

The reform of GCSEs - implementation and next steps for policy 11th December 2014

CONDITIONS FOR USE OF TRANSCRIPTS:

This document is intended to provide a timely reference for interested parties who are unable to attend the event to which it refers. Some portions are based on transcripts of proceedings and others consist of text submitted by speakers or authors, and are clearly marked as such. As such, apart from where it is indicated that the text was supplied by the speaker, it has not been possible for the transcript to be checked by speakers and so this portion of the document does not represent a formal record of proceedings. Despite best endeavours by Westminster Forum Projects and its suppliers to ensure accuracy, text based on transcription may contain errors which could alter the intended meaning of any portion of the reported content. Anyone who intends to publicly use or refer to any text based on the transcript should make clear that speakers have not had the opportunity for any corrections, or check first with the speaker in question. If in doubt please contact the forum first.

Contents

<u>About this Publication</u>	3
<u>Agenda</u>	4
<u>Session Chair's opening remarks</u>	
Baroness Perry of Southwark , Vice-Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group for Education (<i>transcript</i>)	6
<u>GCSEs in England: the rationale for change and next steps for reform</u>	
Janet Holloway , Associate Director, Standards for Design, Development and Evaluation of General Qualifications, Ofqual (<i>transcript</i>)	7
Questions and comments from the floor (<i>transcript</i>)	10
<u>Aligning the new National Curriculum and reformed GCSEs</u>	
Tim Oates , Group Director of Assessment Research and Development, Cambridge Assessment (<i>transcript</i>)	14
<u>Reforming GCSEs - structure, assessment and grading</u>	
Cherry Ridgway , Curriculum and Assessment Specialist, ASCL (<i>transcript</i>)	17
Dr Ayesha Ahmed , Research Associate, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge (<i>transcript</i>)	19
Brian Conway , Headteacher, Notre Dame High School, Norfolk (<i>transcript</i>)	21
Questions and comments from the floor with Tim Oates , Group Director of Assessment Research and Development, Cambridge Assessment and Janet Holloway , Associate Director, Standards for Design, Development and Evaluation of General Qualifications, Ofqual (<i>transcript</i>)	24
<u>Session Chair's closing remarks</u>	
Baroness Perry of Southwark , Vice-Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group for Education (<i>transcript</i>)	34
<u>Session Chair's opening remarks</u>	
Sue Clarke , Policy Official, Department for Education (<i>transcript</i>)	35
<u>Reformed GCSEs and the new Key Stage 4 accountability measures</u>	
Amy Collins , Head of Inspection and Accountability Unit, Department for Education (<i>transcript</i>)	36
Questions and comments from the floor (<i>transcript</i>)	39
<u>Implementation and future challenges</u>	
Dr Jacek Brant , Former Head of Department of Curriculum, Pedagogy and Assessment, Institute of Education, University of London (<i>transcript</i>)	41
Grace Breen , Policy Advisor, CBI (<i>transcript</i>)	43
Jill Stokoe , Education Policy Adviser, ATL (<i>transcript</i>)	45
Andrew Harland , Chief Executive, Examination Officers' Association (<i>transcript</i>)	47
Questions and comments from the floor (<i>transcript</i>)	50
<u>Session Chair's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks</u>	
Sue Clarke , Policy Official, Department for Education (<i>transcript</i>)	57
Sean Cudmore , Deputy Editor, Westminster Education Forum (<i>transcript</i>)	58
<u>Comments</u>	
Sue Clarke , Policy Official, Department for Education	59
<u>List of Delegates Registered for Seminar</u>	60
<u>Contributor Biographies</u>	66
<u>About the Core Sponsors of the Westminster Education Forum</u>	69

Please be advised that speakers' PowerPoint presentations are included within the transcript itself, just beneath the relevant speaker's text. Please note that not all speakers are able to grant permission for us to include their slides.

About this Publication

This publication reflects proceedings at the Westminster Education Forum Keynote Seminar: The reform of GCSEs - implementation and next steps for policy held on 11th December 2014. The views expressed in the articles are those of the named authors, not those of the Forum or the sponsors, apart from their own articles.

Although Westminster Education Forum is grateful to all sponsors for the funding on which we depend, participation in events and publications is never conditional on being a sponsor. As well as funding ongoing operations, sponsorship enables the Forum to distribute complimentary copies of publications, and offer complimentary tickets for events, to Government ministers, parliamentarians and officials most involved in policy.

This publication is copyright. Its copying, in whole or in part, is not permitted without the prior written consent of the publishers. However, extracts of the text may be reproduced for academic or review purposes, subject to the conditions of use outlined in the previous page, providing they are accurate, are not used in a misleading context and the author, their organisation and the Westminster Education Forum are acknowledged. We would also appreciate being informed.

Westminster Education Forum

UK Headquarters
4 Bracknell Beeches
Old Bracknell Lane West
Bracknell
Berkshire RG12 7BW

T: 01344 864796
F: 01344 420121
publications@westminsterforumprojects.co.uk

Directors

Peter van Gelder
Chris Whitehouse