

SIXTH FORM LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Keynote Speakers

Kevin Gilmartin

Post 16 Specialist, Association of School and College Leaders

Katharine Radice

Parkside Community College

Martin Griffin

Director of Sixth Form, Queen Anne's School, Caversham

Marina Gaze

HMI Ofsted Inspector

Matt Bromley

Education journalist, author, and advisor

Marcus Sharrad

Director of Coaching & Mentoring, Marlborough College

Tim Hudson

Leadership and development expert, trainer, and consultant

Ben Stephenson

Director of Sixth Form, Queen Anne's School, Caversham

Alice Newton-Leeming

Founder, and director of Mental Health Learning



CONFERENCE AIMS

We are excited to present the Sixth Form Leadership Conference, designed to inspire and inform sixth form leaders and educators. Our conference highlights critical priorities and contemporary issues, such as cultivating a curriculum that surpasses traditional academic standards, enhancing the quality of students' personal development to drive academic success, navigating the UCAS Process, and exploring numerous other focal points.

Featuring renowned speakers in the field of education, this event promises invaluable insights and networking opportunities. Join us for an unparalleled day of enlightenment and collaboration.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Heads of MATs and Trust Alliances
- Heads of Sixth Form Colleges
- Leaders of Sixth Forms
- Headteachers, Vice Principals, Deputy Principals
- Leaders of Higher Education PGCSE courses

BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Gain insights from keynote speakers on addressing the latest challenges facing sixth forms, including strategies for curriculum delivery, and raising standards through the Cycle of Improvement.
- Learn practical techniques to enhance student wellbeing and academic performance through dedicated sessions on boosting wellbeing to boost grades.
- Participate in breakout sessions covering various critical areas such as navigating Inspection requirements, supporting underperforming departments, and implementing effective intervention strategies.
- Explore specialised sessions tailored to the needs of new sixth form leaders, addressing topics like guiding staff and students through the UCAS process, and teaching effective revision methods to enhance learning outcomes.
- Acquire valuable knowledge on addressing academic anxiety, developing effective mental health and wellbeing strategies for students, and promoting a supportive environment for overall student success.

PROGRAMME

TIME

Introduction & Welcome

9.50 - 10.00am

Tackling the latest challenges in Sixth Form

- Explore the multifaceted challenges encountered by both staff and students in today's educational realm.
- Providing up-to-the-minute insights into the dynamic shifts occurring in the landscape of the sixth form curriculum, shedding light on recent developments like the defunding of BTEC and AGQ programs.
- Proposals around the Advanced British Standard and likely sixth form policy changes from an incoming Labour Party government.

Kevin Gilmartin *Post 16 Specialist, Association of School, and College Leaders*

10.00 - 10.40am

BREAK

10.40 - 11.00am

Curriculum delivery and raising standards in school The Cycle of improvement

- Knowledge mastery: acquisition, retrieval, and fluency.
- Knowledge application: setting work, marking and feedback.
- Creating a structure for independent work.
- Leadership: what information do you need and when.

Katharine Radice *Parkside Community College*

11.00 - 11.40am

Boosting wellbeing to boost grades

- The session will encompass a comprehensive approach to fostering student development by empowering them to enhance their emotional progress and cultivate positive habits.
- The session will focus on nurturing emotional intelligence in students, guiding them in utilising their mindset effectively to improve time management, attention management and mental health management.
- It will include practical tools for solving problems, cultivating healthy attitudes, and navigating competing priorities. Emphasis will be placed on continuous monitoring and adapting of goals in alignment with these principles

Martin Griffin *Co-author, The A-Level Mindset (2016), The Student Mindset (2018)*

11.40 - 12.20pm

BREAKOUT STRAND 1

12.20 - 1.00pm

1A Inspections within your Sixth Form

By the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Identify what inspectors look for in Outstanding Sixth Form provision.
- Focus on strategies for achieving an outstanding rating.
- Prepare for inspection and present evidence to best effect.
- Confidently answer inspectors' questions.

Marina Gaze *HMI Ofsted Inspector*

1B Supporting underperforming Departments

- Identifying why a department is underperforming.
- Supporting a team's improvement through quality assurance, performance management and professional development.
- What a successful department looks like in practice.

Matt Bromley *Education journalist, author, and advisor*

1C Academic Intervention

- Psycho-socio-emotional: The humanistic view on intervention
- Coherent tracking opportunities: leveraging reporting and tutoring systems.
- Data, but not for data's sake – how are we using, and tracking, pupil data?
- Support+: A coaching/mentoring approach case study.
- How can we measure success?

Marcus Sharrad *Director of Coaching & Mentoring, Marlborough College*

LUNCH

1.00 - 2.00pm

BREAKOUT STRAND 2

2.00 - 2.40pm

2A Supporting students to develop effective mental health and wellbeing strategies

- Why wellbeing should be at the heart of your school culture.
- Creating a school community that prioritises wellbeing.
- Supporting pupils to learn and adopt effective strategies to benefit their mental health and wellbeing.
- How do we know what's working? Monitoring, measuring, and evaluating progress.

Alice Newton-Leeming *Founder, and director of Mental Health Learning*

2B Inspections within your Sixth Form

By the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Identify what Ofsted look for in Outstanding Sixth Form provision.
- Focus on strategies for achieving an outstanding rating.
- Prepare for inspection and present evidence to best effect.
- Confidently answer inspectors' questions.

Marina Gaze *HMI Ofsted Inspector*

2C How to teach effective revision

- What is effective revision?
- How to explain the psychology of revision to Sixth Form Students.
- Practical experiments you can use with students.
- How to support students with exam anxiety.
- Getting HODs to support your whole school revision message.

Ben Stephenson *Director of Sixth Form, Queen Anne's School, Caversham*

BREAK

2.40 - 3.00pm

BREAKOUT STRAND 3

3.00 - 3.40pm

3A Supporting staff and students with UCAS

- Getting to grips with the latest changes to the UCAS system.
- How to deliver effective personal statement advice.
- Managing references and how staff can make this as easy as possible.
- Predicted grades and parental involvement.

Ben Stephenson *Director of Sixth Form, Queen Anne's School, Caversham*

3B Dealing with Academic Anxiety

- Recognising the symptoms and helping students speak out.
- Adjustments within school that can really help.
- Communicating with families: helping the families understand how to help.

Katharine Radice *Parkside Community College*

3C New to Sixth Form Leadership

- Getting the basics right; Effectively Managing Pressures of 6th form leadership
- Helping them become future-ready; Broadening your vision to support knowledge and skills development.
- Teacher or Coach; Managing the changing relationships with students.
- Engaging your team; it's a long, lonely road without them.

Tim Hudson *Leadership and development expert, trainer, and consultant*

Keynote Speakers

Kevin Gilmartin Post 16 Specialist, Association of School and College Leaders. In this role, he provides the latest support and advice to heads of sixth form in schools and colleges and to other members wanting clarification over the latest government policies and plans for the post-16 sector. Kevin's work with the DfE in this area has made him a national figure in the debate over the future shape of the 16-19 landscape. Kevin also represents members in talks with the DfE over 16-19 performance measures, with UCAS over developments in university admissions, and with the Careers and Enterprise company over CEIAG and student destinations. Prior to joining ASCL, Kevin spent 30 years working in post-16 education, including secondary schools and FE colleges, before finishing his teaching career as a sixth form principal.

Katharine Radice teaches Latin for Parkside Community College, and she is the former Head of Classics for the Stephen Perse Foundation in Cambridge and Westminster School, London. She is an experienced examiner and the co-author of several school-level Latin textbooks, including *de Romanis*, a new KS3 Latin course tailored to achieve smooth progression to GCSE for Latin, Classical Civilisation or Ancient History.

Martin Griffin has 20 years' experience teaching GCSE and post-16 students in colleges as a sixth-form teacher, head of faculty, assistant head teacher and deputy head teacher. He was the director of sixth form at a twice Ofsted-outstanding comprehensive sixth form where student progress was among the top 10 per cent in the country. He spent much of his time teaching A-Levels and GCSEs and testing tools for study skill development. Over the last five years has worked with more than a hundred colleges and schools to develop effective non-cognitive skill development systems. He is the co-author of the A-Level Mindset (Crown House, 2016) The GCSE Mindset (Crown House, 2017) and The Student Mindset (Crown House, 2018).

Since leaving full-time employment with Ofsted in 2015 **Marina Gaze** has specialised in supporting education leaders to rapidly improve their provision. She has 25 years' inspection experience and is a current Ofsted inspector. As Ofsted's Deputy Director for Further Education and Skills, she was responsible for inspection policy and methodology. She developed and delivered Ofsted's Masters' Degrees in Inspection and Regulation with the University of Warwick and with the Institute of Education. She holds several board positions and helps boards learn how to support, challenge and work effectively. She is in strong demand as a speaker, trainer, and coach.

Matt Bromley is an education writer and advisor with over twenty years' experience in teaching and leadership including as a secondary school Headteacher and principal, FE College vice principal, and MAT director. He is a public speaker, trainer, and school improvement lead, and a primary school governor. He remains a practising teacher, currently working in secondary, FE and HE settings. Matt writes for various newspapers and magazines, is the author of numerous best-selling books on education, and regularly speaks at national and international conferences and events.

Marcus Sharrod is the Director of Coaching & Mentoring at Marlborough College, Wiltshire. In this colleague-facing and centred role, Marcus is responsible for teacher development. He leads on internal professional development, creating a bespoke programme of workshops, and leads on Early Career Teaching framework, trainee teachers, the induction of new staff. Marcus is also responsible for academic intervention, which he has designed with a coaching and mentoring lens.

Backed by a degree in management, **Tim Hudson** has spent much of his time working in the education sector. He has both worked internally and consulted externally for several schools, working with teachers and students alike. Some of these leadership programs have included ones for people who are new to middle management, those looking to step up to senior management, and those looking to bring in change. He has helped schools develop their strategies around gifted and talented / scholarship programmes and wider co-curricular offerings to ensure they quietly support the behavioural and developmental aims as students grow in a school.

Ben Stephenson is currently Director of Sixth Form at Queen Anne's School, Caversham which achieved their best A-level results in 2019 (excluding the CAGs in 2020). Previously Ben led a required improvement Sixth Form to an Ofsted Good where it was highlighted "The recently appointed, effective leader of the sixth form is improving provision and standards for all students". Ben is also a Trustee of an Academy with an Outstanding Sixth Form provision. He has previously presented at the Keynote Heads of Sixth Form Conference on how to effectively teach revision. He co-edited the Brain Can Do Revision Handbook and his team's research into the impact of audio feedback on Sixth Form students was published in The Chartered College of Teaching Impact Journal. Laura Chambers has worked at Hartpury College.

Alice Newton-Leeming has worked and studied within the field of suicide prevention for over 15 years. Completing her psychology degree in 2011, and volunteering as a Samaritans Listening Volunteer, Alice quickly moved into a role for a national Suicide Prevention Charity in the UK and progressed to managing a national helpline and training team around the country, delivering training relating to suicide prevention. Alice has worked for organisations such as Mind, Mental Health Learning, Listening Ear, Every Life Matters and YoungMinds providing emotional support, suicide bereavement support and training to equip individuals to support those around them. Alice also has a passion for supporting others to understand how to look after their own wellbeing. She is a strong advocate for self-care and implores anyone she meets to make time for themselves, because we all deserve it.



“ It was all outstanding and informative, from the start to the end and just what I need to promote T&L at my school. ”

**Haringey Sixth Form College
March 2023**

“ Outstanding! Straight talking, lots to take away. Very interesting hearing from such highly experienced leaders. Excellent. ”

**James Allen's Girls' School
March 2023**

“ Enjoyed immensely, lots to consider and reflect upon my own setting. Great speakers and a fantastic range of sessions to choose from. ”

**UTC Heathrow
June 2023**

COSTS

1st delegate rate £349 + VAT

2nd delegate rate £329 + VAT

3rd delegate rate £309 + VAT

Costs include:

- All speaker presentations for all sessions.
- Full set of conference notes, materials and resources.
- Sit down 2-course lunch in the restaurant.
- Refreshments upon arrival, mid-morning break and afternoon break.

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