

**Westminster Education Forum policy conference:
Next steps for climate change and sustainability education in England**

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 30th April 2026

*****Taking Place Online*****



Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
- 9.05 **Implementing climate and sustainability education across the curriculum in England**
Senior commentator
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Developing whole-school approaches to sustainability education across primary and secondary education - national policy, curriculum sequencing, and teacher confidence**
Curriculum and Assessment Review and the Government's response / embedding climate change and sustainability across key stages / citizenship lessons to teach climate education / promoting curriculum coherence and sequencing / building confidence and subject knowledge / assessing climate change understanding and application across the curriculum / tackling misinformation and ensuring scientific rigour in climate education / curriculum time and resourcing / supporting teacher professional and pedagogical development / supporting access to outdoor spaces
Professor Sylvia Knight, Head, Education, Royal Meteorological Society
Senior representative, secondary school
Senior representative, primary school
Senior representative, subject association
Senior representative, teachers
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **Supporting access to outdoor learning and assessing the impact of the National Education Nature Park**
Senior representative, cultural institution
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
- 10.50 Break
- 11.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
- 11.05 **Developing the natural history GCSE - progress, curriculum design, and assessment**
Senior representative, awarding body
- 11.15 **Measuring progress and priorities for climate change and sustainability assessment**
options for assessing climate knowledge and application / balancing knowledge, skills, and practical learning / role of fieldwork and practical elements in assessment / ensuring consistency with wider assessment reform / assessing cross-curricular climate literacy beyond science and geography / validity and reliability of climate-related assessment approaches / equity and accessibility in climate assessment across different school and college contexts
Jo Harris, Education Manager, Field Studies Council
Senior representative, school
Senior representative, employer
Senior representative, local authority
- 11.25 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **Assessing post-16 pathways and supporting progression into green industries**
climate and sustainability learning beyond compulsory education / alignment of teaching with the existing Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy / developing partnerships between further education and employers / strengthening green skills employment pathways / coherence between schools, further and higher education climate education pathways / ensuring parity of esteem between academic, technical, and vocational routes / alignment with regional and local labour market needs in green industries
Senior representative, FE
Senior representative, HE
Senior representative, employer
Senior representative, local authority
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Policy priorities for climate change and sustainability education**
Gayle Boulton, Head, Sustainability Support, Department for Education
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
Sean Cudmore, Westminster Education Forum