

Amethyst Academies Trust

Amethyst Academies Trust (AAT) is 2-school Multi Academy trust based in Wolverhampton. The trust seeks an experienced business leader with a proven track record in leading strategy, growth and senior management to join its board. Candidates with Marketing experience is desirable. Board meetings are held at Aldersley High School, Wolverhampton.

About the trust

Amethyst Academies Trust (AAT) was borne of the success of Aldersley High School, a community school of 800 students which has achieved outstanding progress over the recent period. (Currently ranked 2nd in Wolverhampton from Progress 8 outcomes) The trust believes in its capacity and experience to inspire students and staff to bring about rapid and sustained improvement for the benefit of the pupils and wider community. AAT is a multi-academy trust (MAT) and sponsor with two schools, Aldersley High School and Moreton School, with a shared sixth form provision. The schools work together to ensure that all students, irrespective of their starting point, receive an excellent education. The trust relishes the opportunity to be part of the regeneration in the local area and wishes to play a full role in the development of the wider community.

Plans for the Future

The key challenges for the board over the next 12-24 months are:

1. Growing the trust while ensuring the provision and outcomes of existing schools are sustained, or improved as required.
2. Refining the infrastructure and scheme of delegation for other schools - especially primary - considering joining the trust.
3. Supporting and challenging the Chief Executive as leader of an expanding organisation focused on excellent outcomes for all students.

The trust aims to continue building the capacity of governance through the effective function of the trust board and the shared Regional Governing Board known as the Amethyst Ambassadorial Committee via effective communication with the Trust's existing stakeholders about the benefits of the trust's plans for its future development.

Trust ethos & values

Amethyst Academies Trust is a trust which views traditional values and academic rigour as sacrosanct, allied with a knowledge-rich curriculum that ensures students are educated enough about the world around them to transform it in the future. The trust invests time in staff to ensure expert teaching, effective memorisation, 'no excuses' approaches to discipline and a driven academic ethos where all pupils can thrive.

Role Summary

Number of Positions Advertised:

1

Role 1 – Non-executive director

The Board of Trustees is accountable for the performance of the trust. The role of the trustee is to set strategy and hold the Executive Headteacher to account for delivery of that strategy and performance (including compliance).

The competencies required for this role include:

Essential

- CEO/ General Management
- Growth Management
- Risk

Desirable

- Corporate Governance
- HR
- Marketing

Person specification

The trust seeks a trustee with exceptional business skills to join its board and support the trust in delivering improvement, growth and transformation. Candidates with experience of effective marketing strategy (with the aim of business growth) are welcomed alongside applicants with experience in management of a complex organisation with multiple sites/subsidiaries.

Time commitment

6 hours /month minimum.

Location of Board Meetings and Trust Website

Board meetings are held at Aldersley High School, Barnhurst Lane, Wolverhampton, WV8 1RT.

<https://aatrust.co.uk/>

Background on academy trusts

Academy schools, which are charities run independently of local authority control, now account for 71% of secondary schools and 26% of primaries – and their number is growing all the time.

Many of these schools are grouped together as multi-academy trusts (MATs). There are currently 980 multi academy trusts of 2+ schools. 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.

“Academy boards must be ambitious for all children and young people and infused with a passion for education and a commitment to continuous school improvement that enables the best possible outcomes. Governance must be grounded in reality as defined by both high-quality objective data and a full understanding of the views and needs of pupils/students, staff, parents, carers and local communities. It should be driven by inquisitive, independent minds and through conversations focused on the key strategic issues which are conducted with humility, good judgement, resilience and determination.” *Source: Governance Handbook, Department for Education (2017)*

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 do not need to have any specialist knowledge of education.

Applications

The Trust welcomes potential candidates for school visits, and further conversation around the advertised role. If you are interested in applying for the role, or require further information please send your CV and a short expression of interest to Lauren Jones, (Clerk to the Trust Board) at ljones@aatrust.co.uk. Please note candidates should live within reasonable travelling distance of the trust and/or have a link with the region.

Key dates

We strongly recommend applying as early as you can to have the best possible chance of being considered as we may change the closing date if we have received sufficient applications. Applicants should be aware of the following key dates in the recruitment process –

Closing date: Friday, 17th July 2020– please note recruitment may close early if sufficient applications are received.