



Trustee Vacancy Information for THE BRIDGE MAT LTD

The Bridge MAT LTD

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

What do trustees do?

These roles have a dual function – as well as operating as a trustee of the academy trust as a charity, volunteers are classed as Non-Executive Directors, listed on Companies House and subject to company law. You'll be responsible for contributing to the strategic decision-making of the board, helping the trust to realise immediate and long-term goals, and ultimately ensuring transparency, accountability and, challenge.

From large national trusts to small community-based trusts, you can work with our regional experts to find a suitable match.

Board governance in education is considered a strategic, "eyes on, hands off" commitment, requiring that you give up to eight hours per month of your time and attend up to six meetings across a 12-month period.

What the trust is looking for:

The Trust seeks at least one but potentially two trustees bringing 'general' skills - particularly those with SME experience, board/charity/corporate governance expertise and professional qualifications in their field. Those with a background in strategic leadership, multi-site operations, stakeholder management, growth and strategy development would be ideally-placed. Senior civil servants, business consultants and those well-versed in the delivery of business objectives may wish to register an expression of interest in the role. The Board seeks to recruit individuals able to actively listen and engage with all stakeholders ahead of decision-making.

Ideally, candidates will be based within 30 minutes of the trust's location but flexibility is afforded and remote meetings are possible where a candidate cannot attend in person.

The trust would welcome interest from anyone with an affinity, familiarity and/or knowledge of Norfolk due to the impending work to expand the trust's hub in the region - alongside its Islington base - but this is considered an advantageous bonus rather than pre-requisite for the role. There is also an opportunity to undertake a 'link' role with the satellite school.

Over the long-term, the role will help the Board's work on succession planning and building skills, capacity, knowledge and reach. The Trust anticipates a time commitment of approximately three days per academic term (approximately one day/eight hours per month).

What difference will you make? What's in it for the volunteer?

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's 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.

All roles are pro bono.

People from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Governing boards should represent the communities they serve, as well as wider society. We welcome interest from underrepresented groups to ensure academy trust boards are diverse in background, skillset, and thought.

Diversity is a powerful instrument for effective governance. Trustees are required to make choices that impact the daily lives of children, from school finance all the way through to staff and pupil recruitment. It's essential that boards possess a broad set of beliefs, experiences, and ideas to inform their final judgements. We believe that true representation at board level enables all children to fulfil their potential.

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.