

Policy Forum for Ireland keynote seminar
The Senior Cycle in Ireland - the curriculum review, priorities for successful reform, and next steps for assessment and qualifications

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 30th April 2020



Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
John Walshe, Education Journalist and Former Adviser to Education Minister Ruairí Quinn
- 9.05 **Key points from the Senior Cycle Review**
Professor Emer Smyth, Research Professor, Economic and Social Research Institute
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 Break
- 9.40 **Key stakeholder perspectives on the priorities for successful reform and lessons learnt**
John MacGabhann, General Secretary, Teachers' Union of Ireland
Aodhagan O'Suilleabhain, Chairperson, Irish Science Teachers' Association
Professor Damian Murchan, Head of School of Education, Trinity College Dublin
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **Chair's closing remarks**
John Walshe, Education Journalist and Former Adviser to Education Minister Ruairí Quinn
- 10.30 Break
- 10.35 **Chair's opening remarks**
Carl O'Brien, Education Editor, The Irish Times
- 10.40 **Priorities for Senior Cycle - the ongoing findings of the Educations and Skills Committee**
Fiona O'Loughlin, Chair, Committee on Education and Skills, 32nd Dáil
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.05 Break
- 11.10 **The development of the new curriculum - ensuring flexibility, areas of focus and developing effective pathways to further learning, university, and employment**
Carol Guildea, Guidance Programme Coordinator, Post Primary and General Policy, National Centre for Guidance in Education (NCGE)
Claire McGee, Head, Education and Innovation Policy, Ibec
Paul Fields, Director, Schools, Laois and Offaly Education and Training Board
Senor speaker confirmed from **Maynooth University**
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.00 Break
- 12.05 **Assessment and qualification reform - implementation, reliability and the future of high stakes assessment**
Ciara Fanning, President, Irish Second-Level Students' Union
Headteacher
Senior representative, parents
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Policy Forum for Ireland closing remarks**
Carl O'Brien, Education Editor, The Irish Times
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Policy Forum for Ireland