

2013/48

2 July 2013

Pocket Watch – What’s coming up for education and skills?

Introduction

Last week, Government Depts updated their Business Plans. Laid out in the form of simple to read progress reports, start date/end date/status and so on, they offer a useful guide to what Depts such as the DfE and BIS have in store from now up to 2015 and beyond. Most of it is around schools and FE as per below with HE activity pretty much captured under the heading: *'promote excellent universities and research and increased business innovation.'* There's no obvious sign of any let up

Headline activity for schools with scheduled end dates

On funding

- Complete review of school estate (Oct 2013)
- Develop national funding formula (Feb 2016)

On accountability

- Publish data to show how 'coasting' schools compare with similar others (July 2013)
- Review and reset floor standards for 2015 (Sept 2013)

On qualifications

- Introduce first new traineeships for 16-19 year olds (August 2013)
- Agree structure and content of the new national curriculum (Sept 2013)
- Agree subject criteria for related GCSEs (Sept 2013)
- Implement new 16-19 Programmes of Study (Sept 2013)
- Commence teaching of new national curriculum (Sept 2014)
- Complete reform of A levels and KS5 VQs as part of Tech Bacc (Sept 2014)
- Implement new A levels and GCSEs (Sept 2015)
- Align key stage testing to new national curriculum requirements (May 2016)
- Reform apprenticeships in line with Richard Review recommendations (Aug 2017)

On school system change

- Approve the 2015 wave of Free Schools, UTCs, Studio Schools (Jan 2014)
- Reform SEN provision (Sept 2014)
- Review progress on the 16/17 yr old Youth Contract (March 2015)
- Support better use of the pupil premium through 'Closing the Gap' (Nov 2015)
- Increase the number of schools converting to Academy status (Dec 2015)

On teachers

- Support professional development of SEN co-ordinators (July 2013)
- Implement performance related pay progression (Sept 2013)
- Introduce new skills test for new entrants (Sept 2013)
- Submit evidence on leadership pay and teachers' conditions of service (Jan 2014)
- Designate 500 Teaching Schools (April 2014)
- Train 2,000 exceptional graduates a year as teachers through Teach First (July 2016)

Headline activity for FE and skills with scheduled end dates

On funding

- Introduce new 24+ fee loan system (Sept 2013)

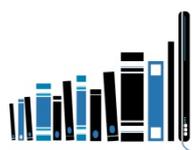
- Complete pilot of progress-based funding for English and maths (Sept 2013)

On skill development

- Identify low uptake voc quals and confirm removal of funding (July 2013)
- Fund and support 75,000 additional adult apprenticeship places (March 2015)
- Fund and support an additional 40,000 apprenticeship places for young unemployed (March 2015)
- Fund and support an additional 10,000 advanced and higher apprenticeship places (March 2015)
- Reform apprenticeships in line with Richard Review recommendations (Aug 2017)

On the skills system

- Set out detailed strategy for local growth model (July 2013)
- Publish complete set of key sector strategies (Sept 2013)
- Publish evaluation of Community Learning Trust Pilots (Sept 2013)
- Launch a new 'What Works Centre for Local Economic Growth' (Oct 2013)
- Approve second round of Employer Ownership of Skills pilots (Feb 2014)
- Complete contracting for Round 4 of the Regional Growth Fund (Feb 2014)
- Help LEAs to develop Local Growth Deals (April 2015)
- Set up student enterprise societies in colleges and universities (April 2015)



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Dept Business plans July 2013