

## Westminster Education Forum policy conference:

### Next steps for Level 3 qualifications reform, and design and implementation of V Levels

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> January 2026

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



**WESTMINSTER  
EDUCATION  
FORUM**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Assessing the current post-16 landscape and next steps for development of V Levels**  
**Tom Reed**, Head, Sector Readiness, Department for Education  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Priorities for the design, development and rollout of V Levels**  
*support for providers in preparing for delivery / setting entry requirements and developing pathways / employer engagement and curriculum co-design / grading and assessment frameworks and their relationship with A-levels and T Levels / Skills England occupational standards in qualification and programme design / effective rules of combination and careers guidance / awareness among learners, parents and schools / funding and capacity within the 16-19 funding formula / inclusive qualification design and accessibility for SEND and disadvantaged learners / flexible and digital delivery and placement models / staff development and access to specialist facilities / alignment with Industrial Strategy priority sectors and regional skills needs / maintaining parity of esteem and confidence in new routes*  
**Alice Wilby**, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Education and Student Experience, University of Northampton  
**Will Chitty**, Principal, Crewe Engineering and Design UTC  
**Beks Chatwin**, Director, Regulation and Business Performance, Cambridge OCR  
**Dr Catherine Richards**, Principal, East Norfolk Sixth Form College; and CEO, East Norfolk Multi Academy Trust  
**Jamie Cater**, Senior Policy Manager, Make UK  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.20 **Regulatory considerations for qualification development, oversight and delivery**  
Senior representative, regulation  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 **Chair's closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.50 Break
- 11.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.05 **Supporting student choice, progression and accessibility at Level 3**  
**Noni Csogor**, Senior Research and Policy Manager, Sixth Form Colleges Association
- 11.15 **Assessing Level 3 reform and priorities for maintaining continuity of vocational provision**  
*managing withdrawal of funding from AGQs and phasing reforms to avoid gaps in provision / student choice and maintaining a balanced qualification offer / overlap with A-levels, T Levels and V Levels / accessibility for SEND and disadvantaged learners, and those between academic and technical entry points / transitions from Level 2 to Level 3, including development of occupational and progression pathways / quality and standards during transition / provider capacity to reorganise delivery as older qualifications are phased out / priorities emerging from the Curriculum and Assessment Review and Post-16 Education White Paper*  
**James Scott**, CEO, Trafford & Stockport College Group  
**Claire Green**, Post-16 and Skills Specialist, Association of School and College Leaders  
**David Rowley**, Product Manager, Technical Education, NCFE  
**Jake Wall**, Policy Manager, Skills and Future of Work, techUK
- 11.35 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.00 **Supporting learner progression and developing pathways to further study and employment**  
*pathways into HE, apprenticeships and employment / parity of esteem between academic, technical and vocational routes / engagement and partnerships between FE, employers, HEIs and local authorities / alignment with regional and sectoral skills needs through Local Skills Improvement Plans / career pathways and learner progression / addressing barriers such as prior attainment in English and maths, transport and placement access, and flexible pacing and assessment / provision for adult learners and mid-career reskilling / tracking learner outcomes and progression, and improving delivery and outcomes across Level 3 qualifications*  
**Dr Michelle Morgan**, Dean, Students, University of East London  
**Sharon Weetman**, Head, Youth Employment and Apprenticeships, Greater Manchester Combined Authority  
**Jim Mawby**, Executive Director, Curriculum and Quality, MidKent College  
Senior speaker confirmed from **The Careers and Enterprise Company**  
Senior speaker confirmed from **Into the Light**  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian  
**Sean Cudmore**, Westminster Education Forum