Westminster Education Forum Keynote Seminar: Priorities for Key Stage 3 - curriculum, assessment and effective use of the pupil premium

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 23rd November 2017

Venue: Asia House, 63 New Cavendish Street, Marylebone, London W1G 7LP

Agenda subject to change



8.30 - 9.00	Registration and coffee
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9.00 - 9.05 Westminster Education Forum opening remarks

Marc Gammon, Associate Editor, Westminster Education Forum

9.05 - 9.35 Still the 'wasted years'? - the quality of Key Stage 3 in England's schools

Matthew Purves, Deputy Director, Education Inspection Policy, Ofsted Questions and comments from the floor

9.35 - 9.50 The challenges for teaching Key Stage 3

Sarah Hannafin, Senior Policy Advisor, NAHT

9.50 - 10.55 Curriculum and assessment at Key Stage 3 - transition, breadth and accountability and the impact of GCSE reform

In what further ways can schools improve the way they work together to manage the transition between primary and secondary to ensure that prior learning at Key Stage 2 (KS2) is effectively built upon? With interim findings from Ofsted's review of the curriculum recently released and following the introduction of the EBacc measure, what has been the impact of Key Stage 4 reform on the operation and focus of Key Stage 3 in secondary education? With 1 in 5 inspection reports between September 2014 and March 2015 identifying KS3 as an area for improvement, how can it be ensured KS3 is not overshadowed by the comparatively high-stake KS2 and KS4 years, for instance with regard to timetabling and staffing? What options should Government consider when proposing reform to accountability at KS3 including the reinstatement of SATs in Year 9? How can concerns that there is greater emphasis placed on pastoral care over academic attainment at the start of KS3 be addressed? What recommendations can be made to policymakers to ensure numeracy skills are as much a priority as literacy skills in the design on KS3 curriculums? How can the quality of teaching and learning in history, geography and modern foreign languages be improved at KS3 and matched by high levels of achievement?

Richard Lord, Headteacher, The Deepings School, Cambridgeshire

Dr Richard Harris, Associate Professor, Institute for Education, University of Reading

Eric Halton, County Education Manager, Professional Learning, Hampshire County Council

Steve Brace, Head of Education and Outdoor Learning, Royal Geographical Society Questions and comments from the floor with **Sarah Hannafin**, Senior Policy Advisor, NAHT

10.55 - 11.25 Coffee

11.25 - 11.40 Case study: innovation in English teaching at Key Stage 3

Nick Wallace, Senior Curriculum and Development Lead, Ark

11.40 - 12.05 Attainment, social disadvantage and 'ability grouping' at Key Stage 3

Professor Jeremy Hodgen, Chair of Mathematics Education, University College London and Professor of Mathematics Education, University of Nottingham

Questions and comments from the floor with Nick Wallace, Senior Curriculum and Development Lead, Ark

In light of findings from Ofsted's report 'Key Stage 3: The Wasted Years?' showing that some school leaders are not utilising pupil premium funding effectively to close gaps quickly at KS3, how can it be ensured, in secondary schools, that pupil premium students are the sole benefactors from the extra funding? To what extent do children from disadvantaged backgrounds experience a drop off in progress during secondary school, as highlighted in the Social Mobility Commission's report 'Low income pupils' progress at secondary school', and what are the most effective means of reversing this trend? What options should be considered by Government and schools in preventing a further widening of the attainment gap at KS3, including ensuring higher levels of interaction between teachers and parents at this Key Stage?

Suzanne O'Farrell, Curriculum and Assessment Specialist, ASCL

Jeremy Waxman, former Headteacher, Kingsbury High School, London

Victoria Flynn, Joint Area Lead Inspector/Adviser, Children's Services, Hampshire County Council

Questions and comments from the floor

12.55 - 13.00 Westminster Education Forum closing remarks

Marc Gammon, Associate Editor, Westminster Education Forum