

This is proof that this election is a clear choice between a Tory Party that would cut education and a Labour Party that would invest in our future –

Angela Rayner

Angela Rayner,
Labour's Shadow Education Secretary,
commenting on the IFS analysis on education spending on 16-18 year-olds in England, said:

“This is proof that this election is a clear choice between a Tory Party that would cut education and a Labour Party that would invest in our future.

“For all Theresa May’s talk of a bright future, she has turned her back on the generation who we will rely on to ensure it.

“Our young people cannot afford another five years of education cuts, leading to further decline. Only Labour is offering a properly funded education system fit for the many, not the few.”

Rail passengers £1,000 better off under Labour

The next Labour Government will put rail passengers first by putting the brakes on rapidly increasing rail fares and saving commuters £1,014 on their season tickets

Under a Labour Government, passengers will on average save £1,014 on their rail season tickets over the next parliament, compared to the potential cost under a Tory Government.

Since 2010, regulated rail fares have risen by 27.1 per cent, increasing the average cost of a season ticket by £594.

The 2015 Conservative manifesto included a commitment to keeping rail fares frozen in real terms. However, regulated fares were capped at the Retail Price Index (RPI), which consistently over-estimates inflation, rather than

the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

Labour will cap regulated fair rises at the Consumer Price Index (CPI), using the money saved through bringing rail franchises back into public ownership. As more services come into public ownership, greater amounts of savings become available, and Labour will aim to introduce further fare caps or reductions.

Jeremy Corbyn, Leader of the Labour Party, said:

“Under the Conservatives, rail fares have sky-rocketed and tickets are some of the most expensive in Europe.

“Labour will take Britain’s railways back into public control and put more money into people’s pockets by capping fares. This will save commuters £1,014 on their rail season tickets over the next Parliament, as part of our plan to promote services for the many, not the few.”

Andy McDonald MP, Labour’s Shadow Transport Secretary, said:

“Theresa May’s failure to commit to freezing rail fares shows just how out of touch they are.

“Under the Conservatives, fares have risen three times faster than wages, passenger satisfaction is plummeting, punctuality has fallen to a 10 year low and promised upgrades have either been delayed by years or scrapped altogether.

“Privatised rail has failed and it will take more than tinkering around the edges to deliver much needed improvements for passengers. Labour will take the railways back into public ownership and put passengers first by capping fares.”

The 2017 Tory manifesto has failed to make any commitment to keeping rail fares frozen in real terms, meaning rail fares are likely to rise above inflation (RPI) if the Conservatives win the General Election.

Between 2011 – 2013 the Tories allowed fares to rise by RPI plus 1 per cent. If fares continue to increase by the same rate, the average cost of a season ticket will rise by an extra £160 by the end of the next parliament, compared to being frozen at RPI.

Jeremy Corbyn challenges Theresa May to join him in tonight's BBC debate

Announcing that he will attend the televised debate in Cambridge,

Jeremy Corbyn, Leader of the Labour Party, said:

"I will be taking part in tonight's debate because I believe we must give people the chance to hear and engage with the leaders of the main parties before they vote.

"I have never been afraid of a debate in my life. Labour's campaign has been about taking our policies to people across the country and listening to the concerns of voters.

"The Tories have been conducting a stage-managed arms-length campaign and have treated the public with contempt. Refusing to join me in Cambridge tonight would be another sign of Theresa May's weakness, not strength."

The futures of the NHS and our schools are at stake in this election – Jeremy Corbyn

At a media launch in London today, Jeremy Corbyn, Leader of the Labour Party, Jonathan Ashworth, Shadow Health Secretary and Angela Rayner, Shadow Education Secretary, turned the spotlight on public services, arguing that this election is vital for the future of the NHS and our schools.

Labour has published research highlighting the threat to our schools and hospitals posed by five more years of the Conservatives and have committed the party to reversing years of Tory neglect.

New analysis of the Tory threat has revealed that if the current rate of deterioration under the Tories continues, by 2022 our health and education services could be facing huge problems. It could mean:

In a Tory NHS and social care system:

- 5.5 million people on waiting lists in England, 1.8 million more than at present.
- Almost 1.5 million older and vulnerable people with unmet social care needs.

In a Tory education system:

- 650,000 pupils crammed into primary classes of over 30.
- Families left almost £450 worse off per child as a result of the Tories' plan to scrap free school meals for 1.7 million children.

The choice

at the election is stark. The Tories have no plan to properly fund our public services, pushing them further into crisis. Labour will take a different approach, we will rebuild our public services for the many by modest tax rises

for companies and the richest 5 per cent.

Labour will

build an NHS and social care system for the many:

- Labour will invest £37 billion in our NHS and take one million people off the waiting list by the end of the next Parliament.
- Labour will invest £8 billion in social care over the course of the next Parliament and lay the foundations of a National Care Service to integrate health and social care.

Labour will

build an education system for the many:

- Labour will cap class sizes at 30 for 5-, 6- and 7-year-olds.
- Labour will provide free school meals to all primary school children by removing VAT exemption on private school fees.

Jeremy

Corbyn, Leader of the Labour Party, said:

“The

futures of our NHS and schools are at stake in this election.

“Over the

last seven years the Tories have starved the public services we rely on of resources, running them down and pushing them into disrepair.

“Patients

are suffering ever longer waits and overcrowded wards; those who need care have been left without it. Children are crammed into overcrowded and crumbling

classrooms. It has to change.

“Labour will invest in our people, schools and hospitals. We will cut class sizes, take a million people off the NHS waiting list and ensure people get the care they deserve.

“By contrast another five years of the Tories would be disastrous for our public services. At the rate we’re going we could see 5.5 million people on the English waiting list and 1.5 million older people with unmet care needs. And young people and their families face the prospect of more overcrowding in schools and having to pick up the bill for the Tories’ unfair plan to scrap free school meals for hundreds of thousands of children.

“On June 8th there’s only one party that will improve our public services for the many not the few, that’s the Labour Party.”

Notes to editors:

- Please find link to Labour’s full analysis on threat to our schools and hospitals posed by five more years of the Conservatives: <http://www.labour.org.uk/atrisk>

Labour launches Race and Faith manifesto

Jeremy Corbyn, Leader of the Labour Party, will say today that ‘Labour is the party of equality.’ The Labour Party is launching its Race and Faith manifesto

at an event in Watford, outlining its commitment to racial equality and detailing how the Party’s manifesto benefits BAME communities.

Jeremy Corbyn, Leader of the Labour Party, said:

“Labour is the Party of equality. We were built on the values of social justice, internationalism and human rights. Our values are rooted in the fundamental truth that whatever your background, wherever you are from, you should have the means and opportunity to fulfil your potential.

“People continue to be treated unfairly due to their ethnicity or faith. The recent rise in hate crimes, including Anti-Semitic and Islamophobic attacks, underscores how far we still have to go. Labour will repair the damage done by the Conservative Government, which has sown

the seeds of division in our communities.

“Only Labour can be trusted to unlock the talent of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic people, who have been held back by the Conservatives. We will guarantee equality is at the heart of our programme for government.

“Labour will implement a comprehensive strategy for racial equality, one that effectively challenges the disadvantage many Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities suffer. We will work every day for a fairer society, where every person is enabled to get on in life, regardless of race, faith or ethnicity, to build a Britain that works for the many, not the few.”