





AGBIS/HMC/ISBA

Heads, Governors and Bursars' Conference

Thursday 23 November 2023 09.00 – 16.30

BMA House, London

Conference theme: School leadership and governance, and the political and economic challenges facing schools

Conference Programme		
09.00 -10.00	Registration and refreshments	
10.00 – 10.05	Welcome and opening remarks	
	Speakers: Mark Taylor, Bursar at the King's School, Canterbury, Chair of AGBIS and Vice Chair of the ISC	
10.05 – 10.35	School leadership and governance: Where we are now?	
	Speakers: Richard Harman, CEO, AGBIS Simon Hyde, General Secretary, HMC David Woodgate, Chief Executive, ISBA	
	Chair: Julie Robinson, CEO, Independent Schools Council	
10.35 – 11.20	Overview of the current political and economic headwinds – panel discussion	
	Speakers: Professor Catarina Figueira, Professor of Applied Economics and Policy, Cranfield University Jonathan Simons, Partner and Head of the Education Practice, Public First Chris Fairbank, Director of Communications, HMC	
	Chair: Sue Woodroofe, HMC Chair 2023-2024 and Principal of The Grammar School at Leeds	
11.20 – 11.50	Refreshment break among the exhibitors	

11.50 – 12.30	School governance and leadership – the future
	Speakers: Ben Vessey, Head, Canford School Arun Kanwar, Partner, Cairneagle Limited and HMC Board member Barney Northover, Education Law Partner, Veale Wasbrough Vizards Cheryl Connelly, Director of Training & Membership (Deputy CEO), AGBIS Chair: Simon Hyde, General Secretary, HMC
12.30 – 12.40	Move to the next session
12.40 – 13.30	Workshop Sessions (1)
	 School structures and governance frameworks Richard Harman, CEO, AGBIS; Simon Hyde, General Secretary, HMC Council Chamber Economic models for schools
	John Murphie, Chief Operating Officer, ISBA and Mark Taylor, Bursar at the King's School, Canterbury, Chair of AGBIS and Vice Chair of the ISC The Great Hall
	3. Sustainability and moving towards carbon net-zero Cheryl Connelly, Director of Training & Membership (Deputy CEO), AGBIS; Jack Harty, Earth Centre Manager, Kingsley School, Bideford Worcester Room
	4. Public affairs and key messages Chris Fairbank, Director of Communications, HMC; Jonathan Simons, Partner and Head of the Education Practice, Public First Anderson Barnes Suite
	5. Mergers and acquisitions David Woodgate, Chief Executive, ISBA Princes Room
13.30 – 14.30	Lunch

14.30 – 15.20	Workshop Sessions (2)
	Building and maintaining effective relationships between the Board and Executive Richard Harman, CEO, AGBIS; Simon Hyde, General Secretary, HMC Council Chamber
	Leadership and governance in foundations and/or groups of schools Fiona Boulton OBE, Director of Independent Schools, United Learning and Sue Roxby, Business Director, Methodist Independent Schools Trust Anderson Barnes Suite
	Managing risk at an organisational level Sam Coutinho, Consultant Worcester Room
	 Generative AI one year on - time to get practical Darren Coxon, Senior AI Product Lead, Study Hall The Great Hall
	 International opportunities, including opening franchise schools abroad Alex McGrath, Founder & Managing Director, Castlegate Education and Jay Piggot, former HMC Head Chair: Howard Blackett, Head of International Member Services, HMC Princes Room
15.20 – 15.50	Refreshment break among the exhibitors
15.50 – 16.25	Plenary Q&A session: What are the key lessons that ISC and the Associations have learned over the last year? How can we survive and thrive, and what do schools need to do next?
	Speakers: Richard Harman, CEO, AGBIS Simon Hyde, General Secretary, HMC Neil Cufley, Director of Operations/Finance, Royal Russell School and Chair of ISBA Julie Robinson, CEO, ISC
16.25 – 16.30	Closing remarks and depart Speaker: Neil Cufley, Director of Operations/Finance, Royal Russell School
	and Chair of ISBA