

# our education our future

Education should be a right for all – not a privilege for a few

# NO

**to top-up fees**  
**to student debt**

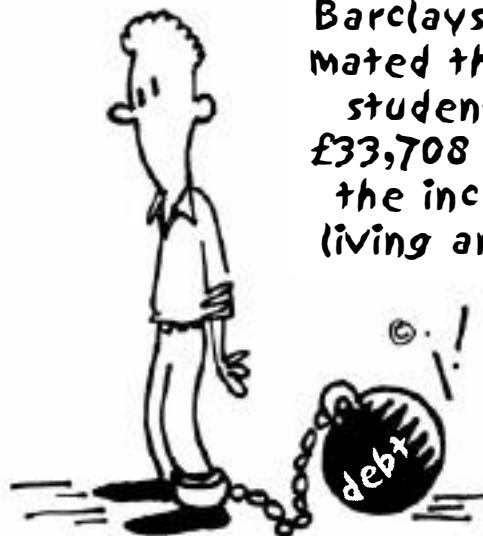
✧ **Scrap tuition fees.**

✧ **No to a graduate tax.**

✧ **For a living grant for all students from the age of 16.**

✧ **For the right to a free quality education, job and training for all.**

✧ **No to student debt**



Barclays bank has estimated that the average student debt will be £33,708 by 2010 due to the increased cost of living and tuition fees.

Local Details:

international socialist resistance



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**STUDENTS**

## Our education - Our future - No to top-up fees

★ Can you afford an education? New Labour, the Tories and Liberals and their big business policies of privatising education are starting to mean many young people can't.

★ The government narrowly won the vote to introduce top-up fees by only 5 votes! - and top-up fees are not planned to be introduced until 2006! The campaign needs to continue.

### Fees can still be defeated

★ The anger many people feel against tuition fees hasn't gone away. It is vital that students, teaching staff and their trade unions, parents, grandparents etc all continue to fight against tuition fees.

### What are the government's plans?

★ They want to introduce top-up fees of up to £3,000 a year for university students from 2006. The top-up fees would be paid at the end of the course like a graduate tax.

★ Many young people, from all backgrounds except the very rich, will be put off going to university by the huge debts. No one will be exempt from owing the top-up fees at the end of their course.

★ The government have been forced to offer the poorest students up to £3,000 a year in grants. This may sound generous but it won't cover students living costs, leaving many still having to work in low paid jobs to try and make ends meet.

★ Barclays bank estimates that the average student debt will be £33,708 in 2010 due to tuition fees and increased living costs.

If you would like to know the facts about top-up fees please contact ISR for a copy of our fact sheet.

If you are a student in work and want to know more about our Low pay - No way! campaign please get in touch.

### Some ideas for campaigning against top-up fees

★ On 27th January when the vote on top-up fees went to parliament, ISR organised protests and actions around the country. In some areas protests were organised before classes started, others met up at lunchtime or after school and college.

It is up to you and the other students at your school or college what action you want to organise but here are some ideas for getting started!

★ Hold a meeting with other students who want to organise the campaign during a lunchtime or after school to decide what you want to organise and on what day/s.

★ Get petitions sent round your school or college to build support for the campaign.

★ Approach the teaching and other staff trade unions in your school or college for support.

★ Organise a meeting or debate in your school or college.

★ Organise a lobby of your MP.

★ Contact your local press with updates of the campaign.

★ If you would like to organise a protest or strike/link up with a local university/would like advice and/or ideas please contact ISR.

**Defend the right to organise, strike and protest**  
If you are being told you are not allowed to put up posters, leaflet etc don't be put off. Contact ISR for help and campaigning advice.

**Do you want to know more about.....How can we fight back against SATs and fees? Is there an alternative to capitalism?Where now for the anti-war movement? How do we fight for an end to sexism and homophobia?How would socialism work? How can we defeat racism and the BNP? Can capitalism be reformed? Why join a trade union? How do you build local ISR groups? How would we organise school student unions? Is it possible to end environmental destruction and provide cheap food and travel? Are you fed up with a world where the rich get richer and our lives are blighted by poverty and debt? fight for your future contact ISR**

International Socialist Resistance is an international campaigning organisation run by and for young people.

We say no to war, no to low pay, no to racism and sexism.

Let us know what your ideas for campaigns are.

Would you like to be part of the leaflet network - we will send you copies of each new leaflet we produce so that you can distribute them to friends, round your school and college or at work.

If you would like to join ISR, take part in our campaigns or build an ISR group in your area please get in touch.

**JOIN ISR**

I would like to join ISR (£4waged, £2unwaged)  Order a campaign pack (50P)

name

address

post code  telephone

email

school/college/workplace (if applicable)

age

send to ISR; PO Box 858, London, E11 1YG