

# POST-16 EDUCATOR ON ZOOM

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**Join Bill Esmond & Liz Atkins in discussion:**

## EDUCATION, SKILLS & SOCIAL JUSTICE IN A POLARISING WORLD

**Thursday March 24th**

**6.30 - 7.45**

**For the zoom link, go to our website:**

**[www.post16educator.org.uk](http://www.post16educator.org.uk)**

In this session, Bill Esmond and Liz Atkins will share thoughts from their new book, 'Education, Skills and Social Justice in a Polarising World' which explores how current skills and training policy is reinforcing the gap between privileged and disadvantaged young people. In the book, Bill and Liz show how policy is producing what they ironically refer to as the 'technical elites' - young people prepared for employment in technical-based jobs - whilst preparing others for forms of low-waged, precarious 'welfare vocationalism' in the service and care sectors. Understanding these emerging forms of training and employment is an essential corrective to the hyperbolic claims of the skills revolution and levelling up. But what are the implications for teachers of vocational and technical education? Can we do more than echo the rhetoric of the skills revolution? And if the new skills agenda is deepening class and other inequalities, where does social justice fit in? Thinking through these and other questions is crucial if vocational teachers are to be more than policy ciphers helping prepare young people for non-elite technical jobs or low-status precarity in the service and care sectors.

**Come and join the discussion.**

***Read chapters 1, 2 & 6 'Education, Skills and Social Justice' for free:  
<https://www.routledge.com/Education-Skills-and-Social-Justice-in-a-Polarising-World-Between-Technical/Esmond-Atkins/p/book/9780367503338>***

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