with teaching, say professors](#) (Guardian)
- [BNP teachers have foothold in schools, say teachers](#) (Guardian)
- [BNP teachers 'should be banned'](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [The worst classroom bullies? Politicians](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Should far-right parties have a platform in school debates?](#) (Guardian)
- [Election Debate: How can we encourage children to think for themselves?](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Playing politics with the three Rs](#) (BBC News)
- ['I wouldn't vote Labour', says leaders' debate schoolboy Joel Weiner](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [The Observer election debate: Swedish-style 'free schools'](#) (Observer)
- [Why My Party's Best: the battle for the teachers' vote](#) (TES)
- [What does the election hold for education policy?](#) (Guardian)

Other national education news

30 March 2010

Cyber-bullying

- [Teachers suffer cyber-bullying by pupils and parents](#) (Guardian)
- ['One in seven' teachers a victim of cyber-bullying](#) (Times)

Smacking loophole

- [School smacking loophole closed](#) (BBC News)
- [Smacking to be outlawed in all schools](#) (Guardian)

Other news

- [Teaching support 'raises results'](#) (BBC News)

31 March 2010

Parents of unruly pupils

- [Parents of unruly pupils 'should face fines'](#) (BBC News)
- [Schools should take more bad parents to court, says schools minister](#) (Guardian)

Other news

- [Teachers bullied by 'hate sites'](#) (BBC News)
- [Pupils 'give feedback on iPhones'](#) (BBC News)
- [Children need more school trips, MPs' committee says](#) (BBC News)
- [Students at Burlington Danes see progress charted in school corridor](#) (Times)
- [Should businesses operate in state schools? They already can, and do](#) (Times)
- [Warning over 'bonus culture' in schools](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Teachers being 'victimised' on Facebook](#) (Daily Telegraph)

1 April 2010

Parents of unruly pupils

- [Take parents of unruly pupils to court, schools told](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Take parents of unruly pupils to court, Head Teachers are urged](#) (Independent)

School trips

- [Fewer school trips mean children missing out on adventures](#) (Guardian)
- [MPs warn over 'shocking decline' of school trips](#) (Daily Telegraph)

Other news

- [Autistic pupils unfairly excluded from school, study finds](#) (Guardian)
- [Children given iPhones to monitor teachers](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Vetting and barring scheme 'a waste of money'](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Poll reveals half of people against groups of parents running schools](#) (CYP Now)

2 April 2010

- [Head Teachers to vote on Sats boycott](#) (Guardian)
- [Teachers awarded £12m damages over past year](#) (Independent)

3 April 2010

Pupil teacher interviews

- [Pupils 'interviewing teachers for jobs'](#) (BBC News)
- [Pupil input in school management abused, says NASUWT](#) (Times)
- [Pupils interviewing teachers for jobs and promotion](#) (Times)
- [Alarm raised at pupils' power over appointment of teachers](#) (Independent)
- [Children asking 'frivolous' questions in teachers' job interviews](#) (Guardian)

Industrial action threats

- [Teachers threaten strikes over workload](#) (BBC News)
- [Teachers vote to 'defend state education'](#) (BBC News)
- [Teachers threaten to strike over 'tick-box culture'](#) (Times)
- [NUT threatens strikes if school budgets are cut](#) (Times)
- [Teachers vote to strike in sign of growing union militancy](#) (Daily Telegraph)

Sats boycott

- [Vote for Sats boycott, teachers urged](#) (BBC News)
- [For and against: The Key Stage 2 boycott](#) (Times)
- [Sats row threatens 'Summer of discontent' in schools](#) (Independent)

Other news

- [Tories challenge teachers to start their own school](#) (BBC News)
- [Older teachers warn of 'ageism', NASUWT conference told](#) (BBC News)
- [Heat limit demand for classrooms](#) (BBC News)
- [Teacher who resigned over slaughtered lamb is reinstated](#) (Times)
- [Head who led lamb to the slaughter gets old job back](#) (Independent)

4 April 2010

- [Teachers fear 'selection at 14'](#) (BBC News)
- [Poorest pupils face segregation in technical schools, teachers warn](#) (Guardian)
- [Educating pupils should not be for profit](#) (Guardian)
- [NUT conference: teachers talk of strike to win 35-hour working week](#) (Guardian)
- [Black pupils 'are routinely marked down by teachers'](#) (Guardian)
- [Teachers threaten industrial action to keep troublemakers out of class](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Technical schools 'will fuel divisions'](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Children failed by teacher 'stereotypes'](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Teachers and heads stand together in strike threat](#) (Independent)

5 April 2010

Use of force in school

- [Teachers 'allowed to use force'](#) (BBC News)
- [Teachers can use physical restraint, says Ed Balls](#) (Guardian)
- [Teachers 'should use force to control violent pupils'](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Teachers can use force to keep pupils safe, says Balls](#) (Independent)
- [Government condones using force to control school pupils](#) (Guardian)

Teacher stress

- [Daily torment of special school teachers revealed](#) (Times)
- [Stressed teachers 'considering suicide'](#) (Daily Telegraph)

Other news

- [Teachers back joint action over public sector cuts](#) (BBC News)
- [Teachers would challenge complacency of 'good' schools](#) (Times)
- [Pupils who plagiarise from the web will get bonus marks](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Expelling pupils: the rules](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Heads will fulfil Sats obligations – Ed Balls](#) (Independent)
- [Teachers threaten public sector pay cuts strike](#) (Independent)

6 April 2010

Testing

- [Sats tests limit children's education, says teachers' leader](#) (BBC News)
- [Sats exams promote 'teaching to the test'](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Testing can undermine children's rights, says teachers' leader](#) (Independent)

Use of force in school

- [Teachers can use physical restraint on unruly pupils, says Ed Balls](#) (Times)
- [Teachers allowed to use physical force](#) (Independent)

Other news

- [BNP teachers have foothold in schools, say teachers](#) (Guardian)
- [Are rich kids getting education maintenance allowance cash?](#) (Guardian)
- [In search of a fair secondary system](#) (Guardian)
- [Teachers join civil servants in strike threat against spending cuts](#) (Times)
- [Teachers told to smile at pupils](#) (Daily Telegraph)

7 March 2010

Other news

- [Should Sats tests be scrapped?](#) (Guardian)
- [Farm animals at school: Lessons from the pig patch](#) (Daily Telegraph)

8 March 2010

- [Head Teacher asks students to support sex change employee](#) (Daily Telegraph)

9 March 2010

Pupils shown violent game

- [Grand Theft Auto used to turn children against crime](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Pupils taught using violent game](#) (BBC News)
- [Video game and cartoons used to shock school children about violence](#) (Guardian)

Other news

- [Pupils left in tears as mayor falls asleep watching school musical](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Tories try to harness parent power](#) (Independent)

10 March 2010

- [History for the YouTube generation](#) (BBC News)
- [Speed stacking: sport for the unsporty taking schools by storm](#) (Guardian)
- [Bright pupils are rejected in scramble for university](#) (Times)
- [Head Teacher forced out of new role by student Facebook campaign](#) (Daily Telegraph)

11 March 2010

'Exclusive' state schools

- [England's best comprehensive schools 'exclusive'](#) (BBC News)
- [Top comprehensives 'more socially exclusive than grammar schools'](#) (Guardian)
- [It's easy to blame teachers, but other factors affect students](#) (Guardian)

Other news

- [Under half of degree students have A-levels](#) (Times)
- [Inspectors give wrong ratings for schools](#) (Daily Telegraph)

12 March 2010

Exclusive state schools

- [Grammar schools more diverse than comprehensives, says Sutton Trust](#) (Times)
- [Selective schools not more socially exclusive, says study](#) (Independent)

Other news

- [Brown calls for federated schools](#) (BBC News)
- [Will Gordon Brown's pledge to let parents help run schools work?](#) (Guardian)

13 March 2010

- [Should far-right parties have a platform in school debates?](#) (Guardian)
- [What choice for school and college leavers in this jobs market?](#) (Guardian)
- [Cameron's parent school promise](#) (BBC News)
- [Inequality in education: an unacceptable scar on schooling](#) (Guardian)
- [Independent school fees to rise above inflation](#) (Times)
- [Inspiring British children, Slumdog style](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Inner city state primary school buys boarding school to educate its children](#) (Daily Telegraph)

14 April 2010

- [Liberal Democrats' class size call](#) (BBC News)
- [50 heads attack Conservative education plans](#) (Guardian)
- [Charter schools: winning tickets?](#) (BBC News)

15 April 2010

- ['More state school pupils' at Oxbridge](#) (BBC News)
- [Disadvantaged pupils learn faster in weekend schools](#) (Independent)
- [Election Debate: How can we encourage children to think for themselves?](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Nick Clegg grilled by schoolchildren ahead of TV debate](#) (Independent)

16 April 2010

Sats boycott

- [Heads ballot backs Sats boycott](#) (BBC News)
- [Head Teachers vote to boycott Sats tests](#) (Guardian)
- [New Government faces school tests boycott](#) (Independent)

Home tutor database

- [Home tutors reject Government's 'intrusive' child safety database](#) (Guardian)
- [Tutors refuse to sign up for child safety scheme](#) (Independent)

Other news

- [Take That star and Cameron back school talent search](#) (BBC News)

Click [here](#) to read the news from this week's Times Educational Supplement in full

17 April 2010

- [Pupils and teachers stranded by volcanic ash drift](#) (BBC News)
- [Playing politics with the three Rs](#) (BBC News)

- [New Government to face Sats boycott after teacher vote](#) (Times)
- [Oldham to merge and reopen segregated schools nearly a decade after race riots](#) (Times)
- ['I wouldn't vote Labour', says leaders' debate schoolboy Joel Weiner](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Unions boycott National Curriculum tests](#) (Independent)

18 April 2010

Volcanic ash problems

- [Don't penalise teachers stranded by ash, union urges](#) (BBC News)
- [Volcano ash flight ban set to cause chaos in British schools](#) (Guardian)
- [School chaos as families are stranded by ash cloud](#) (Observer)

Free schools

- [Should parents be able to set up their own 'free' schools?](#) (Observer)
- [The Observer election debate: Swedish-style 'free schools'](#) (Observer)

Other news

- [Nick Clegg appeals to youth vote as Liberal Democrats maintain poll surge](#) (Observer)
- [Labour promises Mandarin in schools](#) (Daily Telegraph)

19 April 2010

Volcanic ash problems

- [Classes shut and exams threatened as ash cloud clogs working Britain](#) (Times)
- [Exam change for stranded pupils](#) (BBC News)
- [Ash cloud forces schools to suspend classes](#) (Guardian)
- [Volcanic ash cloud forces school closures](#) (Daily Telegraph)

Other news

- [Parties target youth as student vote swings to Lib Dems](#) (Times)
- [Jamie Oliver to spend own millions on school meals](#) (BBC News)

20 April 2010

- [Diplomas in rural areas threatened by transport problems](#) (Guardian)
- [What does the election hold for education policy?](#) (Guardian)
- [No 'volcanic ash holiday' as schools set exiled pupils work online](#) (Times)
- [Nick Clegg's fag had an easy ride](#) (Daily Telegraph)
- [Interrogation by email: Michael Gove explains his plans for Britain's schools](#) (Daily Telegraph)