

The Canterbury Academy Trust

Schools for all the Talents



The Canterbury Academy seeks to recruit new non-executive directors

About the Trust

The Canterbury Academy is a small multi-academy trust, operating within Kent's fully selective and highly competitive education system. Established in 2010, the trust comprises The Canterbury Primary School and The Canterbury Academy (secondary and sixth form).

The Canterbury Primary School was recently rebuilt as a two-form entry primary school with c. 393 pupils on roll. The trust also includes a 15-place specialist resource-based provision for Autism Spectrum Disorder.

The Canterbury Academy is non-selective and covers ages 11 - 16 with c. 1,100 pupils on roll, also including a specialist resource-based provision for Speech and Language and from April 2021 Autism Spectrum Disorder specialist resource-based provision. The Sixth Form is one of the largest Sixth Forms in Kent and offers over 700 places and offers a very wide range of courses including practical and academic provision.

The trust has a reputation for innovation and enterprise, having established its own Trading Company, Buckle Under Ltd, which has a 100 percent share of City View Pre-School and Nurseries Ltd (currently operating two nurseries). The trust also operates a pupil referral unit for pupils aged 11 - 16 with behavioural difficulties on behalf of Kent County Council and operates Kent Youth Commission (Canterbury and Ashford) for Kent County Council, delivering youth club provision. Co-located on The Canterbury Academy site and partially integrated with the academy are: The Canterbury Enterprise and Employability College; Canterbury Adult Education; Lifestyle Fitness Sports Centre; Appeti Tennis Centre and a Professional Learning and Community Centre.

Trust Ethos & Values

The Canterbury Academy's core value is that 'every child matters', which means catering for all pupils, from those with learning difficulties through to the very able and academically gifted. This has driven an approach of diverse provision, including a partnership with a local Grammar school. The trust aims for their young people to leave as positive, confident individuals, proud of their achievements, prepared to be lifelong learners and ready to play an active, constructive role in society.

Role Summary

Trustee/ Non-executive Director

Person Specification

The board of directors wishes to recruit suitable candidates to ensure there are a good balance of skills on the governing body. They are seeking the following:

Essential

- Experience of the local community

Desirable

- Experience of financial planning, budgeting, monitoring and compliance
- Experience of marketing, media and PR
- Experience of being a governor/trustee of another school or board member in another sector
- Experience of being a Chair of Board or committee

Time Commitment

6 – 8 hours a term, including time for Academy visits. Non-executive directors will be expected to attend a minimum of two meetings per term including a main MAT Board meeting and one of the Committees/Local Governing bodies (there are four local governing boards (Primary, Secondary, Sixth Form, Youth, Community and Extended Services) and the following committees (Audit & Risk; Finance, Buildings and Personnel; Safeguarding; Health and Safety; Autism Spectrum Disorder specialist provision and Speech and Language specialist provision). In addition to this there are three formal quality assurance/raising standards opportunities, which are supported through directors and local governor visits to schools, as well as a range of opportunities to attend many events that occur throughout the academic year across the Trust.

Trust Website

www.canterburyacademy.co.uk

Governance Structure

The trust's governance information can be found on the Trust website. The Board of Directors delegates some responsibilities to its committees and local governing bodies. Each LGB has its own terms of reference/scheme of delegation to work to and meets six times a year, once each term, with the exception of Youth, Community and Extended Services who meet three times a year. Focus at meetings includes progress and attainment, attendance and engagement, student well-being, teaching and learning, curriculum, community links, extra-curricular activities and funding. Each committee meets between two or three times a year.

Background on Academy Trusts

Academy schools are charities run independently of local authority control. Many of these schools are grouped together as multi-academy trusts. If the schools are to fulfil their potential, the trusts need non-executives (known in charity law as trustees) to bring a wide range of skills and experience to help guide strategy, ensure their ambitions can be soundly financed and keep their schools up to the mark delivering for their pupils.

Trusteeship is a voluntary, unpaid role for people who have the energy and skills to make a real contribution to shaping the future of our schools. You don't need to have any specialist knowledge of education.

Applications

Please apply in writing to Debbie Scott, Clerk to the Board of Directors, The Canterbury Academy Trust, Knight Avenue, Canterbury, Kent. CT2 8QA or by email dscott@canterbury.kent.sch.uk.

Please also send a copy of your curriculum vitae.

Please contact Debbie Scott on 01227 463971 or e mail dscott@canterbury.kent.sch.uk for more information.