

Scottish Socialist Party

**save our schools and nurseries
STAND FIRM AND UNITED!**

**Scottish
Socialist Party**

**20's
PLENTY
IN A CLASS!**

The Scottish Socialist Party whole-heartedly supports and applauds the movement of parents, carers, communities and kids against the massacre of our schools and nurseries by New Labour.

There is no excuse for their closure plan.

- Many of the schools and nurseries have had glowing reports in the HMIE inspections
- Many of the schools are at the very heart of communities - for adults as well as kids.
- Many of the buildings that face demolition - no doubt for lucrative land deals and/or profitable housing projects - are in a better state of repair than the ones our kids are to be dumped in.
- Fallen school rolls is a temporary feature - even the Council's own document which tries to justify the 25 closures has produced graphs showing that the school population is set to rise again.

And that takes no account of the proclaimed desire of the Scottish government - AND the Glasgow city council!!! - to attract newcomers to Scotland, to counter the age-ing, declining population of Scotland.

The distances kids and their carers are expected to travel to school are outrageous - with increased road hazards, added costs, problems of pollution, problems of territorialism, and in some cases it

would make it impossible for parents to hold down a job AND take their kids to nurseries and schools separated by miles.

TWENTY'S PLENTY IN A CLASS!

Instead of wielding their axes to save £3.7million a year at our children's expense, the Council should be forced into a radical solution that **IMPROVES education AND saves jobs.**

The Scottish Socialist Party has consistently fought for classes of no more than 20. That would vastly improve the contact and attention given by teachers and Child Development Officers to kids in their most formative years. It would create jobs - instead of scrapping them. Eton College - the school of the stinking rich, attended by the likes of Tory leader David Cameron - has classes of 11 or less. If it's good enough for the rich, it's good enough for the rest of us!

INVEST IN LOCAL ACCESSIBLE SCHOOLS!

The SSP has also for years fought for schools to be kept local, but properly invested in. That would make them friendlier to small kids.

It would mean safe journeys on foot, making for better health and lifestyles - instead of having to fork out on taxis or add to the pollution levels by driving to school or nursery.

continued on back



JOIN the SSP - Suite 308, 93 Hope St, Glasgow G2 6LD

ring 0141 221 7470 - text 07899 732 068

email: richieventon@hotmail.com

www.scottishsocialistparty.org

Scottish Socialist Party - Save Our Schools

The eruption of anger in local communities in the first few weeks since Labour's brutal plans were announced will have rocked the complacent politicians who hoped they could sneak through their plans without a whimper of protest.

Well over 1,000 people have attended the first round of public meetings in less than 2 weeks. Hundreds have demonstrated outside the City Chambers and in their local areas. The St Valentine's Day UNITY DEMO is a massive show of unity against the cuts - to save ALL schools and nurseries from closure. The Council is obliged in law to 'consult' - but their consultation is a total sham.

DEMAND THE COUNCILLORS SHOW FACE!

The series of local 'consultation' meetings is an opportunity to pile the pressure onto those who actually make the decisions.

Don't let them fob you off with some (often overpaid) unelected, unaccountable Council official being sent along to 'justify' the case for closures, taking the flak for decisions they do not make!!

Demand in advance that the local councillors - including the local LABOUR councillors - attend every 'consultation' meeting to face the music. And make the music loud and clear!

Keep up the pressure on every single councillor between now and the decision-making (probably in April).

Go to their surgeries as a delegation of parents and concerned residents, and tell them what you think. Bombard them with calls and emails.

Do the same with MSPs. The Scottish government has powers to reverse the Councils closure plans. When the SNP-Lib Dem coalition in



control of Edinburgh city council voted to shut 22 schools, a revolt of school students, parents and communities caused such uproar that the SNP government stepped in to reverse the earlier decision of their own councillors.

WE CAN WIN! WE'VE WON BEFORE!

United we can win! Back in the mid-1990s, many of us who went on to found the Scottish Socialist Party were involved in a previous city-wide Save Our Schools campaign. And we saved most of them from closure!!

That involved petitions, lobbies of councillors, demos - **but also occupations of the school buildings in the final stages prior to the final decision.**

Take a full part in the local campaign to save your school/nursery. But also take part in the city-wide, broad-based Save Our Schools campaign. Help to coordinate and unite the action - to make it all the more effective. Don't let the Council divide and rule - don't let them split one community from another.
Unity in action is our greatest strength.

Although there's not an immediate Council election - which is one of the reasons they have cynically gone for these closures NOW - there will be other elections in the near future. **Remind Labour that they rely on working class voters to get their power, pay and perks - and that they have lost that support due to their callous closures!**

If the Labour Council plead (and more to the point if they can prove!) they don't have the money to keep these schools open and upgrade them - what about them joining the parents and communities in a massive campaign to demand more funding off the Scottish government? They can't have it both ways. Put them on the spot.

Stand firm and united - through the broad-based Save Our Schools campaign.

And if you want to help change the world we live in, to make it one where kids come before cash, people before profit, public services before private wealth, the millions before the millionaires - consider joining Scotland's socialist party - the SSP.

**JOIN THE GLASGOW CITY-WIDE
SAVE OUR SCHOOLS CAMPAIGN**
email:
saveourschoolsglasgow@yahoo.co.uk

Join the SSP - the party of public ownership, solidarity and socialism

name phone.....

address.....

..... email

send to: SSP, Suite 308, 93 Hope St, Glasgow G2 6LD

text 07899 732068

email: richieventon@hotmail.com

www.scottishsocialistparty.org

sspSOSfeb2009