

We are looking for volunteers to support our family of Church of England schools and academies

Are you interested in volunteering within the education sector? We are looking for volunteers to support in the following roles:

- **Academy Trust Member**
- **Academy Trust Director**
- **Foundation Governor (maintained schools)**
- **Foundation Governor (academy local governing body)**
- **Diocesan Board of Education (DBE) Member**

We need people who can offer experience and expertise from either inside or outside the educational setting and who are able to offer challenge and support.

What's involved?

Academy Trust Member - provides high-level oversight and scrutiny ensuring the academy trust board is exercising effective governance.

The following are the core functions of Academy Trust Members:

- defining the trust's charitable object and governance structure;
- holding the trust board to account, assessing if it is performing well and ensuring that the purpose of the trust and charitable objectives are being met;
- holding trustees to account for the outworking of the scheme of delegation and suggesting alterations to the scheme if appropriate;
- appointing members;
- appointing and removing trustees;
- appointing and removing auditors;
- attending the Annual General Meeting;
- dissolving the trust if required.

There is no term of office.

Academy Trust Director - is responsible for governing a charitable company and directing how it is managed and run. Directors must also ensure that the trust complies with all legal and statutory requirements.

Core functions are:

- to ensure there is clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;

- to hold executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils and the performance management of staff;
- to oversee the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent;
- to ensure the voices of stakeholders are heard.

Term of office – 4 years.

Foundation Governor (maintained schools) - provides the link between the parish church and the school. It is important that they have Christian commitment and are members of a Trinitarian Christian Church. Core functions are:

- to set the strategic direction of the school;
- to create robust accountability;
- to ensure financial probity;
- to preserve the links between church, school and diocese;
- to uphold the Christian vision and ethos of the school.

Term of office – 4 years.

Foundation Governor (academy local governing body) Academy Trust Boards delegate governance functions to an academy local governing body. The functions delegated will vary from one trust board to another and are set out in the academy trust's Scheme of Delegation.

Term of office – 4 years.

DBE Board Members - the DBE is integral to the Diocesan family and works in partnership with 76 schools, communities, churches and other stakeholders to promote distinctively Christian education. Its primary objectives are:

- to promote education in the Diocese consistent with the faith and practice of the Church of England;
- to promote and advise Diocesan Church of England Schools;
- to promote religious education and worship in Diocesan Church of England Schools;
- to encourage parishes and partner organisations to do the same;
- to provide stewardship of the charity's properties and funds;
- The DBE works in accordance with the Diocesan Board of Education Measure 2021.

Members of the DBE are both Members and Directors of the Company and Trustees of the Charity.

Term of office – 3 years.

What is the commitment?

The Academy Trust Member role requires attendance at the trust board AGM and commitment of approximately 2-3 hours per year to fulfil required expectations. All other roles require attendance at 4 or 5 main meetings per year and a similar number of sub-committee meetings with significant time commitment to reading and preparation for meetings.

For more information about any of the above roles please email helen.gibson@coventrydbe.org or call 01788 422800