GSA Annual Conference for Heads
20:20 Vision
Bristol Marriott Hotel City Centre, Bristol
18-19 November 2019

Sunday 17 November

2.00pm  Registration Opens

1.30 – 3.00pm  South West & Wales Regional meeting (Wallace Suite)

2.00-4.00pm  South East Regional meeting (Concorde Suite)

4.00-6.00pm  Boarding Heads’ Meeting (SS Great Britain)
Speakers include:
▪ Oliver Phillips, British Council International Education Services (IES)
▪ Robin Fletcher, CEO, BSA

5.00-6.00pm  North West Regional meeting (Concorde Suite)

6.30pm  Drinks Reception Followed by optional Pre-conference dinner
(Conservatory)

Monday 18 November

8.30am  Registration

8.00-9.45am  East Regional Meeting (SS GB Suite)

8.30-9.30am  Scottish Regional Meeting (Wallace Suite)

8.30-9.45am  Midland Regional Meeting (Conservatory)

10.00am  Welcome to Conference
Vivienne Durham, Chief Executive, GSA

10.15am  President’s Address
Sue Hincks, GSA President 2019, Headmistress, Bolton School Girls’ Division

10.45am  Maiden-Full Circle
Tracy Edwards MBE, Project Manager, The Maiden Factor
In 1989 Tracy and her team made history when they became the first all-women to sail around the world. Thirty years later Maiden has been restored to her former glory and is now sailing around the world again but this time on a mission to inspire the next generation, empower women and raise funds and awareness for girls’ education.
11.45am  Break and visit exhibitors

12.15pm  The currency of truth! How to help today’s young people recognise fake news  
_Alice Thomson, Political Journalist, The Times_  
_Georgina Bowman, Deputy Editor, BBC Newsround_  
_Ann Mroz, Editor, TES_  
_Charlotte Callen, Home Affairs Correspondent, BBC West & South West_

1.15pm-2.15pm  Lunch and visit exhibitors

1.30pm-2pm  Meet the Author  
_Clarissa Farr, ‘The Making of Her’ (optional session)_

1.15pm  Lunch Reception for New Members and their Mentors

2.15pm- 3pm  Interactive Seminars

**International expansion: partnership opportunities for GSA schools can use commercial partnerships to exploit the growing market for English medium international education**  
_Robert Price, Director, School Venture Consulting_  
The ever-expanding market for British medium international education gives rise to opportunity for all UK independent schools to enter into commercial partnerships with overseas parties for the development of international education projects. In this seminar we examine the scope of that opportunity and the range of projects which schools could consider. We cover the considerations which schools need to make when preparing for international expansion and when planning their international businesses, and we discuss the ways in which schools can market and promote their international offer and develop their brands in overseas markets.

**Getting words and figures to agree: how does the relationship with your bursar add up?**  
_Jeremy Tomlinson, Founder, Jeremy Tomlinson Ltd and Ian Wigston, Co-Founder and Director, Bright Field Consulting Ltd_  
The relationship between a head and bursar is one of the most critical dynamics in a leadership team. This workshop will explore key aspects of that axis and allow participants to determine key changes they need to make to enhance their effectiveness as leaders.

**Amplifying the Pupil Voice**  
_Kate Harris, Co-Founder CEO, Votes for Schools_  
Student Voice: The power to change lives through conversation. Who doesn’t want to develop informed, articulate, tolerant, confident and active young people? In this discussion we will talk about student voice and how to take the traditional model and innovate. We will take student voice beyond the school gates, engage students in current affairs and discuss the importance of giving them a vehicle to have a voice in the wider world.
The Importance of positive female role models in shaping the ambitions of the next generation
Veryan Dexter, Strategist and Becky Small, Project Lead, The Female Lead

The Female Lead will share the results from their major research project looking into teen aspiration, mental health and the influence of social media.

Legal Update
Alice Reeve, Partner, Veale Wasbrough Vizards
This session will highlight recent legal developments and key themes affecting independent schools. With a focus on employment law and practical examples tailored for schools it will cover; Equality and Diversity, TPS - the latest, Holiday pay and national minimum wage - avoiding the pitfalls, Family friendly rights and flexible working.

3.00pm Break and visit exhibitors

3.30pm-4.15pm Interactive Seminars

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The ‘M’ word - managing the impact of the menopause in your school
Nicky Botterill, Headmistress, Bruton School for Girls and Julie Knight, Inspector Avon and Somerset Police
Women over the age of 50 are the fastest growing demographic in the workforce (ONS 2018) and the average age for the menopause transition is 51. As more women go through the menopause during their working lives, it’s vital that employers encourage open discussions to ensure they get the right support is in place to fulfil their moral and legal duties to their staff. Women make up nearly half of Avon and Somerset Constabulary with 34% over the age of 46 in their age diverse workforce. They have an open and proactive approach to supporting individuals and managers in order to support and retain talented staff. The recruitment and retention issues facing education make this an even more important issue to consider properly.

Waymarking: Women in Adventure
Mikaela Toczek, Expedition Leader, World Challenge
Exploring the power of adventure to create opportunities for young women to stretch themselves, make wider connections, reflect on big issues and to ignite sparks that can create and shape the paths they choose to explore as they continue to grow and develop.
Digital differentiation – How can digital solutions be used to set your school apart?
Jo Cruse, Independent Education Consultant and Alexander Ioasd, Emerge Education
Edtech promises to offer solutions for a range of the most pressing challenges facing schools today. So how can school leaders best navigate this increasingly crowded landscape? And how can technology be used not just to benefit staff and students, but also to set forward-thinking schools apart? Join Emerge Education’s Dr Alexander Iosad, in conversation with education consultant Joanna Cruse, for a stimulating session which seeks to tackle these questions and more.

4.15pm End of sessions
5.15pm Conference Service
St Mary’s Church Redcliffe, Bristol
7.30pm Pre-Dinner Drinks Reception
8.00pm Gala Dinner
After dinner speaker- Philip Britton, Headmaster, Bolton School Boys’ Division.

Tuesday 19 November

One-to-one surgeries with Kate Richards, ISI Chief Inspector during Tuesday.

8.45am AGM
GSA Members only
9.45am GSA Women of the Year Award presentation
To include presentation by Head Girls’ Team, Redmaids’ High School
10.15am Beyond TPS: Key issues influencing financial and strategic planning for Heads and Governors
Barnaby Lenon, Chair ISC
John Edward, Director, Scottish Council of Independent Schools
David Woodgate, CEO ISBA
Richard Harman, CEO AGBIS
11.15am Break and visit exhibitors
Keeping scholarship at the heart of education
Sarah Clark, NLCS and Neil Enright, Queen Elizabeth’s School, Barnet
Given all of the pressures that we are experiencing as school leaders, how do we provide a rich and scholarly educational experience for students as well as staff at our schools? The presentation will consider the various ways by which Neil and Sarah have sought to keep the focus on scholarship and academic rigour in their schools, utilising the inspirational support of The Princes Teaching Institute alongside other activities, partnership work and school-based curriculum ideas.

Lunch and visit exhibitors

After Brexit – seeing the future clearly
Jonathan Charles, Former BBC correspondent, Managing Director, Communications, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
Jonathan will explore the importance of Britain staying engaged with the wider world and why multi-lateral action is crucial in tackling global priorities.

Supporting young people create the sustainable future they want
Chris Willmore, Professor of Sustainability and Law, University of Bristol
What GSA Heads can do to support young people in achieving a green and sustainable future for the world.

Closing Remarks
Jane Prescott, President-Elect 2020, Headmistress, Portsmouth High School GDST

Close of Conference

Council Meeting
(SS GB Suite)