

Scotland Policy Conferences Keynote Seminar: Curriculum for Excellence - the next steps

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 13th March 2018

Venue: Central Edinburgh



SCOTLAND POLICY
CONFERENCES

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 - 9.30 **Curriculum for Excellence in context**
Professor Graham Donaldson, Consultant and Member, International Council of Education Advisors
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 - 10.25 **The future direction of Curriculum for Excellence**
Are the principles of Curriculum for Excellence (CfE), first laid out in 2004, still fit for purpose in ensuring that Scotland's education system meets the needs of pupils, teachers and wider society? What should be the future direction of CfE? How can the education system best balance the core principles of a broad, flexible curriculum and whole child approach with the need for measuring performance, for instance through standardised assessment?
Neil McLennan, Director of Leadership Programmes and Senior Lecturer, School of Education, University of Aberdeen
Senior representative, primary education
Pupil representative
Senior representative, workforce
Senior representative, secondary education
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 - 10.30 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.30 - 11.00 Coffee
- 11.00 - 11.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.05 - 11.45 **Tackling the attainment gap: regional collaboration and educational leadership**
In light of the proposed introduction of educational regions laid out in the Scottish Government's Governance Review, and ICEA's call for a greater collaboration as a means of improving attainment, what lessons can be learnt from existing regional collaborations, both in Scotland and further afield, on best practice in this area? With the Scottish Government aiming to devolve significant powers to headteachers as part of its proposed Headteacher's Charter, including greater freedom over the curriculum, what is needed to ensure that headteachers have the necessary support systems, including those needed to drive innovative approaches to learning within schools?
Gayle Gorman, Director of Education and Children's Services, Aberdeen City Council
Eileen Prior, Executive Director, Scottish Parent Teacher Council
Senior representative, case study
Senior representative, leadership
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 - 12.35 **Supporting classroom teaching: resources, workload and assessment**
What are the potential benefits for the performance of CfE in relation to the Scottish Government's initiatives to open up alternative routes into teaching, and are sufficient safeguards in place to ensure that such an approach will not have a negative effect on teaching standards? How can the Scottish Government support existing classroom teachers to improve methods and practices of teaching, particularly in subjects such as literacy and numeracy? With the Scottish Government consulting on the future funding formula for schools, what is needed to ensure that teachers have the resources they need to improve attainment? How effective have the Scottish Government's attempts been to reduce bureaucracy faced by classroom teachers, and what further measures could be introduced to give teachers greater time and space for professional development and improve the performance of CfE?
Ellen Doherty, Director of Education, Registration and Professional Learning, General Teaching Council for Scotland
Jane Peckham, National Official, Scotland, NASUWT
Senior representative, workforce
Senior representative, school
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.35 - 12.55 **Next steps for Curriculum for Excellence**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Scotland Policy Conferences closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Michael Ryan, Deputy Editor, Scotland Policy Conferences