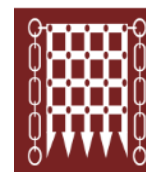


## Westminster Education Forum policy conference:

### Next steps for SEND provision in England

Timing: Morning, Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025

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



WESTMINSTER  
EDUCATION  
FORUM

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentary
- 9.05 **Assessing the current SEND landscape and key priorities for policy**  
**Dame Christine Lenehan**, Strategic Advisor, SEND, Department for Education  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Evaluating the current SEND system and priorities for improving provision**  
*options for the long-term structure of the SEND system | improving inclusion, accountability and sustainability of provision | local authority finances and strategic options for sustainable funding going forward | practical steps for increasing inclusion in mainstream schools | identifying and promoting effective inclusive practice | strategies for improving staff expertise and capacity | responding to rising EHCP demand | addressing geographical disparities and placement pressures | effective multi-agency coordination | development of Local Inclusion Partnerships*  
**Georgina Durrant**, National Inclusion Lead, Twinkl  
**Gayle Voigt**, Headteacher, Brockwood Primary and Nursery School, Hemel Hempstead  
**Dr Vasilis Strogilos**, Associate Professor, Southampton Education School, University of Southampton  
**Rebecca Clarke**, Member, Youth Board, Whizz Kidz  
Senior representative, local authority  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.20 **Supporting SEND learners and learning from best practice**  
**Annamarie Hassall**, Chief Executive, Nasen  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.40 **Chair's closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentary
- 10.45 Break
- 10.55 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentary
- 11.00 **Key considerations from the Curriculum and Assessment Review Interim Report - next steps for SEND**  
**Gary Aubin**, Member, Curriculum and Assessment Review Group; Consultant, SEND; and Author, SEND Matters UK blog  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.20 **Improving accountability and oversight within the SEND system**  
*inspection and assessment mechanisms | assessing proposals for improved national oversight | strategic options for achieving quality and equity in provision | implications of limiting parental rights of appeal or tribunal authority | maintaining trust and clarity in decision-making | safeguarding fairness in access to support | identifying and addressing gaps in national data on need and capacity | optimal use of data to inform planning and reduce variation in provision | approaches and best practice in joined-up system planning | assessing proposals for improving transparency and benchmarking*  
**Oliver Persey**, Barrister, Garden Court Chambers  
**Judith Carter**, Educational Psychologist; and Director, Willow Tree Learning  
Senior representative, secondary school  
Senior representative, local authority  
Senior representative, finance  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.10 **Improving positive outcomes for SEND pupils - post-16 education and transitions into the workforce**  
*improving support for transition into further education or employment | measuring long-term attainment and progression for pupils with SEND | models for integrated support and early intervention*  
**Linda Jordan**, Senior Development Advisor, National Development Team for Inclusion  
**Chris Lefcovitch**, Head of ALS and SENCO, Milton Keynes College Group  
**Damiano La Rocca**, CEO and Founder, Seable  
Senior representative, HE  
Senior representative, awarding organisation  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentary  
**Sean Cudmore**, Westminster Education Forum