

Keynote
educational



Friday
**19
June
2026**
London

National Conference

Code: C0012

Driving leadership quality and
empowering every sixth form student
to thrive



SIXTH FORM LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2026:

**LEADING WITH EXCELLENCE,
CULTURE & CARE**

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

Kathryn Gorman
Founder of Orion
Leadership

Sam Robinson
National Education
Leadership and
Strategy, LE Schools

Dr Emma Kell
International Keynote
Speaker, Coach,
Teacher, Author and
Researcher

Dr Jo Trevenna
Consultant DfE
Education

Lulu Ramadan
Senior Deputy
Head & Director of
Strategic Learning, St
Benedict's School

Alex Heald
Director of Sixth Form,
St Benedict's School

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CONFERENCE AIMS

Sixth form leaders face the unique challenge of delivering adult-ready outcomes while supporting adolescent vulnerabilities. Join us for a dynamic and thought-provoking day designed for current and aspiring leaders of post-16 education. This brand-new conference aims to provide leaders with the strategic insight, practical tools, and personal resilience required to lead exceptional sixth forms in today's complex educational landscape.

Through expert-led sessions, delegates will explore how to define and sustain excellence, lead with vision and empathy, navigate inspection demands confidently, and cultivate a thriving, aspirational culture for young adults. With a focus on integrity, wellbeing, and real-world challenges, from safeguarding to student ownership, the conference creates space for reflection, inspiration, and practical development. Delegates will leave re-energised, with a clearer sense of purpose, a stronger understanding of what great sixth form leadership looks like, and actionable strategies to drive improvement and impact in their own settings.

BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Gain clarity on inspection expectations and how to prepare confidently
- Define what excellence looks like in sixth form leadership, with a focus on high-impact behaviours and strategic alignment
- Explore how to handle complex safeguarding issues with confidence and care
- Learn how to shape a strong, student-led culture that promotes responsibility, aspiration, and identity
- Develop sustainable leadership habits that protect your energy, purpose, and mental health over the long term
- Connect with other sixth form leaders to share ideas, challenges, and solutions in a supportive, professional environment
- Leave with practical tools and strategies ready to apply within your unique context, whether school or college-based

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Heads & Directors of Sixth Form (school or college)
- Assistant/Deputy Heads with sixth form or post-16 responsibility
- Pastoral and safeguarding leads working with sixth form students
- Senior leaders overseeing sixth form provision
- Designated Safeguarding Leads in post-16 settings
- Curriculum or programme leads in sixth form colleges
- School improvement advisors or trust leaders supporting sixth form development

Delegate Rates

First delegate rate

£349

+ VAT

Additional delegates

£279

+ VAT



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01625 532974

PROGRAMME

9.50am	Welcome & Introduction	Steve Smith Director of Professional Development, Keynote Educational
10.00am	The Outstanding Sixth Form Leader: Defining Excellence in Sixth Form Leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key behaviours, habits, and mindsets of highly effective sixth form leaders Strategic vision: aligning sixth form goals with whole-school improvement Leading teams with credibility, clarity, and care Balancing operational demands with long-term development and innovation 	Kathryn Gorman Founder of Clarion Leadership
11.00am	Break	
11.20am	Inspection Ready: Preparing for Ofsted Across Sixth Form Contexts Navigating inspection frameworks with confidence, clarity, and credibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding the key similarities and differences between EIF and FE & Skills inspections What 'quality of education' looks like in post-16: intent, implementation, and impact across settings Preparing evidence and conversations around curriculum, destinations, safeguarding, and skills Practical preparation tips for leaders: managing the process, empowering staff, and staying strategic under scrutiny 	Sam Robinson National Education Leadership and Strategy, Lift Schools
12.10pm	Staying Grounded: Looking After Yourself as a Leader Sustaining energy, purpose, and resilience in a high-pressure role <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prioritising purpose and values to stay motivated and fulfilled Recognising the early signs of overload, burnout, and compassion fatigue Practical strategies for time management, boundaries, and delegation 	Dr Emma Kell International Keynote Speaker, Coach, Teacher, Author and Researcher
1.00pm	Lunch	
2.00pm	Culture Shift: Building and Embedding a Post-16 Ethos that Inspires and Empowers Students to Thrive and Take Ownership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defining what makes your sixth form distinctive – and making it aspirational Shaping attitudes: professionalism, inclusion, accountability, and ambition Building a culture of respect and responsibility without micromanaging behaviour Co-creating leadership, voice, and student ownership of their space and community 	Dr Jo Trevenna Consultant JMC Education
2.50pm	Break	
2.55pm	"They're Adults... Until They're Not": Safeguarding in the Sixth Form Space Tackling high-risk issues with maturity, nuance, and strategic clarity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When "nearly adults" face adult dangers: substance misuse, toxic relationships, and digital exploitation Sextortion, self-harm, and student disclosure: responding with confidence and care The dangers of generative AI Creating safeguarding systems that respect independence but don't overlook vulnerability Building staff confidence in handling complex issues that don't fit easy categories 	Luke Ramsden Senior Deputy Head & Director of Safeguarding, St Benedict's School Alex Heald Director of Sixth Form, St Benedict's School
3.45pm	Depart	

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