

## Westminster Education Forum Keynote Seminar: The future for the independent schools sector

Timing: Morning, Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015

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

Agenda subject to change



WESTMINSTER  
EDUCATION  
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- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Lord Griffiths of Burry Port**, Chairman, Central Foundation Schools of London
- 9.05 - 9.25 **The independent schools sector in England - latest trends**  
**Russell Speirs**, Chief Executive Officer and Founder, RSAcademics  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.25 - 9.35 **The sector's vision for independent schools**  
**Barnaby Lenon**, Chairman, Independent Schools Council
- 9.35 - 10.35 **Case studies in innovative teaching practice, qualification provision and the curriculum**
- Using technology and innovative teaching practices across the curriculum*  
**Ian Yorston**, Director, Digital Strategy, Radley College, Oxfordshire
- The use of alternative post-16 qualifications*  
**Roderic Gillespie**, Director, Assessment, Cambridge International Examinations
- Using curriculum freedoms to develop new qualifications*  
**Keith Budge**, Headmaster, Bedales Schools, Hampshire
- Delivering a broad curriculum from an early age - character building and extra-curricular activities*  
**Richard Follett**, Headmaster, Vinehall School, East Sussex
- Provision of a broad and creative curriculum - role of independent day schools*  
**Stephen Smith**, Secretary, Forum of Independent Day Schools
- Questions and comments from the floor including **Barnaby Lenon**, Chairman, Independent Schools Council
- 10.35 - 10.50 **Learning environment design: best practice and latest thinking**  
**Jayne Bird**, Partner, Nicholas Hare Architects  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.50 - 10.55 **Chair's closing remarks**  
**Lord Griffiths of Burry Port**, Chairman, Central Foundation Schools of London
- 10.55 - 11.20 Coffee
- 11.20 - 11.25 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Lord Lucas**, Editor in Chief, The Good Schools Guide
- 11.25 - 12.10 **Student recruitment and the sector's expansion overseas**  
*How have the recent changes to Tier 4 Visas affected international student recruitment in independent schools? What could be done to address concerns raised about the ability of smaller schools to retain their 'highly trusted sponsor' status in light of the Government's decision to raise the maximum threshold for rejected applications to 10%? What approaches are independent schools taking to successfully recruit international students, and what is the impact on diversifying their student cohort and promote cultural enrichment in schools? How can the Government and the independent sector work together to promote UK as a destination of choice for international students? What are the key challenges for independent schools to expand branched campuses overseas; what lessons can be learnt from longstanding British International Schools?*  
**Nichola Carter**, Immigration Solicitor, Carter Thomas Solicitors  
**Dr Cameron Pyke**, Deputy Master (External), Dulwich College, London  
**Colin Bell**, Chief Executive Officer, Council of British International Schools  
**Emma Robinson**, Account Manager, Services for International Education Marketing, British Council  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.10 - 12.55 **The contribution of independent schools to the economy and society**  
*What more can the independent schools sector do to raise awareness of their contribution to the UK economy and widening access? How can fee-paying independent schools collaborate with other schools in a system within an increased diversity of school types? What further steps can the Government take in addition to the new funding for Independent State School Partnerships, to incentivise collaboration between independent and state schools? In light of recent research which suggested that boarding school provision can help raise attainment of disadvantaged pupils, how can boarding schools offer more places to disadvantaged pupils; should the Government offer financial support? In what ways can the independent sector and charities work together in order to widen access to pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds?*  
**Leo Winkley**, Head Master, St Peter's School, York  
**Gerri McAndrew**, Chief Executive, Buttle UK  
**Professor Francis Green**, Professor of Work and Education Economics, Department of Lifelong and Comparative Education, Institute of Education, University College London  
**Joan Deslandes**, Headteacher, Kingsford Community School, London  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**  
**Lord Lucas**, Editor in Chief, The Good Schools Guide  
**Dieuni Welihinda**, Forum Lead, Westminster Education Forum