

Westminster Education Forum Keynote Seminar: Next steps for school exclusions and alternative provision

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 9th July 2013

Venue: Congress Hall, Congress Centre, 28 Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3LS



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Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Lord Ramsbotham, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Speech and Language Difficulties and former HM Chief Inspector of Prisons for England and Wales
- 9.05 - 9.35 **School exclusions in England: findings from *They Go the Extra Mile***
Dr Maggie Atkinson, Children's Commissioner for England
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 - 9.45 **School-based commissioning: an update from the trial**
A first-hand perspective on the school exclusions trial.
Audrey Swann, Acting Head of Service, Alternative and Complementary Education and Residential Service (ACERS), Lancashire County Council
- 9.45 - 10.35 **Exclusions: over-represented groups, illegal exclusions, and alternatives to exclusion**
What further steps can be taken to reduce exclusions among over-represented groups such as pupils with SEND, those from low-income backgrounds, boys and ethnic minority groups, and what role can the Pupil Premium play in this? Is exclusion being used as a 'last resort', as recommended by the Office of the Children's Commissioner, and what support is there from local and national government for other forms of exclusion such as managed moves and internal exclusion? How has making the recommendations of exclusions appeals panels non-binding on headteachers affected pupils and schools? How prevalent is the issue of 'illegal exclusions', as identified by the Children's Commissioner, and what can be done to further discourage schools from this practice?
Nigel Utton, Headteacher, Bromstone Primary School, Kent and Chair, Heading for Inclusion
Srabani Sen, Chief Executive, Contact a Family
Eleonora Christodoulides, Head, Training and Consultancy Department, ACE Education
David Wolfe QC, Barrister, Matrix Chambers
Questions and comments from the floor with **Audrey Swann**, Acting Head of Service, Alternative and Complementary Education and Residential Service (ACERS), Lancashire County Council
- 10.35 - 10.40 **Chairman's closing remarks**
Lord Ramsbotham, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Speech and Language Difficulties and former HM Chief Inspector of Prisons for England and Wales
- 10.40 - 11.05 Coffee
- 11.05 - 11.10 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Bill Esterson MP, Member, Education Select Committee
- 11.10 - 11.25 **The quality of alternative provision in England**
Sue Morris-King HMI, National Lead, Behaviour and Attendance, Ofsted
- 11.25 - 12.10 **Alternative provision: new providers and accountability in a changing landscape**
What has been the impact of the first year of AP free schools and academies? Will requiring new alternative providers to be free schools or academies and the plans to convert existing AP judged to be 'poor' to academies help achieve Government's aim of raising standards? Will delegating budgets to pupil referral unit (PRU) management committees improve oversight of spending? What more can be done to ensure AP takes into account each pupil's needs, particularly regarding any behavioural, emotional or social difficulties, and how can the commissioning and operation of AP best be made accountable? Has including headteachers on pupil referral unit boards improved information-sharing and relationships between schools and PRUs? What will be the challenges in providing AP for the 16-18 age group as the participation age for education and training is raised?
Sue Howe, Headteacher, Chessbrook Education Support Centre, Hertfordshire
Adrian Packer, Principal, Everton Free School
Poppy Cromer, Student, Everton Free School
Shelley Dannell, SEN Representative, ASCL and Headteacher, Pavilion Study Centre, Barnet
Questions and comments from the floor with **Sue Morris-King HMI**, National Lead, Behaviour and Attendance, Ofsted
- 12.10 - 12.55 **Improving outcomes from alternative provision**
Will allowing teachers to train in PRUs achieve the aim of improving the teaching of pupils in AP, and what can be done to encourage more Initial Teacher Training providers to offer placements in PRUs? How can 'appropriate and challenging' English and Maths teaching be provided for children in AP, as the Taylor Review recommended? What further steps could be taken to increase the number of pupils in AP settings, seeking to progress to further and higher education, and what support is available for those who do so? Will relaxing the regulations on the length of time pupils can stay in AP improve attainment and behaviour once they leave AP? Under what circumstances should pupils in AP be re-integrated into mainstream education, and how can this transition be managed?
Samantha Campbell, Headteacher, Harrogate Pupil Referral Unit
Richard White, Research Manager, National Foundation for Educational Research
Dot Heslop, Senior Lecturer, School for Education Futures, University of Wolverhampton
Nick Armitage, National Manager, Youth Achievement Foundations, UK Youth
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chairman's closing remarks**
Bill Esterson MP, Member, Education Select Committee
Jonny Roberts, Senior Producer, Westminster Education Forum

Seminar supported by **Axcis Education**

