

39th COBIS Annual Conference Programme

Opportunity and Challenge: Leading in a Climate of Change

Draft Programme – Subject to change – all times listed are BST (GMT +1)

Breaks between sessions, and times before and after sessions, can be used for informal meet-ups (via the Community board), video chats, participation in discussion boards, etc.

Monday 10 May 2021

- 8:45-9:15 **Familiarisation with the conference platform; informal meet-ups (Community board)**
- 9:15-9:45 **Opening Plenary** – COBIS Welcome; Opportunity and Challenge in International Education
Colin Bell, CEO, Trevor Rowell, Chairman, COBIS; Professor Sir Steve Smith, HMG International Education Champion
- 10:00-11:00 **Breakout Sessions** (sessions marked * will start with 5 mins of informal networking)
1. *Safeguarding with Cultural Sensitivities*, Alison Peterson, Headteacher, and Tracey Francis, Head of Pre-Prep and DSL, The English School Kuwait*
 2. *Equitable Education for All: Ensuring an Inclusive Culture in your School and Beyond*, Professor Adam Boddison, CEO, and Kamal Bodhanker, Head of International Development, nasen
 3. *Pupil Parliament is Just the Beginning: Developing a Systematic Approach to Support Pupils to Shape Their Environment*, Paul Seedhouse, Curriculum Consultant, British Schools Foundation
 4. *Governing for High Performance*, Simon O’Grady, CEO, High Performance Learning*
- 11:15-12:00 **Plenary Session** – *The Role of Young People and Schools in the Sustainable Development Process*
Kehkashan Basu, Founder President, Green Hope Foundation, UN Human Rights Champion, International Children’s Peace Prize Winner
- 12:30-13:15 **Networking: Themed Speed-Dating Sessions / informal meet-ups**
Themed speed-dating session on *Blended/hybrid learning tools and resources*
Themed speed-dating session on *Wellbeing resources and initiatives*
Informal meet-ups (Community board)
- 13:30-14:20 **Breakout Sessions** (sessions marked * will start with 5 mins of informal networking)
1. *The Normality of Crisis*, Dr Steffen Sommer, Principal and members of the Senior Leadership Team, Doha College*
 2. *Approaches to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion that Work!*, Angela Browne, Coach and Consultant, Nourished Collective, and Hannah Wilson, Director, Diverse Educators*
 3. *How to Retain Staff with a Cohesive Wellbeing Strategy*, Dan Worth, Senior Editor, Tes, and John Bagust, Principal, New Cairo British International School
 4. *Governing in an Age of Uncertainty*, Anthony Millard, Executive Chairman, Alun Jones, Benedict Dunhill and Lisa Phillipps, Associate Consultants, Anthony Millard Consulting
 5. *The Market Data that Matters for Suppliers and Providers*, Diane Glass, Commercial Director and Luke Pierce, Commercial Sales Manager, ISC Research (for Supporting Associates)
- 16:00-16:50 **Breakout Sessions**
1. *Making the Employability Change an Opportunity, Not a Threat: How to Support and Enable Young People in a Climate of Change*, Elizabeth Moore, Vice President of Learning Research and Design, Pearson
 2. *School Marketing and Communications: New Pathways to Success Post Pandemic*, Max Eisl, Director of Sales International, and Jak Blackwood, Head of Sales, UK, Finalsité

Tuesday 11 May 2021

8:00-8:50 Breakout Sessions

1. *A Strategic Commitment to using Data and Research to inform Pupil and Staff Wellbeing Initiatives*, Magnus Cowie, Deputy Head Pastoral, and Diane Trif, Graduate Researcher in Residence, Marlborough College Malaysia
2. *#betterboards: Governance with a Heart*, Matthew Savage and Dr Helen Wright, Associate Consultants, LSC Education
3. *Leading Change from Different Perspectives*, James McAleese, Head of Secondary, GEMS Winchester (Fujairah); Shafaque Riaz, Head of Computer Science and Digital Champion, GEMS Wellington Academy Silicon Oasis (sponsored by GCSEPod)
4. *Where Next with Teaching and Learning? From Face to Face to Blended Pedagogies - Discussion*, Kai Vacher, Principal, British School Muscat

9:05-9:55 Plenary Session – Learning for an Interconnected World – Results from PISA’s First Assessment of Global Competence

Dr Andreas Schleicher, Director for the Directorate of Education and Skills, OECD

10:10-11:00 Breakout Sessions (sessions marked * will start with 5 mins of informal networking)

1. *Are We Preparing our Learners Today for the Future of Tomorrow?*, Priya Lakhani OBE, Founder CEO, CENTURY Tech
2. *Intercultural and International Mindedness in the Face of Rising Nationalism*, Carl Lander, Principal, Azerbaijan British College*
3. *Building Windows in Walls: Seeing Opportunity in the Face of Challenge*, Fleur McLennan, Educational Consultant, Cambridge Assessment International Education
4. *Put Your Own Oxygen Mask on First: Some Reflections on School Leader and Staff Wellbeing*, Mark Steed, Principal and CEO, Kellett School, Hong Kong

11:15-12:00 Networking: Roundtable discussions, informal and themed meet-ups

- Roundtable – Taking a Strategic Approach to Safeguarding and Child Protection - sponsored by MyConcern (11:15-11:45)
- Roundtable – Leading the Response to the Needs of SEND Pupils During a Period of Remote Learning - sponsored by Real Group (11:15-11:45)
- Roundtable – The Future of Tech in International Schools - sponsored by WCBS (11:15-11:45)
- Roundtable – Promoting Your School (11:15-11:45)
- Informal meet-ups (Community board)

12:30-13:00 Plenary Session – COBIS 2021 Update

Colin Bell, CEO, COBIS

13:00-13:15 Plenary Session – The International Schools Market: A Challenging Year, an Incredible Response

Nalini Cook, Head of Research EMEA, ISC Research

13:30-14:20 Breakout Sessions (sessions marked * will start with 5 mins of informal networking)

1. *The Virtues of the Virtual Accreditation Process*, panel chaired by Gary Minnitt, Director of Accreditation, COBIS*
2. *Coaching for Change*, David Porritt, KAA Director and School Principal, Karen Ardley Associates*
3. *How to be Data-Led with your School Business Decisions*, Ashley Kirk, Sales Director and Doris Suchet, School Development Manager, ISC Research
4. *ConnectED Supporting Associates* (for Supporting Associates)

16:00-17:00 Breakout Sessions

1. *ConnectED Americas* (networking and discussion session for schools in The Americas)

Wednesday 12 May 2021

7:30-7:45 #FeelgoodFifteen
Sing-Up

8:00-9:00 Breakout Sessions

1. *ConnectED Asia* (networking and discussion session for schools in Asia)
2. *ConnectED MENA* (networking and discussion session for schools in the Middle East and North Africa)
3. *Safeguarding for Governors in International Schools*, Emily Konstantas, CEO, The Safeguarding Alliance

9:20-10:10 Plenary Session – *Change the World*

Baroness Floella Benjamin, DBE DL, Actress, Broadcaster, and Advocate for Children’s Welfare and Education

10:30-11:20 Breakout Sessions

1. *ConnectED Europe* (networking and discussion session for schools in Europe)
2. *ConnectED Africa* (networking and discussion session for schools in Africa)
3. *The Science of Learning: Moving Beyond “What Works” to “Why and How it Works”*, Prof Stuart Kime, Director of Education, Evidence Based Education
4. *How to Support your Students to be Leaders in their Lives and Communities*, panel of students, chaired by Jonathan Harper, CEO, Future Foundations, and Co-Founder, Global Social Leaders
5. *International Export Update*, Department for International Trade (for Supporting Associates)
Vipul Bhargava, International Schools, Early Years and Education Technology Specialist, Department of International Trade

11:50-13:00 Plenary Session – *Embedding and Promoting Diversity, Equality and Inclusion in British International Schools*

School case study presented by Mike Lambert, Headmaster, Dubai College followed by a panel discussion. Chair: Claire Nuttall, Head Teacher (Primary) / Vice Principal, St George’s International School, Luxembourg. Panellists: Hannah Edgeworth, Primary Educator, Dubai and Advisory Board Member, Inclusion Labs; Jason Morrow, Head, The British International School of New York; Alysa Perreras, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice Coach, The Columbus School, Columbia; Bukky Yusuf, Senior Leader and Science Lead, Edith Kay School, UK

13:15-14:00 Networking: Roundtable discussions, informal and themed meet-ups

- Roundtable – The Digital Shift – How Schools are Learning to Combat the Mental and Physical Challenges of Online Teaching - sponsored by Furlong Solutions (13:15-13:45)
- Roundtable – A Centralised Parent Experience: Online processes throughout the family journey - sponsored by Faria Education Group (13:15-13:45)
- Roundtable – Homework: How to make it help, not hinder - sponsored by Sparx (13:15-13:45)
- Roundtable – Pre-Employment Checks and Safer Recruitment (13:15-13:45)
- Informal meet-ups (Community board)

14:15-14:45 **Mindfulness Taster Session**
(A brief introduction to mindfulness including a practice/meditation)
Ashley Lodge and Lisa Wren, Pearson

16:00-16:50 **Breakout Sessions**

1. *Distance not Distant Teacher Education*, Dionne Ross, Principal Lecturer, and Susan Edgar, Head of School of Education, University of Sunderland
2. *The Opportunity to Empower Learners for a Future of Change*, Dr Karem Roitman, Lead author of the Global Skills Project Curriculum, Oxford University Press

Thursday 13 May 2021

8:00-8:50 **Breakout Sessions**

1. *Student Wellbeing in the New Normal*, panel chaired by Amanda Clarke, International Director, GL Education
2. *Next Steps: Exploring Changes, Challenges and Opportunities in Early Childhood Education*, Phil Armstrong, Head of International Development, Early Excellence
3. *Inspiration for Sustainable Schools and Companies*, Andrew Griffiths, Director of Digital and Community, and Amelie Trolle, Head of Engagement, Planet Mark

9:05-10:00 **Breakout Sessions**

1. *Building Your Organisational Change Muscle: Lessons from Neuroscience and Behavioural Psychology to Successfully Lead in a Climate of Change and Beyond*, Dr Sarah Howling, Coach and Consultant, The Connection Revolution (sponsored by TTS)
2. *Leveraging Middle Leadership, Especially in Times of Challenge*, chaired by Janette Quinn, Assistant Director of Accreditation and CPML Course Leader, COBIS; Emily Rankin, Deputy Head of Upper School & Teaching and Learning, and Laurence Baxter, Deputy Head of Pastoral, English College in Prague; Patrick Heuff, Head of Secondary, St George's The British International School Munich; Catrin Sherwood, Head of Primary and Russell Johnston, Head of Secondary, St George's The British International School Cologne
3. Two School Case Studies: *Human Connectivity in a Time of Remote Learning*, Jon Turner, Head of Secondary, Baobab College, Zambia; *Back to Port or Sail Further out to Sea?*, Dr Daniela Vasile, Director of Learning, Avenor College, Romania
4. *Transforming Change into Success: How to Navigate Digital Turbulence*, Jon Cronin, Education Consultant, Engage

10:20-11:15 **Plenary – Imperfect Leadership at a Time of Uncertainty**
Professor Steve Munby, Consultant and Speaker

12:00-13:30 **COBIS Annual 'Dinner'**, sponsored by Tes
An informal networking event including student performances, a brief address from The Rt Hon Lord Knight of Weymouth, COBIS Honorary President, and the opportunity to connect with delegates and sponsors.