

EDUCATOR SECTOR NEWS – AUGUST 2016

TES

'A growth mindset is even more important after Brexit' – The pedagogy section this month focuses on the work of Carol Dweck, arguing that instilling self-belief is vital in preparing young people for jobs in the future. Carol's emphasis is on the development of a growth mindset which encourages young people to look past messy and complicated problems, to see there is an end goal and work out how to get there, keeping resilience and self-belief high. She voices concerns that the job market is changing, and that young people need to be able to persevere. She also highlights that some teachers still believe that certain students are simply not smart, and not able. Something she believes needs to be forgotten in favour of helping them develop a growth-mindset, and develop at their own pace.

'Apprenticeships should be as prestigious as Oxbridge' – Rob Halfon (Apprenticeships and skills minister) has claimed that creating a national living wage for apprentices would "place the programme at the heart of a movement for social justice in British Society". He explains his vision for apprenticeships to be seen as a worthy pathway into work, expressing the hope that one day they would be seen as more impressive than attending Oxbridge. He states that he wishes to change the culture surrounding apprenticeships, and has previously demonstrated this by being the first MP to hire an apprentice for his own office in 2010. He has also stated that he wants to ensure equal access to apprenticeships, for both academically minded individuals and those more practically minded. Halfon's current focus is to campaign for apprentices to be included in the National Living Wage, to ensure that their wages are brought more in line with the rest of the UK.

'It's scandalous that MPs don't employ apprentices' – In an editorial by Stephen Exley, he argues that with the government heavily promoting the importance of apprenticeships, more MPs should take an apprentice under their wing. He highlights Robert Halfon's efforts, but with less than 1 in 100 MPs taking an apprentice, explains that this should be much higher if the government is to really be supporting the programme. He highlights that with a high average age of MPs, it is vital that MPs interact with the younger generation on a day-to-day basis, to give the MPs a greater understanding and to give more power to young people in general.

INSTITUTE OF OUTDOOR LEARNING

Valerie Hannon has been confirmed as the keynote speaker for the IOL National Conference 2016. She is a former adviser to the Department for Education, and a founder member of the Innovation Unit. The IOL Conference theme of 'What is Outdoor Learning for?' has been informed by her recent publication in the European Journal of Education entitled 'What is Learning for?'.

DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION

DfE ministerial appointments 2016: The final ministerial team is as follows:

- Secretary of State for Education, Minister for Women and Equalities - [Justine Greening](#)
- Minister of State for School Standards - [Nick Gibb](#)
- Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills - [Robert Halfon](#)
- Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation - [Jo Johnson](#)
- Minister of State for Vulnerable Children and Families - [Edward Timpson](#)
- Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Women, Equalities, and Early Years - [Caroline Dinanage](#)
- Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the School System - [Lord Nash](#)

NEET Statistics Quarterly Brief April to June 2016, England – The proportion of young people NEET fell for the 19-24 and 16-24 groups, but rose for the 16-18 age group. Full details can be found here: <http://goo.gl/tP8PXb>

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Teenagers 'need better advice for A-Level choices' (BBC) – A poll suggested that over half of this year's university applicants picked their sixth form subjects without considering their future prospects. The interim general secretary of the Association of School and College leaders, Mr Trobe, expressed the concern that many 16-18 year olds often change their mind and could be caught out by the greater demands of A-levels. He said that schools needed to help with student's choices.