

**Westminster Education Forum policy conference:  
Next steps for childcare and early years provision in England**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> July 2024

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



*Draft agenda subject to change*

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Assessing the preparation to extend childcare entitlements for parents in England**  
**Emma Wilson**, Director, Education Value for Money Team, National Audit Office  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.25 **Implementation of the extended childcare support scheme and funding framework**  
*next steps for delivery | impact on providers | accessibility and affordability of childcare*  
**Helen Donohoe**, Chief Executive, Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years  
Senior representative, local authority  
Senior representative, early years  
Senior representative, parents/guardians  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.05 **Alternative policy options for early years provision in England**  
**Sir David Bell** (pre-recorded presentation), Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive, University of Sunderland; former HM Chief Inspector of Schools, Ofsted (2002-2006); and Lead, Labour Party Early Years Review
- 10.15 **Chair's closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.20 Break
- 10.30 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.35 **Priorities for the childcare and early years workforce**  
**Neill Leitch**, Chief Executive, Early Years Alliance  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.55 **Meeting childcare demands - key issues for the workforce**  
*addressing recruitment and retention barriers | improving training and CPD opportunities | workforce diversity | tackling workload pressures*  
**Julie Hyde**, Director, External and Regulatory Affairs, NCFE  
**Helen Osgood**, National Officer for Education and Early Years, Community Trade Union  
**Ceri Williams**, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Employment Studies  
Senior representative, childcare  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.40 **The future of childcare and early years provision**  
*addressing barriers to accessing childcare | financial incentives | improving outcomes | bolstering the workforce*  
**Professor Verity Campbell-Barr**, Professor in Early Childhood Education, and Director, Plymouth Institute of Education  
**Lydia Hodges**, Head, Coram Family and Childcare  
Senior representative, advocacy  
Senior representative, school  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Policy priorities for childcare and early years provision moving forward**  
Senior representative, policy  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian  
**Aissa Gaye**, Westminster Education Forum