

20 January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer and Wider Trust Community,

TRUSTEES FOR ASPIRE SCHOOLS TRUST

We are looking to appoint additional Trustees onto the Aspire Schools Trust Board.

About Us

Aspire Schools Trust is a highly innovative Lincolnshire-based Multi Academy Trust, educating pupils of all abilities from the ages of 4-18. Currently consisting of Sir William Robertson Academy and Bassingham Primary School, our family of schools is set to grow and can see huge benefits for our community in the establishment of a successful and progressive cross-phase Trust, rather than one linked narrowly to the primary or secondary phase.

Our Vision

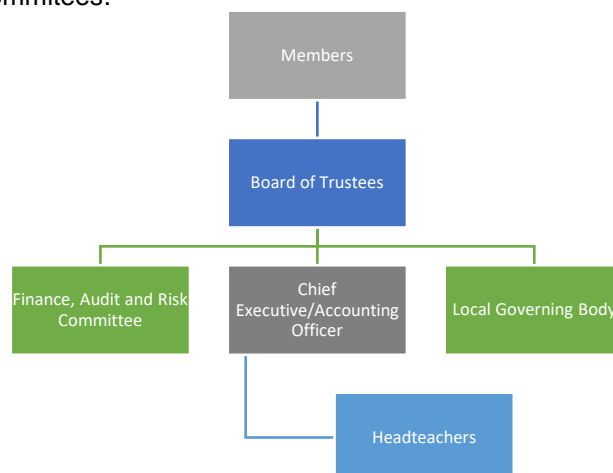
We are committed to delivering an outstanding education for all, irrespective of the starting points for our individual pupils. The Trust is underpinned by our ASPIRE ethos and is driven by a clear moral purpose to play a key role in system-leadership, supporting developments in schools for the benefit of all pupils within the Trust and across the communities we serve.

The schools within the Trust develop and collaborate to share best practice in order to raise achievement and aspirations for all pupils.

Children come first in all of our schools – this is our simple and non-negotiable message.

What does the Aspire Schools Trust Board do?

In a Multi Academy Trust, there are effectively 3 tiers of governance: Members, Trustees and Local Governing Bodies/Committees.



Aspire Schools Trust Board is responsible for:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and setting the strategic direction of the Trust
- Holding Senior Leaders to account for the educational performance of the children within its schools and the performance management of the staff;
- Overseeing the Trust's financial performance and making sure its money is spent well

Another key element of the Trust Board's work is to seek and act upon stakeholder voice – from pupils, parents/carers and the Trust schools' wider community.

The Trustees are both company directors and charity trustees and are bound by both company and charity law. The Trust is the employer of every member of staff within the Trust and its governance framework (known as the 'Scheme of Delegation') is built upon the principle of ensuring that governors govern and managers manage. This framework enables all parties to fulfil their roles and responsibilities, and provides clarity on individual, collective and delegated responsibilities.

Who are we seeking?

Trust Boards benefit from a range of professional knowledge and skills including education, finance, human resources, legal, marketing and public relations, property and estates management, and organisational change. Aspire Schools Trust is no exception and is particularly interested in hearing from those with experience in:

- Education (Primary, Secondary, Further or Higher Education)
- Law
- Finance (accountancy, banking, etc)
- Buildings and Property (architects, surveyors, etc)
- Public services management (NHS, local authority, etc)
- Health and Safety (compliance and risk management)
- HR
- Strategic leadership roles from any sector

Given the extra level of responsibility involved, Trustees must be skilled, knowledgeable and able to confidently support and professionally challenge the leadership of the Trust schools. Trustees must also have the time to commit to the role and in return will gain high level, strategic experience and insight into the role of non-executive director.

You might be a parent of a child currently attending one of the Trust schools, have had a child who has left either of the schools in the recent past, or you may have had no form of direct involvement with the schools previously. Our primary consideration will be the key skills which you can bring to the Trust Board for the benefit of its schools and their wider communities.

What is the level of commitment and what can I expect in return?

The Trust Board meets once every half-term in school or via Zoom on a pre-arranged evening, for approximately 2.5 hours. In addition to this, Trustees are linked to Trust development priority areas and are strongly encouraged to arrange to visit the schools during term time to review these with the Chief Executive Officer, Headteachers, staff and pupils.

Being a Trustee is a challenging but hugely rewarding role. It will give you the chance to make a real difference to young people, give something back to your local community and utilise and develop your skills, as part of a committed and effective Trust Board. We don't necessarily expect you to be an expert in the education system, but expect you to have the necessary skills, character and time to contribute. New Trustees will be provided with a full induction pack and be given access to a range of training (face-to-face or online) and resources to assist with any development needs.

If you are interested in bringing your unique experiences, perspectives and insights to this worthwhile role, please submit an email to: clerk@swracademy.org by 5.00pm Monday 21 February 2022, with a brief outline of your skills, experience and motivation for being a Trustee. We will subsequently contact interested parties regarding the next steps. Please note that all Trustees will be subject to safer recruitment checks, prior to confirming their appointment.

We thank you in advance and look forward to hearing from you.

Mr Mark Guest
Chief Executive Officer