



Trustee Vacancy Information for Swale Academies Trust

Swale Academies Trust

Can you bring skills in leadership, corporate governance and strategic decision-making to the world of education? Swale Academies Trust is seeking trustees to sit on their boards and help improve educational outcomes.

What will you be doing?

There are now more than 1,150 academy trusts across the country, each of which receives direct government funding and operates alongside a board of trustees. A board is responsible for holding the trust's executive team to account, delivering strategic leadership, overseeing budgets, and upholding the highest levels of governance. A strong board will possess a diverse blend of individuals, capable of representing the communities they serve. It will also comprise a good mix of professional skills, expertise, and experience from areas such as finance, HR, law, governance, estates and IT. Insights from an array of backgrounds can ensure boards make informed decisions on matters that impact the lives of children and staff.

Governors for Schools has a rich background in matching skilled people to governing board roles across England and Wales. The need to identify strong, independent trustees has never been greater, and we are working to match those who want to offer their time, knowledge and acumen with volunteering opportunities.

What is the trust looking for?

Swale Academies Trust seeks leaders with senior, strategic/board-level experience in:

- Human Resources, experience of all operational aspects of HR and ideally working at strategic level in a large company
- Estates management/health and safety
- Experience of wider governance or MAT governance
- Finance/audit

By allying the deep knowledge and skills of experienced education leaders with governance and business expertise of volunteers from the corporate sector, academy trusts can shape the sector for the next generation.

The key functions of the board are:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding executive leaders to account – both for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils and the effective and efficient performance management of staff
- Overseeing the organisation's financial performance and ensuring its funds are directed to the best possible educational outcomes for young people

What difference will you make?

Volunteering on an academy trust board is deeply rewarding as it allows you to impact the life chances of young people. Academy trusts support schools to give children a better future. For young people to have the best possible opportunities in later life, it is vital we have individuals with the right expertise leading schools and holding executive teams accountable. Becoming a trustee is a fantastic opportunity to give back to your

local community by strengthening education.

As well as looking for new opportunities to give something back to society, you may be looking for opportunities to build your experience in strategic decision-making at senior level or demonstrate your ability to perform in a non-executive position as part of a portfolio career.

To apply:

You will need to complete an application form.

The GfS team assesses each volunteer's background, skills, and experience and identifies suitable openings on academy trusts boards.

If you are interested in this trust in particular, please indicate so on your application form and the team will consider this.