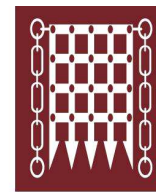


Westminster Employment Forum Keynote Seminar: The future for careers policy in England

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 12th October 2017

Venue: Central London



WESTMINSTER
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FORUM

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 - 9.20 **Current national picture for careers and challenges ahead**
Senior speaker to be confirmed (Academic)
- 9.20 - 10.20 **A careers strategy for England**
How can government best align the strategic aims of careers policy with those of wider industrial strategy; how can more young people best be encouraged to pursue careers in priority areas, such as STEM, or to take technical career pathways? How might the careers sector in the UK need to react to the challenges created by Brexit, including anticipated skills shortages in sectors such as construction and hospitality? What further steps can be taken to ensure that young people from disadvantaged backgrounds or those with special educational needs are able to access the tailored support they need? Does government need to give greater focus to ensuring that those leading on careers advice are suitably qualified, or have relevant experience? How can government improve the co-ordination between the careers resources available for adults and those for young people, in order to improve coherence and clarity?
Bhavina Bharkhada, Education and Skills Policy Adviser, EEF
Dr Neil Bentley, Chief Executive, WorldSkills UK
Jan Ellis, Chief Executive, Career Development Institute
Brenda Cabras, Director of Employment and Skills, Prospects
Questions and comments from the floor with Senior speaker to be confirmed
- 10.20 - 10.25 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.25 - 10.50 Coffee
- 10.50 - 10.55 **Chair's opening remarks**
Baroness Prosser
- 10.55 - 11.05 **What does quality careers provision look like - an employer's perspective**
Charlie Mullins, Chief Executive Officer, Pimlico Plumbers
- 11.05 - 11.15 **Improving co-ordination and scaling-up best practice**
Alastair Falk, Head of Education, Careers and Enterprise Company
- 11.15 - 11.30 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.30 - 12.25 **Priorities for schools in improving careers information, advice and guidance**
What steps can be taken to provide greater support and guidance for 'careers leaders' within schools; should the Gatsby benchmarks serve as a standardised guide for schools on the action that they should take? How can government address widespread concerns about the lack of funding and resources available to schools for careers; should some schools instead be encouraged to give greater consideration to careers when planning their budget? In what ways can careers technology, and the innovative use of data, relieve some of the burdens faced by schools; what steps can be taken to ensure that when using careers tech, students do not 'self-stereotype'? Should Ofsted place a greater emphasis on careers when inspecting and rating schools? Following calls from colleges, training providers and employers, is further legislation needed to ensure that students are able to access impartial information about apprenticeships and the new T-Levels which will be available to them? What lessons could schools learn from careers provision in FE colleges and universities?
Kath Wright, Independent Career Education Consultant
Emma Williams, Executive Director, PTA UK
Sharon Walpole, Director, CASCAID
Eluned Jones, Director of Student Employability, University of Birmingham
Senior representative, school
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.25 - 12.55 **The careers strategy - priorities for policy**
Senior speaker confirmed from the **Department for Education** (subject to departmental business)
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Employment Forum closing remarks**
Baroness Prosser
Tom Overend, Forum Lead, Westminster Employment Forum