



MINUTES OF THE HARINGTON SCHOOL
LGB MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 21 MAY 2026 8.15AM

PRESENT

Oliver Teasel (Head of School), Matthew Holt, Henry Price, Dave Anderson, Andreas Menzies, Briege Slattery, Andrew Robinson, Nina Hedley, Andrew Wright and Diane Wensley.

IN ATTENDANCE

Sara Kane (Governance Professional)
Natalie Henry-Oliver (Deputy Head of School)

1. WELCOME, AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, Matthew Holt agreed to chair the meeting. Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Stuart Williams, Phil Dalby, Liz Birchall, Rob Guthrie, and Dyl Powell.

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 2 April 2026 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

No matters arising.

5. GOVERNANCE PROFESSIONAL'S UPDATE

Term of Office

Andrew Wright's term of office as a governor appointed by the LGB was renewed and unanimously approved for another four years. Andrew Wright left the meeting whilst this was discussed.

Resignation

Attention was drawn to recent correspondence from Rob Guthrie (Chair), in his capacity as a member of both the RDSF Trust and the Harington LGB, notifying governors of his intention to resign at the end of the current academic year.

The role of a LGB Governor and RDSF schemes of delegation

Governors' attention was drawn to the role of a LGB governor and RDSF schemes of delegation which had been approved at Trust.

6. RESOURCES UPDATE

Oliver Teasel referred to the previously circulated report. The School is performing well, currently there is a deficit of £19k vs an expected deficit of £67k. Utility bills are cheaper than forecast as the winter bills have not yet been presented. Examination fees have been paid (£76k), whereas on the budgeted figures it assumes that £40K will have been paid out. There will be a further £45k Pension Grant received shortly.

Provided the Pupil Number Adjustment is received as expected (circa £137k), then Harington should make a good surplus, if not, it is expected to be nearer break even.

7. OXBRIDGE PLAN

In order to effectively support students wishing to successfully apply to Oxbridge universities the following will be implemented:

- **Oxbridge Passport** – The Harington Pledge Passport will be repurposed to create an Oxbridge Passport, initially offered to all students.
- **Oxbridge PSHE Programme** – A dedicated PSHE strand will be introduced, providing support with admissions tests, including critical thinking, problem-solving, and subject-specific questions.
- **Subject Reading Lists** – Reading lists will be developed for each subject, including books, podcasts, lectures, and wider enrichment materials.
- **Mock Interviews** – Early mock interviews will be held to identify and address potential issues, alongside structured “think-aloud” exercises to build confidence and fluency.
- **Alumni Networking** – Oxbridge alumni will be contacted to establish networking opportunities and mentoring links for prospective applicants.
- **Outreach Assemblies** – Outreach assemblies will be offered to Year 10 students at Casterton College, Uppingham Community College, and Catmose College to raise aspirations and awareness of Oxbridge pathways.

8. SCRUTINY PANEL FEEDBACK- SAFEGUARDING

The previously circulated report was highlighted. A group of students were asked a series of safeguarding-related questions, and they were open about the issues they may face. The effectiveness of the safeguarding open-door policy was praised.

Several broader issues emerged that are currently impacting students, both inside and outside of School. These included concerns around misogyny and a desire for harder-hitting, relevant topics within the PSHE curriculum. Students reported that some comments heard in School highlight the need for deeper understanding and more explicit discussion of global issues.

A full PSHE review has taken place. Students expressed a wish for more expert guest speakers, and work has already begun to secure high-quality external contributors. The PSHE policy has been amended accordingly to reflect these changes and to ensure the inclusion of inspiring, specialist speakers.

Question: Is the education from secondary school meeting expectations?

Students reported that the current provision meets the expected PSHE standards. However, they felt that some Key Stage 4 content is repetitive and would like to see more challenging, real-world topics that reflect what is happening globally.



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9. HEAD OF SCHOOL REPORT

Oliver Teasel referred to the previously circulated document and highlighted key updates. Core priorities of the remaining academic year were shared.

Admissions

327 applications have been submitted. The induction days will take place on Tuesday 23 and Wednesday 24 June, the number of applicants wishing to attend the induction day is strong.

Personal Development Behaviour and Welfare

Natalie Henry-Oliver explained that attendance is currently 93% overall, with 95% in Year 12 and 91% in Year 13. Attendance in Year 13 has decreased this term due to the lead-up to examinations and the period immediately prior to study leave.

The national average for attendance is 93%, placing the school in line with national figures. A detailed breakdown of attendance codes was provided.

10. POLICIES

The following policy was approved:

- PSHE

11. HARINGTON EXPANSION

Following the consultation, the significant change bid had been submitted to the DfE. The majority of responses received were positive.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Governors were encouraged to support the student mock interviews which would be held from Friday 11 until Friday 19 June.

13. DATES FOR DIARIES

- LGB Thursday 2 July 2026, 5pm