

Preparing for the New Curriculum: A National Benchmark of Excellence

Westminster, 7th March 2012

Programme:

09.15 *Registration and Morning Refreshments*

10.15 **Chair's Introduction**

10.20 **Setting the Scene: The Overall Shape & Nature of the National Curriculum**

- **Hardip Begol**, Acting Director of the Curriculum and General Qualifications Reform Group, Department for Education

11.15 Coffee Break

11.30 **Panel Session: Examining & Discussing the Detail**

- Reviewing the findings of the Expert Panel
- The revised timetable for implementation & time to prepare
- A slimmed down curriculum: "a core of essential knowledge"
- The evidence base for the review
- The importance of international comparisons
- Academies & maintained schools: a national benchmark for all?
- Meeting the needs of students – the national & wider school curriculum
- Considering the interaction between curriculum & qualifications
- Measuring attainment – keeping parents informed
- The implications for teachers and teaching
- Meeting the needs of all students, including the most able & pupils with special education needs & disabilities (SEND)
- **Hardip Begol**, Acting Director of the Curriculum and General Qualifications Reform Group, Department for Education
- **Dr Brian Male**, Director, The Curriculum Foundation
- **Annaliese Briggs**, Lead, Curriculum Project, Civitas
- **Representative**, Exam Board

12.30 **Preparing for the New Curriculum**

- Implications of "a greater focus on subject content"
- The impact on teaching methods & pedagogy
- The training of teachers
- The role of training institutions and training schools
- Teacher quality and student learning
- **John Carr**, Director of the Training & Qualifications for Teachers Directorate, TDA

13.15 Lunch

Continued:

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14.00 Implications for Primary Schools

- Designing the primary curriculum: reviewing key stages 1 & 2
- Teaching methodologies
- Assessing pupil progress: teacher assessment or standardised tests?
- **Di Hatchett**, Director, Every Child a Chance Trust

14.20 Implications for Secondary Schools

- Designing the secondary curriculum: reviewing key stages 3 & 4
- Core knowledge and the wider curriculum
- Assessing and testing pupil progress at key stage 3 & key stage 4
- Progression beyond key stage 4

14.45 The Developing Programme of Study for English

- The importance of reading: synthetic phonics & other methods
- Examining evidence from high-performing jurisdictions
- Developing communication skills
- Transition to secondary school
- English language and literature
- **Dr Sue Horner**, Former Director of Curriculum, QCA

15.10 Afternoon Tea

15.25 The Developing Programme of Study for Maths

- Developing numeracy in key stage 1 & key stage 2
- Examining evidence from high-performing jurisdictions
- Transition to secondary school
- Mathematics in the secondary curriculum
- **Representative**, Institute of Mathematics

15.45 The National Curriculum: Achieving the Correct Balance

- Core, foundation, basic and local curriculum components
- Implications for primary and secondary schools
- Timetable for implementation
- **Sue Williamson**, Chief Executive, The Schools Network
- **Russell Hobby**, General Secretary, National Association of Headteachers (NAHT)

16.15 Conference Close

Please note that all speakers and the programme are subject to change without notice