

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

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 16th 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 (PACEY)
Sarah Ronan, Director, Early Education and Childcare Coalition
Gill Jones, Group Chief Quality Officer and Safeguarding Lead, Busy Bees Nurseries
Senior representative, local authority
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