

**Policy Forum for Wales Keynote Seminar: Next steps for raising school standards in Wales - effective categorisation and implementing the National Education Plan**

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018

Venue: Juries Inn Cardiff, 1 Park Place, Cardiff CF10 3DN



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Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Nick Ramsay AM**
- 9.05 - 9.20 **Assessing the place of school standards within Wales' wider educational reform journey**  
**Gareth Evans**, Director of Education Policy, University of Wales Trinity Saint David
- 9.20 - 9.30 **Strategies for developing the role of Regional Education Consortia in raising school standards**  
**Arwyn Thomas**, Managing Director, GwE
- 9.30 - 10.25 **Challenges and opportunities for ensuring an effective categorisation system and the impact of tailored intervention**  
**David Evans**, Secretary, NUT Cymru  
**Jackie Parker**, Headteacher, Crickhowell High School, Powys  
**Gareth Collier**, Principal, Cardiff Sixth Form College  
**Councillor Philippa Marsden**, Cabinet Member for Education and Achievement, Caerphilly County Borough Council  
Questions and comments from the floor with **Gareth Evans**, Director of Education Policy, University of Wales Trinity Saint David and **Arwyn Thomas**, Managing Director, GwE
- 10.25 - 11.00 **Policy priorities for school standards following the National Education Plan**  
**Kirsty Williams AM**, Cabinet Secretary for Education, Welsh Government  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.00 - 11.05 **Chair's closing remarks**  
**Nick Ramsay AM**
- 11.05 - 11.35 Coffee
- 11.35 - 11.40 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Vikki Howells AM**, Member, Cross-Party Group on Children and Young People
- 11.40 - 12.10 **Next steps for tackling school and persistent absenteeism**  
**Professor Ken Reid**, former Chair, Welsh Assembly Review on Behaviour and Attendance  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.10 - 12.50 **Implementing the National Education Plan - reducing class sizes and supporting the teaching workforce**  
**Michele Thomas**, Headteacher, Pembroke Dock Community School, Pembrokeshire  
**Robin Hughes**, Consultant, GL Assessment  
**Stephen Fraser**, International Partnerships Manager, Education Endowment Foundation  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.50 - 12.55 **Concluding remarks**  
**Kevin Griffiths**, Head of School Improvement, Education Directorate, Welsh Government
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Policy Forum for Wales closing remarks**  
**Vikki Howells AM**, Member, Cross-Party Group on Children and Young People  
**Sean Cudmore**, Deputy Director, Policy Forum for Wales