

**Westminster Education Forum policy conference:
Next steps for the school curriculum and assessment in England**

Timing: Morning, Monday, 28th April 2025

*****Taking place online*****



**WESTMINSTER
EDUCATION
FORUM**

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Mark Sowards MP, Member, Education Select Committee
- 9.05 **Key findings from the Curriculum and Assessment Review's interim report**
Jon Hutchinson, Director, Teacher Development and Curriculum, Reach Foundation; and Member, Curriculum and Assessment Review Group
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 **Stakeholder perspectives on the Curriculum and Assessment Review interim report's recommendations**
assessing strengths and weaknesses of current curriculum content | establishing a strong foundation in core subjects of reading, writing and maths | broadening the curriculum | widening access to music, art, drama, sport and vocational education | embedding digital, oracy, sustainability and life skills | ensuring all children and young people are represented with a curriculum that reflects the issues and diversities of society | meeting the needs of FE, HE and employers
Robert Gasson, Chief Executive, Wave Multi-Academy Trust
Professor Bill Lucas, Co-Founder, Rethinking Assessment
Jack Wardle, National Curriculum Lead, Twinkl
Jennifer King, EMEA Education Lead, Adobe
James Searjeant, Headteacher, Wyborne Primary and Nursery School, London
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.35 **Chair's closing remarks**
Mark Sowards MP, Member, Education Select Committee
- 10.40 Break
- 10.50 **Chair's opening remarks**
Sean Cudmore, Westminster Education Forum
- 11.05 **Curriculum and assessment reform in England - priorities for the Review's second phase**
Jill Duffy, Chief Executive, OCR
- 11.15 **The future of the assessment system**
taking forward lessons from the current assessment system | developing a system that captures the strengths of every child and young person and the breadth of curriculum | preventing undue burdens on education staff, and supporting manageable and sustainable workloads | the future of assessment at age 16 and alternative methods of assessment | current public confidence in the assessment system | digitalisation of assessment and the future role of AI
Nick Holbrook-Sutcliffe, Chief Education Officer, EKC Group
Dr Alice Eardley, Interim CEO, Get Further
Crispin Chatterton, Director, Education, GL Assessment
Keziah Featherstone, Executive Headteacher, The Mercian Trust
- 11.35 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.00 **Assessing the longer-term aims of the Review and priorities for implementation**
addressing barriers to progress and positive outcomes | ensuring equity for children and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds and students with SEND | developing optimal structure and content of full-time vocational programmes at ages 16-19 | continuing to align the curriculum and assessment system with labour market and HE needs | improving coherence and flexibility of qualification pathways
Kate Ambrosi, CEO, Baker Dearing Educational Trust
Tess Howe, Head, Partnerships and Policy, The Institute of Agriculture and Horticulture
Jonathan Nicholls, Deputy Headteacher, Hampton High, Richmond upon Thames
Maria Kemble, Executive Head, St Edmund's RC Primary School, Suffolk
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**
Sean Cudmore, Westminster Education Forum