gsa Annual Conference

The Voice of the Girl
Raised to lead
Ready to be heard
2026

Sunday 15 to Tuesday 17 November

The Queens Hotel, Leeds

Programme

Sunday 15 November

14:00	**Registration Opens**
15:00 - 17:00	**Boarding Meeting**
17:30 - 18:30	**Regional Meetings:** • South West & Wales Regional Meeting • East Regional Meeting • North West and Scotland Regional Meeting
18:30	**Pre-Conference Dinner in Year Groups**
20:00	**Gin Tasting Event**

Monday 16 November

06:30	**Early Morning Activities**
08:00	**Registration Opens** Refreshments served
09:00	**Welcome to Conference** **Jeanette Cochrane, GSA CEO**
09:20	**President's Address** **Helen Jeys, GSA President and Head of Manchester High School for Girls**
10:00	***Supporting Girls to Navigate the Everyday Landscape of Sexism*** **Laura Bates,** Founder, Everyday Sexism Project Introduced by Jane Gandee, GSA President Elect 2026-2027

11:00	Break and opportunity to visit exhibitors
11:35	A word from our sponsors
11:45	***How can we make Gen A excited about the future?*** **Chloe Combi**, Author, Columnist, Speaker, Founder of The Respect Project Introduced by Alex Hutchinson
12:30	Lunch and opportunity to visit exhibitors
13:30	***Revisiting educational vision and pedagogical beliefs in the light of the global landscape of 2026.*** **Dr Fiona Aubrey-Smith** Introduced by Claire Boyd
14:00	**1:1 Appointment slots open** For the first time you can book a private 30-minute session with a specialist. Bring your own questions on personal pensions, school pensions, fundraising, coaching colleagues and supporting neurodiversity in staffroom and leave with practical advice for you and your school. Booking is now open.
14:30	Break and opportunity to visit exhibitors
14:50	***Navigating Friendships in Times of Political Crisis*** **Rabbi Dovid Lewis and Imam Nassar Kurdy** Introduced by Bridget Ward
15:45	**Day 1 Close** **Helen Jeys, GSA President and Head of Manchester High School for Girls**
17:00	**Leeds Minster Service**
18:30	**New Heads Drinks Reception**
19:00	**Drinks Reception for all**
19:30	**Dinner** Announcement of the **GSA 2026 Photography Competition Winners** **After Dinner Speaker**, From the British Army to Extreme Cakes, **Rose Dummer,** **Silent Disco**

Tuesday 17 November

07:00	**Early Morning Activities**
08:00	**1:1 Appointment slots open** For the first time you can book a private 30-minute session with a specialist. Bring your own questions on personal pensions, school pensions, fundraising, coaching colleagues and supporting neurodiversity in staffroom and leave with practical advice for you and your school. Booking will be open in the week commencing 2 November
09:00	***The Changing Nature of Parents*** **Dr Angharad Rudkin** Introduced by Sam Gibbons
09:50	A word from our sponsors
10:00	***Holding Firm and Being Human*** **Diana Osagie** Introduced by Richard Tillett
10:50	Break and opportunity to visit exhibitors
11:15	**Round Table Discussion 1** • **Fundraising in Schools, Iey Dowdall** • **Creating a Coaching Environment in Schools, McKenzie Ceri** • **AI – Top Tips for Workload, Ben Eaton** • **The Work of ISC, Julie Robinson** • **Regulatory ISC Work- SEND, Simon Nathan** • **Dealing with Difficulty, Helen Semple** • **Managing Critical Incidents, Jack Myers** • **Complex HR Issues, Restructures, Redundancies and New Rights, Georgina de Costa** • **What do parents understand the least about schools, Katharine Radice**
11:35	**Round Table Discussion 2** **As above and:** • **The Wellbeing Dog, Diana Osagie**
11:55	**Round Table Discussion 3** **All above sessions**
12:15	***Opportunity to Go Beyond*** **Helen Sharman** Introduced by Helen Jeys, GSA President 2026-2027

13:00	**Lunch and an opportunity to visit exhibitors**
13:45	**Wellbeing Panel** **Laura Earnshaw - My Happy Mind** **Katharine Radice - Exam Stress** **Interviewed by MHSG Head Girls** Introduced by Anna Wilby
14:30	**AGM**
15:00	**Closing remarks** and conference gamification prize giving **Helen Jeys,** GSA President and Head of Manchester High School for Girls
15:30	**End of Conference**

This programme may be subject to change