Policy Forum for Northern Ireland keynote seminar: Priorities and next steps for the education system in Northern Ireland

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 8th February 2024

Taking place online

Agenda subject to change



8.30	Registration
0.50	Registration

9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**

Tiernan Phipps, Lead Researcher, Policy Forum for Northern Ireland

9.05 Key findings from the Independent Review of Education in Northern Ireland and priorities for policy and implementing change going forward

Dr Keir Bloomer, Chair, Independent Review of Education

Questions and comments from the floor

9.35 Realising the vision for education in NI - addressing educational inequalities, curriculum and assessment, facilitating a joinedup approach to education reform, and assessing the case for an integrated education system

Dr Matthew O'Neill, Chair, Integrated AlumNI

Pauline Leeson, Chief Executive, Children in Northern Ireland

Emma Shaw, Executive Director, Phoenix Education Centre

Questions and comments from the floor

10.30 Assessing proposals for child development and early years education in Northern Ireland - service quality and provision, integration, and holistic support for child development

Pauline Walmsley, Chief Executive Officer, Early Years

Questions and comments from the floor

11.00 Break

11.10 The role of inspection and scrutiny in improving school standards in Northern Ireland

Faustina Graham, Chief Inspector, Education and Training Inspectorate

11.20 Examining key enablers for success in developing a high-quality education system - options for curriculum reform, adopting innovation, student outcomes, and priorities for supporting the workforce and professional development

Justin McCamphill, National Official for Northern Ireland, NASUWT; and President, Irish Congress of Trade Unions

Mary Montgomery, Principal, Belfast Boys' Model School

Mark Roberts, English Teacher and Director of Research, Carrickfergus Grammar School

Louise Warde Hunter, Principal and Chief Executive, Belfast Metropolitan College

Questions and comments from the floor

12.25 Policy priorities for education in Northern Ireland - considering the impact of the review's findings on system change

Dr Mark Browne, Permanent Secretary, Department of Education

Questions and comments from the floor

12.55 Chair's and Policy Forum for Northern Ireland closing remarks

Tiernan Phipps, Lead Researcher, Policy Forum for Northern Ireland