

Programme – Friday 6 March

9.30am
Conference assemblies, refreshments

10.00am
Leading with Purpose: A Positive Future for Sport in Our Schools
Chris Dossett Chair of PADSIS

10.30am
Culture is a Team Sport: Building Belief, Belonging and Behaviour
Geva Mentor CBE England Roses Netball
Jamie Jones-Buchanan MBE CEO Leeds Rhinos

11.15am
Refreshment break

11.30am
The World of Parental Engagement
Gordon MacLellan WWPIS

12.00pm
Working with your Bursar
Baz Bennett COO, Sedbergh School

12.30pm
Lunch

Seminar Session One

Delegates choose one of the following sessions:

1
**Creating Lasting Impact:
The Power of School Sports Travel**
Edwin Doran

2
**Compliance in Sport: Managing Risk
Assessment to be Inspection Ready**
Citation

3
**Retaining Pupils in Team Games
in an Environment of Choice**
Neil Rollings

4
**From Elite Dressing Rooms to
the Classroom: Communication
That Drives Performance**
Eamon Devlin Minute9

5
Supporting Female Athletes
Geva Mentor CBE England Roses Netball

6
**Working with your Head
in Prep School Sport**
Bill Toleman

2.15pm
Refreshment break

Seminar Session Two

Delegates choose one of the following sessions:

1
**Unlocking Potential:
Driving Excellence**
Perform Better

2
**The Rise of Padel:
What Schools Need to Know**
S&C Slatter

3
**Protecting Performance:
The Role of OPRO in School Sport Safety**
OPRO

4
**Working with Parents
of High Performers**
Gordon MacLellan WWPIS

5
**Brave Conversations:
Supporting Mental Health in
Young People Through Sport**
*Simon Trower
Founder Brave Mind*

6
**Managing Staff in
School Sport**
Neil Rollings

7
**Managing Risk in School
Fitness Centres**
Citation

3.30pm
Conference closes

WORKING IN ASSOCIATION WITH

padsis
Professional Association of
Directors of Sport in Independent Schools



17TH ANNUAL National Conference for Directors of Sport in Independent Schools

5–6 March 2026
at Leonardo Royal Hotel, Oxford

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

iaps

www.padsis.com/2026

Join us for PADSIS 2026

The world's largest gathering of Directors of Sport in Independent Schools

Sport continues to play a vital role in the life and business of schools. Yet its future priorities and resources are under increasing pressure. With traditional programmes being challenged and expectations evolving rapidly, clear vision and inspiring leadership in school sport have never been more important.

This year's conference is designed to support Directors of Sport across the full breadth of their responsibilities — strengthening their impact as school leaders through the latest insights into emerging developments, best practice, and sector compliance.

PADSIS 2026 offers more choice than ever before, featuring an expanded programme with a wider range of optional seminars to ensure every delegate — from schools of every size and type — finds content directly relevant to their current challenges. To support this, the Thursday programme has been extended, while the Forum remains a central focus of the conference.

The Forum continues to enjoy the strong backing of the Sports Committees of HMC, GSA, and IAPS. As always, we'll conduct sector-wide research ahead of the event and present our findings during the Forum, providing delegates with valuable, data-driven insights into current trends across the sector.

For the first time, PADSIS is partnering with

PADSIS exists to enhance the quality of leadership and management of sport in independent schools

JOIN ONLINE AT

www.padsis.com/join

Or join when booking onto the conference

IAPS to deliver a dedicated event for the prep sector. The seminar programme will include sessions of immediate practical value for leaders of sport in prep schools; alongside keynote speakers whose messages resonate across the full age range.

Beyond the formal sessions, the conference offers a fantastic opportunity to connect, network, and socialise with like-minded professionals who share a passion for sport and education.

We look forward to welcoming you to PADSIS 2026.

Prices

Full Conference

Includes Thursday and Friday plus Dinner and Accommodation

PADSIS Members, IAPS Members	£469
Non Members	£529
Two Delegates from the same school (PADSIS Members, IAPS Members)	£769
Two Delegates from the same school (Non PADSIS Members)	£799

Thursday or Friday Only

PADSIS Members, IAPS Members	£299
Non Members	£339
Two Delegates from the same school (PADSIS Members, IAPS Members)	£529
Two Delegates from the same school (Non PADSIS Members)	£569
Thursday Night Dinner	£65

*Call to discuss rates not listed, or additional requirements.
All prices include resources, refreshments, lunch on Friday and merchandise.*

All prices exclude VAT

Don't forget schools can now reclaim VAT on all our courses



BOOK ONLINE

www.padsis.com/2026

TELEPHONE

015395 60060

Programme – Thursday 5 March

12.00pm
Conference Assembles. Light Lunch. Refreshments
Please note that check in to rooms is not available until 3pm

12.30pm

Discussion Forum One:
Whole Sector Issues – Presentation of 2026 Survey Results

1.45pm

Discussion Forum Two:
School Group Sessions

Delegates choose one of the following:

1 Girls' Schools	2 Small Schools (under approx. 500 pupils)	3 Predominantly Boarding Schools	4 Co-educational schools	5 High Performing Schools	6 Prep Schools
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2.45pm

Keynote Speech

Physical Education at the Heart of School Life: Why the New Curriculum Matters

Kate Thornton-Bousfield CEO AfPE

3.45pm

Delegates choose one of the following:

1 HMC Panel Feedback Kevin Knibbs <i>Headmaster, Hampton School, Chair, HMC Sports Committee</i> Rachel Owens <i>Head, St George's, Weybridge</i>	2 IAPS Sports Committee Feedback Nick Andrade <i>IAPS Physical Education/Sport subject adviser, IAPS Sports Committee</i>	3 GSA Sports Committee Feedback Sarah Rollings <i>Head St Helen & St Katharine, Chair of GSA Sport and Wellness Committee</i>
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4.30pm

Breakout Sessions One

Delegates choose one of the following:

1 Performance, Pride, and Purpose: Rethinking School Sportswear Limitless	2 Making Use of New Functions in Veo Veo	3 Beyond Concussion: Building a Culture of Player Welfare in Schools Sam Barke Meliora Medical
4 Attracting the ADHD athletes: Creating Safe Places So They Thrive Dr Josie Perry	5 Building Movers for Life: Physical Literacy in the Prep School Years Dr Sam Gregory	6 Defining Excellence in Leadership: Reflections on School Visits Chris Dossett

5.00pm

Refreshment break

5.15pm

Breakout Sessions Two

Delegates choose one of the following:

1 Making the Most of the New SOCS Functions James Kershaw-Naylor	2 P3RFORM Principles: Building Athletic Excellence in Schools P3RFORM	3 Support Matters: Why Sports Bras Belong on Every School Kit List Pebe
4 Why School Sport Matters: Evidence to Shape and Strengthen Your Programme Dr Mairead Ryan School Health Pulse	5 Preparing for the Future of School Sport Neil Rollings	6 Working in the UAE Roger Nicholson

7.00pm

Drinks for New Delegates

8.00pm

Conference Dinner