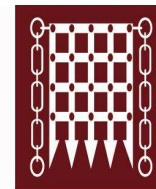


Westminster Education Forum Keynote Seminar: Modern Foreign Languages in English schools: take-up, quality and resources

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 21st April 2016

Venue: The Caledonian Club, 9 Halkin Street, London SW1X 7DR

Agenda subject to change



WESTMINSTER
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- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Lord Harrison, Member, House of Lords Equality Act 2010 and Disability Committee
- 9.05 - 9.15 **Language learning and the UK economy**
Marcus Mason, Head of Business, Education and Skills, British Chambers of Commerce
- 9.15 - 9.50 **The 2015/16 Language Trends survey: recommendations and key findings**
Teresa Tinsley, Author, *Language Trends* survey 2015/16 and Director, Alcantara Communications
Questions and comments from the floor with **Marcus Mason**, Head of Business, Education and Skills, British Chambers of Commerce
- 9.50 - 10.00 **The future of minority languages - status, recognition and accreditation**
Professor Nigel Vincent, Lead, Language Policy, British Academy
- 10.00 - 10.55 **Resources, uptake and inclusiveness**
What has been the initial impact of compulsory status for languages at Key Stage 2, introduced in September 2014? Have primary schools got sufficient support to meet this new requirement, including in the form of teaching resources and dedicated curriculum time for languages and what has the measure meant for children's engagement with languages? In light of concerns, expressed in the languages Trends Survey 2014/ 15, that there is a growing tendency for schools to exclude some pupils from language learning at Key Stages 3 and 4 - particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds - what measures can be put in place to ensure that language study remains as inclusive and accessible as possible? How valid are further warnings that performance measures and grading and assessment systems are adversely affecting take-up of modern foreign languages at A-level and what more can be done to address this issue?
Vicky Gough, Schools Advisor, British Council
Bernardette Holmes, Campaign Director, Speak to the Future
Katherine Smith, Subject Specialist - Languages, OCR and **Dr Frances Wilson**, Principal Researcher, OCR
Jane Driver, Associate Assistant Principal and Subject Leader for Languages, The Voyager Academy, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire
Sue Cave, Primary Language Specialist, Cave Languages
Questions and comments from the floor with **Professor Nigel Vincent**, Lead, Language Policy, British Academy
- 10.55 - 11.00 **Chair's closing remarks**
Lord Harrison, Member, House of Lords Equality Act 2010 and Disability Committee
- 11.00 - 11.30 Coffee
- 11.30 - 11.35 **Chair's opening remarks**
Rt Hon the Baroness Quin, former Chair, Franco-British Council
- 11.35 - 12.00 **The new GCSEs and A-Levels - content and delivery**
Professor Katrin Kohl, Professor of German Literature, University of Oxford; Director, Oxford German Network; Coordinator, Think German Network, and former Member, ALCAB for Languages
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.00 - 12.55 **MFL teaching quality - recruitment, training and support for teachers, and coordinating the transition from primary to secondary school**
Given that one quarter of secondary schools currently have no contact with feeder schools in relation to languages, what steps can be taken to improve the transition between Key Stages 2 and 3 and encourage greater collaboration between primary and secondary languages specialists? With the new GCSE and A-level modern foreign languages subjects due to be taught from September 2016, how prepared are schools for their introduction and is adequate support on offer to teachers to deliver the new subjects? In preparation for the introduction of the EBacc performance measure this September, which will require all secondary school pupils to study a language at GCSE, is enough being done to ensure that schools are sufficiently equipped to meet the increase in demand for languages teachers - what further implementation challenges might lie ahead, particularly with regard to future recruitment? How valid are concerns surrounding the lack of confidence and skills of languages teachers, and what more can be done to improve the quality of Initial Teacher Training (ITT) provision and the availability of subject-specific Continuing Professional Development (CPD)?
René Koglbauer, President, Association for Language Learning (ALL) and Acting Head of the School of Education, Communication and Language Sciences (ECLS), Newcastle University
David Shanks, MFL Consultant; Leading Practitioner, Harris Federation and Duolingo Educator
Gail Cook, Head of Languages, Dallam School, Cumbria
Dr Jane Jones, Senior Lecturer in Education and Head of Modern Foreign Languages Education, King's College London
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**
Rt Hon the Baroness Quin, former Chair, Franco-British Council
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Westminster Education Forum