

Transforming Education Summit: UK National Statement (written)

19 September, Leader's Roundtable 6 (16:45 – 18:15)

In these challenging times, **it is crucial that we continue to transform the way we deliver education and maintain our efforts on the Sustainable Development Goals.** We commend the United Nations for putting this at the top of the agenda.

First, we must state that **the UK stands united with our partners in condemning Russia's attack on Ukraine** as a clear breach of international law and the UN Charter. In the context of this summit, we condemn its effects on education outcomes for children.

This and other conflicts, as well as the impact of COVID-19, have had a negative impact on education outcomes. It has never been more important to see **real progress on all the Sustainable Development Goals and in particular on Goal 4.** Children everywhere in the world should receive a high quality education and have wider learning opportunities which enable them to fulfil their potential. We must empower children with the right knowledge and skills, so that they can be tomorrow's innovators, pioneers, and entrepreneurs, helping us to tackle the challenges we face now and in the future. **We are dedicated to providing an inclusive education system in which all children, young people, and adults** – no matter their circumstances – have great options for high-quality education and training available to them at every stage of their lives.

We believe that **every child can fulfil their potential by ensuring they receive the right support, in the right place, at the right time.** In the recent Schools White Paper in England, we have set the achievement of world-class literacy and numeracy as a key foundation of our system. We have also been changing the post 16-education landscape **to level up opportunities** and make it easier for people to train to access the skills they need to secure well-paid jobs in industries with skills gaps, such as health and social care, engineering, digital, clean energy and manufacturing. In line with our sustainability and climate change strategy, we remain committed to equipping and empowering children and young people for the challenges and opportunities they will face in a changing world with the appropriate knowledge and skills needed to create a better, safer and greener world.

We want to see those opportunities available for others in the world too. We firmly believe that to address the global learning crisis, we must improve foundational learning for all children, including for the most marginalised. Basic literacy, numeracy, and interventions to support children to learn how to connect and interact with others, in a safe and confident way are the building blocks for all other learning. We want to see more girls engaged in learning, and more women empowered. We must strive to ensure education systems drive equality globally, including shifting harmful gender norms and preventing violence against women and girls. The UK will continue to champion a **safer, more equitable and prosperous world**, in line with the UN Common Agenda, where all individuals can fulfil their potential