

The Governing Body of Nidderdale High School is delighted to announce that the school has been invited to join the Red Kite Teaching Schools Alliance.

The Red Kite Alliance is a partnership of 8 secondary schools together, with primary schools and a special school, who work together as a collaborative to help each other develop and improve. Harrogate Grammar School takes a lead role in the alliance as it is a National Teaching School but the strength of the alliance lies in the partnership as a whole. Ikley Grammar School, Horsforth School, Prince Henry's Grammar School, Rossett School, Roundhay All Through School and South Craven School together with the numerous Primary Schools all work together to give the partnership real strength.

The Alliance crosses all phases of education and its members range from inner city to rural contexts but all have the common aim of working together to share skills, experience, talent and capacity to improve the outcomes of students in their schools.

The Alliance also provides nationally accredited bespoke leadership, training, support, research and development opportunities to the staff in its schools and training days are often delivered jointly.

The teaching schools' model is part of the Government's move to give outstanding schools a leading role in the training and development of teachers and support staff.

Peter Dwyer Corporate Director Children and Young People NYCC said, "We are increasingly seeing across the county real innovation in partnership working between schools and this is another welcome example. As the North Yorkshire Commission for School Improvement found, genuine collaborative working between schools is key to sustained improvement in the quality of teaching and learning available to all our young people."

Red Kite Teaching Alliance members have a shared moral purpose to work together to improve the learning and achievement of all the young people in their schools and in partnership its schools identify collective and individual solutions to any barriers that hinder students making progress. Richard Sheriff, Headteacher of Harrogate Grammar School and Director of Red Kite Alliance said, "Nidderdale is a good school and has the ambition to become even better and we are delighted to have the opportunity to work with them. We feel that the Red Kite Alliance has a lot to offer but our partnership also has a lot to gain from the experience and skills of staff at Nidderdale. We look forward to working with Nidderdale High School in the years to come."

Ian Simpson, Headteacher of Nidderdale High School said, "Becoming a member of "Red Kite" is a very positive development for Nidderdale High School. Red Kite were the partner of choice for the Governors, with the proximity of other member schools in Harrogate, Skipton and North Leeds playing a crucial role in the decision. The Department for Education and Ofsted currently encourage schools to form partnerships and join Alliances such as Red Kite. The Alliance enables Nidderdale High School to maintain its independence as a local authority school and the decision to become a member of Red Kite will ensure that the young people within our community will be able to access a high quality secondary education which is progressive and ambitious in the way that it is delivered. I am particularly excited by the prospect of extensive joint collaboration with Harrogate Grammar School and other member schools within the Alliance. The many opportunities for staff continuing professional development and the extension of breadth and depth of curriculum are very exciting for all concerned. The Governing Body is looking forward to an exciting future for Nidderdale High School.

More details about Red Kite can be found at <http://www.redkitealliance.co.uk/>