

Tuesday 6 September 2016

Colleges Scotland's Statement on the UNISON Strike

A spokesperson for Colleges Scotland Employers' Association, said:

"For the sake of students in colleges across Scotland, we urge UNISON to rethink their course of action and accept the reasonable offer on the table.

"Students across Scotland are facing disruption to their classes today due to the industrial action by UNISON members. While their action has forced the closure of a small number of colleges, we are pleased to say that we have been able to keep the majority of colleges open on this occasion. However, we would not want to underestimate the impact that this and further strikes could have on students who are just starting courses or continuing their studies at the next level.

"UNISON is demanding a flat cash increase of £450 for all support staff for 2016/17, however their members are already getting a good deal which exceeds public sector pay and which is comparable to the deal already accepted by lecturers.

"Their demands come at a time when many UNISON members received above inflation pay rises earlier this year, on top of a reduction in working hours and additional holiday leave. UNISON's demands are not financially sustainable going forward."

ENDS

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