



MINUTES OF THE HARINGTON SCHOOL  
LGB MEETING HELD ON  
THURSDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2026 8.15AM

**PRESENT**

Liz Birchall (Vice Chair), Oliver Teasel (Head of School), Stuart Williams, Dave Anderson, Dyl Powell, Henry Price, Phil Dalby, Andrew Robinson, Nina Hedley, Andrew Wright and Diane Wensley.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Sara Kane (Governance Professional)  
Natalie Henry-Oliver (Deputy Head of School)  
Rob Kerley (Deputy Head of School)  
Heidi Gray

**1. WELCOME, AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Matthew Holt, Andreas Menzies, Briege Slattery and Rob Guthrie.

Heidi Gray was welcomed to be in attendance.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PECUNIARY INTEREST**

No personal or pecuniary interests were declared.

**3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 December 2025 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

No matters arising.

**5. GOVERNANCE PROFESSIONAL'S UPDATE**

Governors were reminded to complete the Register of Business interests declaration that was circulated via email.

The onboarding process for the new parent governor is underway.

**6. RESOURCES UPDATE**

Stuart Williams referred to the previously circulated report.

Harington is showing a £61k surplus, and a small surplus is expected. There are no significant concerns. The Pupil Number Adjustment income that is expected in March 2026 is included in these figures, but at a smaller level than anticipated – potentially a further £50k of income will be received.

The School is expected to make a surplus in the year of circa £18k, although it is expected that this will increase once the Pupil Number Adjustment is known.

All subjects look sustainable next year, replacement IT equipment may be required this year. Any surplus funds will be saved towards any expansion costs.

## 7. HEAD OF SCHOOL REPORT

Oliver Teasel referred to the previously circulated document and provided an update on the highlights of the term.

### **Admissions**

A total of 322 applications have been received, which is an increase on previous years. Late applications are still being submitted. Current conversion analysis indicates that approximately 190 applicants wish to enrol. The enrolment process will be reviewed to ensure demand can be managed effectively.

A breakdown of feeder schools and the subjects students wish to study was discussed. Maths and psychology appear to have particularly high interest. The proposed enrolment approach involves two staggered stages: Catmose College and Uppingham Community College students first, as partner schools, followed by applicants from other schools.

### **Question: Will priority admission be given to students from Catmose College and Uppingham Community College as partner schools?**

Depending on demand, the admissions criteria outlined in the Admissions Policy may need to be implemented.

### **Significant Change Process**

Harington will submit an application to the DfE for a significant change to expand capacity in order to accommodate the increased demand for places. As part of this application, a consultation with stakeholders is required. The proposed communication was shared.

### **Question: How are stakeholders determined?**

According to DfE guidance, stakeholders include:

- Existing parents and feeder schools
- Neighbouring local authorities
- Neighbouring post-16 providers

Governors agreed in principle that a significant change application should be submitted.

### **Personal Development Behaviour and Welfare**

Attendance is currently 94%.

There have been no suspension, exclusions or internal isolations this term. There have been no safeguarding cases or referrals to social care.

### **Welfare support**

Year 12: 16 students receiving support

Year 13: 24 students receiving support

These figures do not include those students that drop-in for ad hoc support.

The plan to review the number of check in meetings has been delayed due to a break in support provided by Teen Health.

**Question: Is welfare and safeguarding information received from feeder schools useful?**

Yes, this information is captured within a key students document and helps build a clear picture of the support that may be required.

### Careers

#### Leavers

UCAS competitors report outcomes:

- Provider rejections: Harington 12% competitors 14%
- Firm acceptance: Harington 71% competitors 75%
- Insurance acceptable: Harington 14% competitors 10%

The top higher-education destinations were the University of Nottingham, the University of Lincoln, the University of Liverpool, Nottingham Trent University, and the University of Sheffield. Students are increasingly choosing to stay closer to home, with a noticeable shift towards institutions in the North and the Midlands.

**Question: Why is this believed to be the case?**

Factors include the cost of living, welfare considerations, good transport connections, the lasting impact of COVID, and the ease of being able to return home.

The most popular subjects were Psychology, Computer Science, History, Economics, and Law.

#### Next Steps

- Year 13 – Next term tutor meetings will be held regarding firm and insurance offer selections along with a student finance assembly.
- Year 12- Completing careers programme. Introduction to Unifrog. Continued careers, academic enrichment and high education provider visits, planning ex-student talks and post-18 days.

#### Year 13

A total of 141 UCAS applications have been made an increase of 3.7% than last year. 23 early applications were made (18 Oxbridge).

**Question: What is the conversion rate from Oxbridge applications to offers?**

18 applications were submitted and 11 students were invited to interview. One Year 14 student has been successful in their application to Oxbridge, No current Year 13 students have been successful in their application. The success of the Doc. Soc applications is not yet known.

**Question: Do we know the national picture?**

No, national data is not yet available.

It was noted that mock interviews used to support Oxbridge applicants are not always subject-focused, which limits their effectiveness in preparing students for Oxbridge



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interviews. The team is exploring peer-to-peer interview practice, and in Term 6 subject teachers will work with form tutors to deliver more targeted mock interviews.

There are challenges in preparing students for Oxbridge and Higher Level Apprenticeship interviews, as Harington has limited time with students compared with 11–16 schools. This creates a narrow window for preparation, which is further affected by variation in feeder-school provision.

Oliver Teasel plans to deliver assemblies to Year 9 students in feeder schools to build confidence and encourage early identification of potential applicants. Students also need greater exposure to opportunities that help them develop a “niche,” as many Oxbridge applicants have not taken on leadership roles.

**Apprenticeships**

One student has secured a degree apprenticeship with BAE systems  
Two additional students are currently applying for apprenticeships.

**8. POLICIES**

The amendments to the following policies were highlighted and the policies were approved:

- Assessment and Reporting
- Behaviour
- Dress Code
- Examinations

**9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Scrutiny Panel- 2 April Safeguarding

- Panel members Dyl Powell, Phil Dalby, Diane Wensley.  
Dyl Powell will visit the School prior to the meeting to ensure that the Single Central Record and statutory safeguarding compliance checklists are updated.

**10. DATES FOR DIARIES**

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|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • LGB                                 | Thursday 2 April 2026, 8.15am |
| • Scrutiny Panel - Safeguarding       | Thursday 2 April 2026, 10am   |
| • LGB                                 | Thursday 21 May 2026, 8.15am  |
| • Scrutiny Panel – Student Experience | Thursday 21 May 2026, 10am    |
| • LGB                                 | Thursday 2 July 2026, 5pm     |