

Westminster Education Forum Keynote Seminar: The future for independent schools in England

Timing: Morning, Wednesday, 9th November 2016

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



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FORUM

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Lord Lucas, Editor in Chief, The Good Schools Guide
- 9.05 - 9.20 **Key issues and priorities for independent schools**
Barnaby Lenon, Chairman, Independent Schools Council
- 9.20 - 9.55 **Improving the financial sustainability of independent schools**
The role of financial benchmarking in improving financial efficiency in schools
Tim Baines, Managing Director, Baines Cutler Solutions
Developing successful fundraising models
Glen Fendley, Chairman, The Institute of Development Professionals in Education and Head of Development, The Girls' Day School Trust
Questions and comments from the floor with **Barnaby Lenon**, Chairman, Independent Schools Council
- 9.55 - 10.45 **Developing new strategic approaches to tackling financial pressure: restructuring, partnerships and fee structures**
What are the most promising strategic options for schools in seeking to overcome financial pressures such as the rise in school running costs in order to reduce overall costs; how should they approach the task of strategic development? What can be learnt from schools which have re-structured both on a whole-school level and financially in order to make private education more affordable and attractive to potential domestic and international pupils? Should more schools consider reducing school fees as currently being trialled by some schools, to make fees more affordable to help maintain student numbers? To what extent can collaborative partnerships between schools, the sharing of facilities and innovative procurement models help to reduce the running costs of schools and improve their overall efficiency? How can the sector work together to improve the sustainability of all schools, particularly small scale independent schools, to support the overall growth of the sector and the further establishment of the independent sector brand? What are the likely implications of the recent EU referendum, on the overall sustainability of the independent schools sector? How will the proposed new requirements schools must meet to retain their charitable status, as set out in the recent Green Paper, affect the overall finances of schools?
Caroline Jordan, President, Girls' Schools Association and Headmistress, Headington School, Oxfordshire
Robin Fletcher, Chief Executive, Boarding Schools' Association
Andrew Colpus, Headmaster, St Joseph's College, Reading, Berkshire
Julian Thould, Headmaster, King Edward VI School, Hampshire and Director, Forum of Independent Day Schools
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 - 10.50 **Chair's closing remarks**
Lord Lucas, Editor in Chief, The Good Schools Guide
- 10.50 - 11.15 Coffee
- 11.15 - 11.20 **Chair's opening remarks**
Lord Griffiths of Burry Port
- 11.20 - 11.40 **Implementing the new inspections from 2017**
Durell Barnes, former Head of Communications, Independent Schools Inspectorate
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.40 - 12.15 **Case studies in promoting excellence in teaching, and innovation in qualifications and the curriculum**
'Using curriculum freedom to design ambitious programmes - the Sevenoaks School Certificates'
Tim Jones, Academic Deputy Head, Sevenoaks School, Kent
Embedding character building and extra-curricular activities into the curriculum
Dr Nicholas Cuddihy, Headmaster, Mount St Mary's College Sheffield, Derbyshire
Delivering a broad curriculum from an early age - the use of innovative teaching and learning to enhance provision
Tania Botting, Headmistress, Greenfield School, Surrey and District Representative and Vice Chairman Elect, The Independent Association of Prep Schools
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.15 - 12.55 **Improving access and promoting collaborative partnerships between state and independent schools**
Using innovative fundraising initiatives to raise money towards scholarships aimed at improving access
Dr Martin Boulton, The High Master, The Manchester Grammar School, Greater Manchester
Collaborative partnerships between the state and the independent sector - tackling barriers and raising awareness
John Cloughton, former Chief Master, King Edward's School, Birmingham, West Midlands
Learning from existing initiatives aimed at improving disadvantaged pupils' access to independent school provision
Ian Davenport, Chief Executive, The SpringBoard Bursary Foundation
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**
Lord Griffiths of Burry Port
Dieuni Welihinda, Associate Producer, Westminster Education Forum