# Teacher’s upskirting ordeal in Enniskillen sparks calls for stronger laws and better school support



Sally Rees, a teacher at Enniskillen Royal Grammar School in County Fermanagh, recently opened up about a deeply distressing incident in which she was upskirted by a pupil. The experience was not only humiliating but has also significantly impacted her mental health and well-being. “Nothing prepares you for seeing the footage,” she recalled, indicating the profound emotional toll it has taken on her, leading her to moments of physical illness just from the recollection.

Rees's account has sparked urgent discussions around the legal and social responses to such offences in Northern Ireland. Many believe that this situation reveals a pressing need for stronger laws against upskirting, a crime that currently lacks robust legislative history in the region. The teacher’s experience encapsulates broader concerns about the safety and dignity of educators, particularly women, in school environments. While such incidents may appear isolated, they’re indicative of a troubling trend; a recent survey by the NASUWT union found that nearly one in ten teachers in England have faced sexual harassment from pupils, including incidents of upskirting.

The implications of such actions extend beyond individual trauma. According to reports, the frequency of these incidents is alarming, with some teaching unions indicating an increase in covert photographing under skirts as part of a wider pattern of harassment in schools. This trend has prompted calls from educators and advocates alike for more effective protective measures and legal reforms.

In light of Rees's ordeal, questions persist regarding institutional support. She pointed out a certain lack of assistance from the school administration following the incident, raising concerns about how educational institutions handle such serious breaches of trust. Several teaching unions have taken similar stances, urging their members at Enniskillen Royal Grammar School not to engage with the pupil involved. This reflection of collective action underscores the necessity for educational authorities to confront harassment head-on, not only to protect teachers but also to foster a safe learning environment for all.

The Education Secretary has not yet commented on this specific case, but it is hoped that it will encourage a broader conversation surrounding the rights of teachers and the need for protective legislation. Rees has stressed the importance of awareness and understanding of the traumatic impact of such incidents, urging the community to engage with the discomfort that surrounds discussions of harassment in schools. The discourse initiated by her testimony can serve as a catalyst for change, ideally steering Northern Ireland towards a safer educational landscape where dignity and respect are uncompromised.

The issue of upskirting is multifaceted, encompassing questions of power, consent, and the responsibilities of educational institutions to protect their staff. As society grapples with these nuances, the courageous voices like that of Sally Rees could lead to necessary reform, not only in legislation but also in the cultural attitudes towards sexual harassment within schools.

### Reference Map

1. Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4
2. Paragraphs 2, 3, 5
3. Paragraphs 3, 4, 5, 6
4. Paragraph 5
5. Paragraph 4
6. Paragraphs 4, 6
7. Paragraph 3

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

* <https://m.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/ni-teacher-describes-being-upskirted-by-pupil-nothing-prepares-you-for-seeing-the-footage-i-thought-i-was-going-to-be-violently-sick/a181292176.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
* <https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/education/teacher-victim-of-upskirting-pupil-breaks-silence-to-tell-of-her-trauma/38119262.html> - A teacher from Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, has spoken out about being a victim of upskirting by a pupil. She describes the incident as distressing and humiliating, highlighting the profound impact it had on her mental health and well-being. The case has led to discussions about the need for stronger laws against such offenses in Northern Ireland.
* <https://fermanaghherald.com/2025/03/fermanagh-teacher-speaks-out-about-upskirting/> - Sally Rees, a teacher from Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, has shared her experience of being upskirted by a pupil. She describes the incident as deeply traumatic and discusses the lack of support from the school administration. The case has sparked conversations about the need for legal reforms to address upskirting in Northern Ireland.
* <https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/deeply-disturbing-teacher-survey-shines-spotlight-on-harassment-by-pupils/36761146.html> - A survey by the NASUWT union reveals that nearly one in ten teachers in England have been sexually harassed by pupils, with some experiencing upskirting. The findings highlight the prevalence of sexual harassment in schools and the need for stronger protective measures for educators.
* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-essex-63487573> - Simon Tidbury, a former teacher in Essex, has been banned from the profession indefinitely after admitting to upskirting offenses. The Teaching Regulation Agency emphasized the seriousness of such offenses and their potential influence on pupils.
* <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/06/25/teachers-upskirted-downbloused-pupils-class-union-warns/> - Teaching unions report an increase in incidents where pupils take covert photographs under teachers' skirts or down their tops. These images often emerge on social media platforms, leading to distress among educators and highlighting the need for stronger protective measures.
* <https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/union-tells-members-not-to-teach-pupil-after-up-skirt-videos-in-northern-ireland-school/36092961.html> - The NASUWT union has instructed its members at Enniskillen Royal Grammar School not to teach a pupil who was alleged to have taken inappropriate images of teachers. The incident has raised concerns about the school's response and the need for stronger protective measures for educators.