



REFLECTIONS: SAM FREEDMAN'S PRESENTATION AT THE NORFOLK HEADTEACHERS' CONFERENCE

Sonia Innes

We were delighted to hear from Sam Freedman at the Norfolk Headteachers' Conference, in collaboration with VNET and Educate Norfolk, last week.

Sam Freedman is a senior fellow at the Institute for Government, senior adviser to ARK, vice-chair of Ambition Institute and a trustee of the Holocaust Education Trust. You may well have read one of his regular contributions to the TES, FT, Guardian, Prospect or the New Statesman.

Sam had come hot footed from the Labour conference in Liverpool to present to 150+ Norfolk school leaders. So, we asked VNET's Education Director – Sonia Innes to share her reflections from Sam's session...

The big challenges, as told by Sam...

The good(ish) news

There is likely to be no new schools legislation; the last opportunity to pass any legislation is in the King's speech in early November and this is likely to be the last one before a general election, so no big changes that schools have to worry about.

The bad news

There is no more money. The reality is that the government is likely to avoid increasing any funding to enable tax cuts in order to encourage voters.

Other news

In terms of post-sixteen provision, although the current government had launched their aim for an Advanced British Standard (which has fondly been named as the Advanced 'BS'), Sam advised leaders not to spend time and energy worrying about this.

The main focus of DFE is on social care (MacAllister Review) and childcare expansion. This year Jeremy Hunt announced a big expansion of childcare. This potentially creates opportunities! If you're in a school environment where you can offer nursery places to younger children, there could potentially be strong financial support. [Read more...](#)

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We'd love to hear from you...

As a membership organisation we are here to ensure that you get the training and support you need!

We are planning CPD and training events for Spring and Summer 23/24, **what do you and your schools want and need?** Please email cpd@vnetcic.com with your thoughts.

A promotional banner for a 'Deputies' Conference'. On the left, a circular inset shows a man in a blue shirt presenting to a group of people seated in a room. The background is dark blue with white and orange circular accents. The text on the right is in white and pink.

Deputies' Conference

With James Heale

 Friday 24 November 2023

 8.30 am - 4.00 pm

 Glen Lodge, Bawburgh Golf Club

£190+VAT or 3 credits per person

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