

South Bank Multi Academy Trust

Trustee, South Bank Multi Academy Trust

Two positions beginning March 2019

Information to guide applicants

INTRODUCTION

The South Bank Multi Academy Trust is an educational Trust established in April 2016 comprising five schools located in the southern half of York: Knavesmire, Scarcroft and Woodthorpe primary schools; and Millthorpe and York High secondary schools. It is managed by a Board of Trustees who delegate most authority for the running of the schools to Local Governing Bodies.

We are now seeking two talented individuals to join our Trust Board, to help guide the strategic development of the Trust and deliver outstanding education in our schools.

ABOUT THE TRUST & ABOUT THE SCHOOLS

The Trust believes in the provision of a broad education which includes the highest academic excellence as well as broad personal development. All the schools are committed to being highly inclusive and are also committed to positive relationships, collaborative working, and partnerships with other education providers.

Our founder schools all have strong track records: Scarcroft and Knavesmire primary schools are currently rated “Outstanding” by Ofsted, and Millthorpe was rated “Good” at its recent inspection in November 2018. Woodthorpe Primary School is on a steep journey of improvement and is rated “Good”. York High joined the Trust as a sponsored academy in Special Measures and is being supported towards delivering positive outcomes and regaining a “Good” Ofsted judgement.

Carr Junior school is due to join the Trust in spring 2019, and further expansion is likely. Growth will be organic and local, and in line with the Trust’s capacity to support new schools.

THE POSITIONS

The purpose of the Board is to provide confident, strategic leadership and to create robust accountability, oversight and assurance for educational and financial performance. As the accountable body, the Board is the key decision maker in the Trust. It may delegate operational matters to executive leaders, and governance functions to committees (including local governors), but the Board as a corporate entity remains accountable and responsible for all decisions made. Executive leaders operate within the autonomy, powers and functions delegated to them by the board.

The Board has three core functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the performance management of staff; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.

The Board of Trustees is also Board of Directors – each Trustee will be appointed as a Director of the MAT company.

More detailed information about the role of the Trust Board can be found in the Department for Education's Governance Handbook at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/582868/Governance_Handbook_-_January_2017.pdf

COMMITMENT TO THE ROLE

The Board meets approximately six times a year in York. Meetings are expected to last three hours. Trustees will also join either the Finance and Audit Committee, or the Education and Standards Committee, which meet at least three times per year. In addition, it is expected that each Trustee would make one or two visits to one of the Trust's schools each year, and attend training as required.

In common with all such Trustee positions in Multi-Academy Trusts, there is no remuneration for these posts, although reasonable expenses will be paid.

REQUIREMENTS

To complement our existing team, the Trust is seeking two talented individuals as follows:

- **One person with experience of senior leadership in teaching and education.** Candidates should have a good knowledge of school performance measures, school finance and education policy, as well as a track record of delivering high educational standards and school improvement.
- **One person with director-level experience in any commercial, charitable or educational context.** An accountancy background or financial expertise would be preferable, but we are happy to consider any relevant skills that would enhance our Board.

Successful candidates will have inquisitive, independent minds, the ability to work strategically as part of a team, as well as a demonstrable commitment to the Trust's ethos and values. Humility, good judgement, resilience and determination are essential.

Trustees must comply with all relevant and applicable laws and regulations, including the Companies Act 2006 and the requirements of the Charities Commission. The Trust is a Company Limited by Guarantee and an Exempt Charity. It is subject to Charities and Company law, and the Trustees will be indemnified to the extent permitted by law. Every Trustee must be a fit and proper person for a position of public service, and not disqualified from directorship.

As the Trust is grounded in its community, we wish to draw our Trustees primarily from those who work or live in York and its surrounding areas. Applicants with children at one of the schools are welcome to apply but this is not essential. Current employees of the MAT's schools are not eligible.

HOW TO APPLY

If you wish to apply for the role please send your CV and a short covering letter explaining why you would be suitable to our Governance Adviser Sophie Triffitt (clerk@southbanktrust.co.uk) or call the Trust Office on 01904 553760.

The Trust is committed to safeguarding children and would require a successful applicant to undergo a full Disclosure and Barring Service check prior to appointment.

We are an equal opportunity employer and we encourage applications from all sections of the community, whatever your background.

The closing date for applications is Friday 30 January 2019.