

Conference for Deputy Heads & Senior Leaders

Edgbaston High School, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 3TS

Tuesday 26 - Wednesday 27 February 2019

Tuesday 26 February

- 9.30am** **Registration and refreshments**
- 10.20am** **Welcome**
Ruth Weeks, Headmistress, Edgbaston High School for Girls and Chair, GSA's Education Committee
- 10.25am** **What are the key issues in Education today?**
Sue Hincks, GSA President 2019 and Headmistress, Bolton School Girls' Division
- 11.15am** **Break**
- 11.45am** **Changing Culture: preparing students for high performance in knowledge-heavy linear exams**
Introduced by Lesley Tyler, Deputy Head Academic Benenden School
David Taylor, School Leader, Consultant and Trainer, Dragonfly Training
This engaging keynote begins with the biology and cognitive psychology of learning and memory and examines how educators can use this knowledge to great effect in preparing students for linear exams.
Dave shares first-hand experience and evidence-based best practice for whole-school and classroom activities which ensure greater retention and recall of information. Delegates will come away with a host of effective whole-school strategies and practical routines to share with staff preparing students for knowledge exams.
- 12.45pm** **Lunch**
- 1.45 pm** **Pupil Tracking- what is the impact?**
Sponsored by Capita SIMS Independent
Group Discussions followed by Q&A *Chaired by Amy Wallace, Deputy Head, St Catherine's School Twickenham*
- CPOMS, Jennifer Scarfe, Deputy Head Pastoral, Badminton School**
How the introduction of CPOMS, a software application for monitoring child protection, safeguarding and a whole range of pastoral and welfare issues, has revolutionised and facilitated better safeguarding practice in our setting. What are the key lessons that we have learnt along the way and how could it be adapted for your setting?

My Concern, *Julie Chatkiewicz, Vice Principal, St Margaret's School, Bushey*
An electronic system for recording and monitoring of all types of concerns in school.

AS Tracking, *Lucy Simson, Deputy Head, Berkhamsted School*
AS Tracking is being used in a growing number of schools to support proactive, targeted and evidence based pastoral care. It provides another piece to the pastoral jigsaw (alongside pupil and parent feedback and teachers' professional judgement), helping to build a more rounded picture of each pupil's social and emotional development to inform practice.

- 2.45pm** **Conversations for impact**
Simon Camby, Group Director of Education, Cognita
So often, people talk about having 'difficult conversations'. In this session, we will explore some of the elements of having conversations which make a difference, ultimately to our students. Simon will base this on the need for honest and evidence-based conversations which should avoid them ever being 'difficult'.
- 3.45pm** **Sponsored presentation- Squadkit**
Lucy Horsell, Business Development Manager, Squadkit
- 3.55pm** **Break**
- 4.15pm** **Leading schools in the 21st century**
The realities of headship discussed and debated by a panel of heads with Q&A
Chaired by Vivienne Durham, Chief Executive, GSA
Sue Hincks, Headmistress, Bolton School (Girls' Division)
Rose Hardy, Headmistress, St Margaret's School
Richard Nicholson, Headmaster, King's High Warwick
- 5.15pm** **Depart to Birmingham Marriott Five Ways Hotel**
- 7.00pm** **New GSA Deputy Heads & Senior Leaders drinks reception**
- 7.30pm** **Drinks Reception**
- Dinner**
Joined by Sue Hincks, GSA President 2019 & Head Bolton School Girls' Division

Wednesday 27 February

- 9.15am Graffiti and Gorillas: Growth Mindset for Girls**
Gail Haythorne, Senior Teacher Staff Development, Woldingham School
Most of us subscribe to Growth Mindset, but truly integrating it into the everyday work of students and teachers is a challenge. In this session Gail will share practical ideas and tools from her experience of embedding Growth Mindset into every element of life at Woldingham School.
- 10.15am Partnerships - Public Affairs Strategy- Panel Discussion**
Julie Robinson, General Secretary, Independent Schools Council
Sarah Butterworth, Community Partnerships Director, Highgate School - Schools Together
Jen Baylis, Deputy Head, Withington Girls' School
Chaired by Lesley Tyler, Deputy Head, Benenden School
The importance of working closely with your community and neighbouring schools has never been more important. Partnership activities need to be at the heart of strategic planning for school leaders. A discussion of the latest key issues for independent schools.
- 11.00am Break**
- 11.30am Sponsored presentation - MCST**
- 11.45am The impact of grooming and abuse**
Marilyn Hawes, Founder and CEO, Freedom from Abuse CIC
Negative behaviors have negative reasons – what lies behind the eyes of a hurting child? Do we ask WHY? Do we actually understand what the effect of trauma has on the developing young brain? It is difficult to intervene in something we don't understand, and grooming dumbs children down not to speak out about harm they suffer.
- 12.30pm Current Educational issues: challenges and changes**
Ruth Weeks, Headmistress, Edgbaston High School and Chair, GSA's Education Committee
Current issues in education which are the focus of the education committee such as; examinations, quality of marking, tiers of entry, malpractice, unconditional offers, AI and teacher workload.
- 1.15pm Lunch**

- 2.15pm** **Supporting staff through cultural change: Personal resilience**
Lou Kennedy, Executive Coach and Trainer, The Wellbeing Project (Europe) Ltd
This engaging and interactive presentation introduces the concept of resilience. It will build delegates' awareness of how to optimise their real-time resilience. It will provide them with a range of tools and techniques to nip stress in the bud and harness the power of positive thinking to boost individual performance.
- 3.45pm** **Plenary**
- 4.00pm** **Depart**