

Westminster Education Forum Keynote Seminar: ICT at school and in the home: efficiency, inclusion and digital skills

Timing: Morning, 25th March 2010

Venue: The Royal Society, 6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.45 - 9.00 Registration
- 9.00 - 9.05 Chairman's opening remarks
Andrew Miller MP, Chair, Parliamentary Information Technology Committee
- 9.05 - 9.30 ICT in schools: where are we now
Themes: Key indicators and insights from Becta's recently published Harnessing Technology schools survey – the UK's main technology-in-education-survey. The latest overview of the use of ICT in UK schools, and implications for public policy.
Dr Vanessa Pittard, Director, E-Strategy, Becta
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 - 10.25 ICT in schools: latest thinking on efficiency, pupil attainment and value for money
Themes: What are the key developments in the use of ICT within schools and colleges? Emerging models for driving cost saving efficiencies in the delivery and administration of education, including best practice in federations of schools with shared management. What is the latest evidence on the use of technology to support learners in order to improve school standards and pupil attainment - and to support personalised and independent learning amongst pupils? Potential downsides: does the increased use of technology risk creating impersonal relationships within schools and with families, and how might such issues be addressed? What more can schools do to fully realise the benefits of technology and derive value for money from the investment?
Tony Nicholson, Headteacher, Hodgson School, Lancashire
Terry Sweeney, Chief Executive Officer, RM
Marco Ramsay, Deputy Headteacher, London Fields Primary School
David Moran, Operational Director for Information, Specialist Schools and Academies Trust
Raj Patel, Assistant Director of Research and Policy, Learning and Skills Network
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 - 10.55 ICT as a driver of change: technology's challenge to the education system
Themes: A perspective from the new media sector on latest trends in the ways that young people use technology outside of education, and how education might be able to benefit. How developments in ICT might drive education policy, and how the education sector can respond.
David Braben, Founder, Frontier Developments
Dr Rachel O'Connell, former Vice President, AOL and Social Media Strategist
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.55 - 11.00 Chairman's closing remarks
Andrew Miller MP, Chair, Parliamentary Information Technology Committee
- 11.00 - 11.20 Coffee
- 11.20 - 11.25 Chairman's opening remarks
Baroness Perry of Southwark
- 11.25 - 11.40 Home Access: progress and next steps
Themes: Report on progress from one of the Home Access pilots. What have been the challenges and successes, what has been learned, and how might policy need to adapt in the future?
Terry Ring, Former Home Access Pilot Lead, Suffolk
- 11.40 - 12.20 ICT at home: education and inclusion
Themes: Why does Home Access matter for learners and their families – to what extent does extending computer ownership reduce the "digital divide" and, as a result, create a more inclusive society? Generally, have the Home Access programme pilot schemes been successful in their aim of supporting children's learning, and reducing inequalities? How might businesses contribute to a sustainable future for Home Access? What additional support should be given to the least technologically able in society? What technical support needs to be given specifically to parents? How can online reporting include parents in a child's education?
Steve Beswick, Senior Director for Education, Microsoft UK
Christine Terrey, Headteacher, Grays Infants School, Newhaven
Valerie Thompson, Chief Executive, e-Learning Foundation
Questions and comments from the floor with Terry Ring, Former Home Access Pilot Lead, Suffolk
- 12.20 - 12.55 Digital skills for the 21st century: the promise of ICT for the UK
Theme: A keynote vision of the wider impact that ICT in education will have for the UK in the next decade.
Stephen Crowne, Chief Executive, Becta
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 Chairman's and Westminster Education Forum thanks and closing remarks
Baroness Perry of Southwark
Peter van Gelder, Director, Westminster Education Forum

Seminar supported by