

Westminster Education Forum Keynote Seminar:

Next steps for child development policy - supporting parents, improving 'school-readiness' and implementing integrated health and learning progress reviews

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 10th June 2014

Venue: Glaziers Hall, 9 Montague Close, London SE1 9DD

Agenda subject to change



- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Lord Northbourne, Chair, Associate Parliamentary Group for Parents and Families
- 9.05 - 9.30 **Key findings from Ofsted's report into children's readiness for school**
Mark Lindfield HMI, Ofsted
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 - 10.10 **The Early Years Foundation Stage: 'school-readiness', training challenges, and supporting disadvantaged pupils**
What has been the impact so far of the reformed Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) in preparing children with the social, emotional, behavioural and communicative skills needed for the transition to formal education? What will be the likely impact of removing the statutory requirement for all providers to complete a EYFS Profile for all children? What form will the proposed new 'baseline assessment' for all pupils when they reach Reception class need to take in order to be a more effective tool for accurately identifying children's ability and further developmental needs? Are current flexibilities around entry dates into Reception sufficient to accommodate children at a lower level of development; could these freedoms be extended to address concerns around the 'school-readiness' of summer-born pupils? How valid are concerns around children entering Reception with very low levels of development, including not being toilet-trained? How can primary schools use the Pupil Premium to support disadvantaged pupils with low levels of development, particularly those without a statement of Special Educational Needs? What impact will extending the Pupil Premium to early years have on supporting children from disadvantaged backgrounds?
Professor Elizabeth Wood, Professor of Education and Director of Research, School of Education, University of Sheffield
Laura Barbour, Early Years Projects Manager, Sutton Trust
Dr Heather Geddes, Educational Psychotherapist, Caspari Foundation
Nansi Ellis, Assistant General Secretary, Policy, ATL
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.10 - 10.20 **Parenting and child development**
Professor Sarah Stewart-Brown, Chair of Public Health, University of Warwick
- 10.20 - 11.00 **New approaches to parenting support: building on the CANparent trials, engaging families and developing services**
What approaches taken by participants in the CANparent trials of universal parenting support seem most promising in achieving their stated aims of improving parenting skills and confidence, and reducing the need for further intervention? What policy options are available to expand the provision of parenting support beyond the trial areas; how could more employers in particular be encouraged to provide workplace access to parenting classes? How can local authorities and health professionals best support young, single-parent or at-risk families, or those whose child has specific needs; how should Sure Start centres interpret their 'core purpose' in relation to this? What more can be done to increase parents' knowledge and uptake of parenting support available in their area before and after the child is born; how can providers improve parental awareness of and access to additional services? Would a quality mark for parenting classes improve confidence in provision among parents; what factors should be considered in the award of this?
Pamela Park, Director of Business Development, Family Lives
Belinda Phipps, Chief Executive Officer, National Childbirth Trust
Sam Higgins, Children's Centre Network Manager, Sheppey 2 Cluster Centres, Ladybird, Lilypad and Beaches Centres
Questions and comments from the floor with **Professor Sarah Stewart-Brown**, Chair of Public Health, University of Warwick
- 11.00 - 11.05 **Chairman's closing remarks**
Lord Northbourne, Chair, Associate Parliamentary Group for Parents and Families
- 11.05 - 11.30 Coffee
- 11.30 - 11.35 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Rt Hon Frank Field MP, Co-Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group for Conception to Age Two - The First 1001 Days and Author, *Independent Review on Poverty and Life Chances*
- 11.35 - 12.15 **Progress and next steps for implementing integrated reviews of health and learning progress**
Jim Addison, Assistant Director, Early Years Curriculum and Teaching, Department for Education
Flora Goldhill, Director, Children, Families & Maternity and Health Inequalities, Department of Health
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.15 - 12.55 **Putting integrated reviews into practice: challenges and opportunities**
How prepared are health visiting teams and early years providers for the planned introduction of integrated reviews of health and learning progress in 2015? What lessons for the wider implementation of integrated reviews can be learnt from the pilot schemes; how can challenges around co-ordinating practices, sharing information, and training professionals to carry out integrated reviews be overcome? Will combining health and learning progress checks improve the early identification of potential problems with health, language, behaviour and other areas, and signposting of pathways to additional support? What are the options for carrying out such checks for children not yet in educational settings? How well do the integrated reviews link to Government's wider reforms to Special Educational Needs provision, particularly the integrated Education, Care and Health Plans?
Dr Cheryll Adams, Director, Institute of Health Visiting
Professor Edward Melhuish, Professor of Human Development, Birkbeck, University of London and Academic Research Leader, Department of Education, University of Oxford
Clare Geldard, Director of Operations, I CAN
Andrea Richardson, Head of Early Help Service, Leeds City Council
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chairman's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**
Rt Hon Frank Field MP, Co-Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group for Conception to Age Two - The First 1001 Days and Author, *Independent Review on Poverty and Life Chances*
Jonny Roberts, Associate Editor, Westminster Education Forum