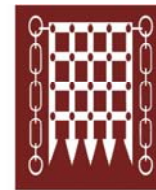


Westminster Education Forum Keynote Seminar:

Secondary school accountability: Key Stage 4 performance tables, governance, and oversight

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 8th July 2014

Venue: 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**
Rt Hon the Baroness Shephard of Northwold, former Secretary of State for Education and Employment
- 9.05 - 9.25 **Secondary school accountability measures: the case for change**
Professor Simon Burgess, Professor of Economics and Director, Centre for Market and Public Organisation, University of Bristol
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.25 - 9.55 **Reforming school performance tables**
Annabel Burns, Deputy Director, Accountability, Assessment and Flexible Resourcing Division, Department for Education
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.55 - 10.45 **Key Stage 4 performance table reform: the impact on schools and pupils**
Will Government's reforms to performance measures at Key Stage 4 succeed in focusing schools' attention on the achievement of all pupils, and reduce the pressure on the C/D borderline? How well do the reformed performance tables reflect pupils' progress in all subjects; will the move towards focusing on progress measures over 'raw' attainment measures provide valuable information to schools and parents? What might be the impact of the proposed introduction of a requirement for schools to publish performance measures on their website using a data application; is this measure likely to improve parents' ability to compare local providers? How valid are concerns that stricter floor standards will demotivate teaching professionals in schools that now fall below them? What impact will double-weighting English and Maths GCSEs, and the retention of the EBacc as a performance measure, have on subject entry patterns and on schools' allocation of teaching time and resources? How will only counting a student's first GCSE entry for a subject in school performance tables affect decisions on early entry; what will be the likely effect on students' eventual grades? What impact will making all Level 2 vocational qualifications equal in weight to a single GCSE have on entries in these qualifications? Will the revised performance tables and grading system be sufficiently clear to help parents make decisions on applying to secondary schools?
Paul Steer, Director of Policy and Strategy, OCR
Chris Tweedale, Chief Executive, CfBT Schools Trust
Chris Paterson, Associate Director, Education and Social Mobility, CentreForum
Barry Sindall, Chief Executive, Grammar School Heads' Association
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 - 10.50 **Chairman's closing remarks**
Rt Hon the Baroness Shephard of Northwold, former Secretary of State for Education and Employment
- 10.50 - 11.20 Coffee
- 11.20 - 11.25 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Rt Hon David Blunkett MP, former Secretary of State for Education
- 11.25 - 11.55 **Accountability and inspection in England's secondary schools**
Gill Close HMI, Ofsted
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.55 - 12.05 **The role of data in school accountability**
Latest thinking on using data to improve oversight at all levels.
Richard Wyborn, Director of Development & Support, FFT Education
- 12.05 - 12.55 **Improving governance and local oversight of schools**
To what extent will proposals for a 'regional commissioner' system of oversight allay fears around a lack of 'middle tier' accountability for non-maintained free schools; what other options could be explored? What support will be needed to allow headteachers to take on roles on the 'headteacher board' in addition to their existing duties? How far has Parent View succeeded in enabling parents to hold schools to account; is there a need for local authorities to be given greater powers to intervene more directly in academies and free schools? What will be the likely impact of replacing full inspections for schools judged to be good with more frequent but 'light touch' visits? Will such 'light touch' visits be sufficient to identify early warning signs of decline in school's performance? As schools and academy chains adopt a range of organisational structures, what are the most promising innovations in governance arrangements? Will efforts to recruit more school governors with particular skills improve the professionalism and effectiveness of governing bodies, and what further training and professional development could be provided?
Clare Collins, Lead Consultant, National Governors' Association
Bob Anderson, Director of HR and Governance, Elliot Foundation
Maria Dawes, Head of School Effectiveness, Babcock 4S Education Services
Dr Peter Kent, Vice President, ASCL
Questions and comments from the floor with **Richard Wyborn**, Director of Development & Support, FFT Education
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chairman's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**
Rt Hon David Blunkett MP, former Secretary of State for Education
Jonny Roberts, Associate Editor, Westminster Education Forum

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