



**St Wilfrid's**  
Church of England Academy

# Join our Governing Board

## ACADEMY GOVERNOR ROLE AND PERSON SPECIFICATION

The governing board is the Academy's accountable body. It is responsible for the conduct of the Academy, for promoting high standards, for developing the understanding that the Christian faith is the worship and service of One God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit as in the Mission Statement:

*St Wilfrid's Church of England Academy sees education as an integral part of the mission of the Church to proclaim God as Creator, Christ as Redeemer and the Holy Spirit as Inspirer of all that is good in human living. The main purpose of the academy is to provide an excellent education, both academic and social, in a Christian context, to enable its students to grow up to take their full part as citizens of this world and the next.*

### THE CORE FUNCTIONS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD:

- Maintaining clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction: setting a long term vision and agreeing strategic priorities, aims and objectives for the school.
- Holding the Headteacher to account: providing challenging, supportive and effective strategic leadership to the Academy's management team and guiding their operational management to ensure outcomes are in the best interests of the students and the Academy.
- Overseeing financial performance: making sure the school's money is well spent and ensuring that resources are allocated in line with strategic priorities.

### GOVERNORS ARE ACCOUNTABLE TO:

- The students for the quality of their education
- The Government, the local authority and the public for the use of public funds;
- The local community for a local resource.

Governors work in the interests of the students rather than represent the interests of particular groups (for instance parents).

They are required to act honestly, diligently and in good faith at all times and are required to declare any personal interests that could affect their ability to do so.

#### Effective governance is based on six key features:

1. Strategic leadership that sets and champions vision, ethos and strategy
2. Accountability that drives up educational standards and financial performance
3. People with the right skills, experience, qualities and capacity
4. Structures that reinforce clearly defined roles and responsibilities
5. Compliance with statutory and contractual requirements
6. Evaluation to monitor and improve the quality and impact of governance.

The Governing Board of Saint Wilfrid's Church of England Academy requires governors to agree to an enhanced DBS check (previously known as a CRB check) on appointment and to agree to abide by a Code of Conduct.

CRITERIA	ESSENTIAL / DESIRABLE
<b>Core Requirements</b>	
An active interest in education	<b>E</b>
An ability to pass an enhanced DBS check	<b>E</b>
Integrity, objectivity, honesty and a willingness to act in the public interest	<b>E</b>
A commitment to improving quality and raising standards	<b>E</b>
A commitment to the ethos of the school and a willingness to promote it within the community	<b>E</b>
A commitment to developing your knowledge and understanding of the role by attending training courses and briefings	<b>E</b>
A willingness to get to know the school: its needs, strengths and areas of development	<b>E</b>
A willingness to visit the school during teaching hours and to attend evening meetings	<b>E</b>
A willingness to work positively with others and to contribute as a member of a team	<b>E</b>
A willingness to work to common values within a framework of collective decision-making	<b>E</b>
A commitment to working within a continuous improvement environment	<b>E</b>
<b>General Skills and Ability</b>	
The ability to think strategically and contribute to the development of the Academy strategy	<b>D</b>
The ability to make reasoned decisions that are in the best interests of all students	<b>D</b>
The ability to work on your own initiative	<b>D</b>
Critical listening and questioning skills	<b>D</b>
<b>Useful skills, expertise and experience</b>	
Leadership and management	<b>D</b>
Governance	<b>D</b>
Finance and accounting	<b>D</b>
Business	<b>D</b>
Personnel or HR	<b>D</b>
Experience of working in a publicly funded organisation	<b>D</b>
Charity Law	<b>D</b>

The criteria that would prevent you from becoming a school governor are set out on the nomination form.