

Comprehensive Future

Fringe meeting at the Labour Party Spring Conference 2005

Comprehensive Education and Social Cohesion

A fringe meeting at the Labour party Spring Conference on Saturday will hear from four speakers about the divisive effect of selection in English secondary education.

Speakers at the Comprehensive Future fringe are :

Cllr Jane Roberts Leader of Camden since 2000,

Richard Bloodworth who has twenty years experience as headteacher of three comprehensive schools in the North East

Tony Edwards Emeritus Professor of Education, Newcastle University and **David Chaytor** MP for Bury North, Chair of Comprehensive Future.

Speaking before the fringe David Chaytor said –

'In our secondary schools today, the rhetoric of parental choice confronts the reality of schools choosing pupils. The prospect of 3000 separate admission authorities, segregated by class, faith and ethnicity, can only make this worse as schools compete more intensively to secure their position in the league tables'.

end

Notes

1. The fringe meeting, to be held jointly with the Socialist Education Association, is at 12.30pm in Room 4 Hilton Hotel on Saturday 12th February.
2. *Comprehensive Future* was launched in 2003, by a group of Labour party members wanting to promote greater opportunity for all children through ending selection both by ability and aptitude. It has the support of many Labour MPs, Peers, union leaders, CLPs, councillors and party members.
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