

Westminster Education Forum Keynote Seminar: Special Educational Needs provision - the next steps

Date: 2nd November 2010

Venue: The Royal Society, 6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG

Agenda subject to change

- 8.45 - 9.00 Registration
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Pat Glass MP, Member, Education Select Committee
- 9.05 - 9.40 **Ofsted's review of SEN and Disability in Schools 2010**
Patrick Leeson, Director, Development, Education and Care, Ofsted
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.40 - 10.40 **Inclusion or Special Schools? The future direction for policy**
How is the current system working for pupils, parents and teachers? Is there currently a 'bias towards inclusion', as suggested by government, and how has this affected schools and pupils? Is there currently a stigma attached to special schools? If so, how should this be addressed? Are there financial implications for favouring either inclusion or special schools? What is the impact of inclusion for pupils without Special Educational Needs (SEN)? Does co-location of special schools with mainstream schools present a better alternative? What strategies could be implemented to reduce the high number of exclusions for pupils with SEN?
Fin O'Regan, SEN and Behaviour Consultant, Specialist Schools and Academies Trust
Ahmed Ali, Student, George Mitchell School, Leyton
Heather Stack, Director & SEN Consultant, Learning Services (SEN)
Simone Aspis, Campaigns and Policy Coordinator, Alliance for Inclusive Education (ALLFIE)
Paul Williams, Headteacher, Shaftesbury High School and Chair, NAHT SEND Committee
Martin Tune, Headteacher, Bonner Primary School, London
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.40 - 10.45 **Chairman's closing remarks**
Pat Glass MP, Member, Education Select Committee
- 10.45 - 11.15 Coffee
- 11.15 - 11.20 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Lord Ramsbotham, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Speech and Language Difficulties
- 11.20 - 11.55 **Supporting special educational needs in 21st century schools**
Lorraine Petersen, Chief Executive Officer, nasen
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.55 - 12.55 **The future organisation of SEN provision**
How significant are budgetary cuts in this area likely to be, and how will this impact on SEN provision? What should be the future role for Local Authorities as SEN providers, with more schools becoming academies and 'free schools' being introduced? Will the abolition of organisations such as Becta and the QCDA affect the support that schools receive? Should voluntary organisations play a bigger role in the provision of SEN? How will SEN provision work in academies and free schools? How does early diagnosis of SEN help the pupil, and what is the most effective way of identifying SEN early? How can the pupil premium be best utilised for SEN pupils? Does the current statement system provide appropriate support to pupils with SEN, and should changes be considered?
Dr Deborah Absalom, Director of Children & Young People's Services, London Borough of Bexley
Caroline Seyedi, Experienced Parent and MA Autism Postgraduate Student, University of Wales, Newport
Judge John Aitken, Deputy President, Health, Education and Social Care (HESC) Chamber
Phil Hearne, Executive Director, Northumberland Church of England Academy (NCEA)
Jolanta Lasota, Chief Executive, TreeHouse
Elaine Simpson, Managing Director, Education & Children's Services, Serco
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chairman's and Westminster Education Forum thanks and closing remarks**
Lord Ramsbotham, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Speech and Language Difficulties
Sean Cudmore, Senior Producer, Westminster Education Forum