

Policy Forum for Northern Ireland Keynote Seminar: Policy priorities for education in Northern Ireland improving attainment and reducing inequalities

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 4th April 2017

Venue: Stormont Hotel, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast BT4 3LP



POLICY FORUM
FOR NORTHERN
IRELAND

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Dr Robbie Meredith, Education and Arts Correspondent, BBC Northern Ireland
- 9.05 - 9.35 **Reducing inequalities in education in Northern Ireland: progress and remaining challenges**
Dr Michael Wardlow, Chief Commissioner, Equality Commission for Northern Ireland
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 - 10.25 **Addressing issues in early years: early intervention, parental support and community networks**
Elisa Mascellani, Senior Policy and Public Affairs Officer, The Nurture Group Network
Jayne Thompson, Programmes Manager, Parent Teacher Association Northern Ireland
Jill Black, Principal, Black Mountain Primary School, Belfast
Dr Roisin McCooey, Manager, Belfast Childcare Partnership and Sure Start Lead, Social Care Directorate, Health and Social Care Board
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 - 10.30 **Chair's closing remarks**
Dr Robbie Meredith, Education and Arts Correspondent, BBC Northern Ireland
- 10.30 - 11.00 Coffee
- 11.00 - 11.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Chris Lyttle MLA, Northern Ireland Assembly
- 11.05 - 11.35 **Education standards in Northern Ireland: the current state of play**
Noelle Buick, Chief Inspector, Education and Training Inspectorate
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.35 - 12.25 **Tackling key issues for raising attainment: leadership, school autonomy and improving standards in the classroom**
Dermot Mullan, Principal, Our Lady and St Patrick's College, Knock
Professor Allen Thurston, Acting Head, School of Social Sciences, Education and Social Work, Queen's University Belfast
Angela Mervyn, Education Programme Manager, West Belfast Partnership Board
Angela McGowan, Regional Director, CBI Northern Ireland
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.25 - 12.55 **Education policy landscape in Northern Ireland**
Dr David Hughes, Director of Curriculum, Qualifications and Standards, Department of Education, Northern Ireland Executive
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Policy Forum for Northern Ireland closing remarks**
Chris Lyttle MLA, Northern Ireland Assembly
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Policy Forum for Northern Ireland