

Academies conference 2021 - Sessions and outlines

Keynote

Lord Jim Knight, The Rt Hon Lord Knight of Weymoth, Chief Education Adviser at Tes Global Ltd

Authentic Leadership Panel Debate

CHAIR: Colin Lofthouse, CEO, SMART Academy Trust

Panellists: Leora Cruddas, Maura Regan, Mike Butler, Lord Jim Knight

Authentic leadership is an approach to leadership that emphasizes building the leader's legitimacy through honest relationships with followers which value their input and are built on an ethical foundation. Generally, authentic leaders are positive people with truthful self-concepts who promote openness.

The panel will focus on 'authentic' leaders who have taken their schools or trusts through uncharted territory over the past year while staying true to their vision, mission and values. We will discuss the importance of 'authentic' leadership at such a time and how it has impacted on us as leaders, what we have learnt from it, and what positives we will take forward.

RSC for the North

Katherine Cowell, Regional Schools Commissioner for the North, Department for Education

Rapid Trust Expansion: A CEO and Head Teacher view

Maura Regan, CEO and Paula Sreachen Head Teacher, Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust

As you grow how do you: ensure the trust vision remains, ensure that schools are with you and you work as a collective - not individual schools and trust central team, communicate and operate effectively across multiple LAs

Education Commercial Services

Louise Levy and Julie Collins, The Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust

Keynote: Adventures in Learning: A reverie

Hywel Roberts, Travelling Teacher, Writer, Humourist, Speaker & Storyteller

In the days before ours, we would sit by the campfire and listen to the storyteller. Their stories would help us think, make us reflect, get us to recognise agreed truths and make us laugh. We'd then move from the campfire to the river where we would talk as companions about what we had heard the storyteller say.

We would then return to our caves and think about the stories ourselves and what they meant to us and our lives.

Hywel will:

- Share ideas around curriculum and teacher delivery
- Share research around engagement and investment in learning
- Share thinking and practical approaches around classroom climate
- Share current thinking around relational practice, particularly protection into learning and the middle ground
- Share stories that will help us make learning matter to our students

Keynote

Dominic Herrington, National Schools Commissioner, Department for Education

2021: An evolution of school leadership development

Tom Rees, Executive Director for School Leadership at Ambition Institute

Even prior to a global pandemic, the role of school leader has always been complex and challenging. School leaders are often required to urgently manage situations and solve problems with limited resources and knowledge. Now that our school leaders are also a key aspect of a major public health response, this has never been more true. In this session Tom Rees at Ambition Institute will look at how leadership development is evolving. As well as exploring some of the research behind effective professional development, Tom will offer practical advice for school leaders.

CEO collaboration: shaping the future of education

Marc Jordan and Steve Taylor, the Chair and Vice-Chair of QSG

Through the pandemic period Multi-Academy Trusts have proved to be one of the most resilient elements of the national education system. The Queen Street Group (QSG) is one of a number of groups that have grown up in recent years within the MAT sector to enable sharing of best practice and to engage with policy makers about the future of education. Members of the Queen Street Group have been meeting regularly throughout the national emergency to share experiences and expertise so that they can operate as effectively as possible for their own pupils and staff, and where appropriate, support others within the system. Joint endeavour by like-minded organisations is the best way of ensuring that the sector matures rapidly and realises its full potential to achieve a beneficial impact on the lives of young people. The accumulated practical knowledge of groups of MATs such as QSG can also help to inform a more 'joined-up' approach to educational policy making by the government.

Trade Union issues in schools

Graham Vials, Head of Education law at Ward Hadaway

In this session Graham will look at:

- The role of the Trade Unions in schools
- Industrial action
- Section 44 – Health and Safety (COVID-19) complaints
- Collective bargaining issues
- Potential risk areas

Keynote: Remote learning, curriculum and EIF

Daniel Muijs, Deputy Director, Research and Evaluation, Ofsted

In this session we will look at Ofsted's findings on remote learning, from a series of visits and surveys conducted over the Autumn term. We will look at how this connects to what we know about curriculum and from our implementation evaluation of EIF, and provide an up-to-date look at our plans for a phased return to inspection.

Keynote

Leora Cruddas, CEO, Confederation of Schools Trust & Henri Murison, Director, The Northern Powerhouse Partnership