

Tapton  
SCHOOL

ACADEMY TRUST

Realising the life chances and dreams of every child

# Local Governor

## Volunteer Recruitment Pack



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# About Tapton School Academy Trust

**Tapton School Academy Trust was formed in 2011, when the Department for Education and Sheffield Local Authority approached Tapton School to sponsor Chaucer School.**

Since then, the Trust has grown to 9 schools, 5 primary and 4 secondary, providing learning to over 7,500 learners from 2 – 18 and employing over 900 staff.

Children joining the Trust have a broad range of abilities and social backgrounds. We recognise and celebrate different aptitudes and interests and believe that everyone can develop through dedication and hard work, and leave our schools fully prepared for successful lives.

**Our Vision** is to realise the life chances and dreams of every child.

**Our Mission** is to provide a safe place to be; provide great teaching and learning; create an environment where all opportunities are in reach.

## **TSAT Strategy**

The Trust Board are responsible for the schools within the Trust and determine the mission, vision and Multi Academy Trust (MAT) improvement strategy. Local context and community links are provided by Local Governing Boards.

Our strategic objectives sit within 4 key aims:

## About Tapton School Academy Trust continued

Intent	Objectives
Effective Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Securing high levels of attendance</li><li>• Reducing the number of exclusions</li><li>• Closing the attainment gap between disadvantaged learners and other learners.</li></ul>
Outstanding Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improving the quality of education in each school</li><li>• Ensuring that learning in every classroom for every learner is at least good</li><li>• Achieving high rates of progress.</li></ul>
Sustainable Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Actively engaging with all stakeholder groups</li><li>• Increasing Trust value for money and revenue raising opportunities</li><li>• Future proofing buildings and facilities.</li></ul>
A Great Place to Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creating opportunities for all staff to develop</li><li>• Building capacity and collaboration</li><li>• Securing succession.</li></ul>

Further information about the Trust, including full governance structure and current performance, is available in our website:

[TSAT - Home \(taptontrust.org.uk\)](https://taptontrust.org.uk)

# About The Role

**The Trust Board are looking to appoint volunteers to join a Local Governing Boards at:**

- Chaucer Secondary School**
- Forge Valley Secondary School**
- Southey Green Primary School and Nurseries.**

Local Governors are appointed with one common purpose – to govern the school in the best interests of **all** learners.

Governors work together to carry out their delegated responsibilities:

- Uphold and champion the TSAT vision and values, ensuring that the school is aligned and has a clear ethos.
- Monitor the experience and welfare of learners, including their curriculum, ensuring that it is well matched to the needs of the whole school community
- Provide challenge and support to school leaders to ensure that the deployment of resources best fits the needs of the whole school.
- Ensure the voices of stakeholders are heard.

Full information about the role of a Local Governor is available on the Tapton School Academy Trust website:

[TSAT - Member, Trustee and Governor Volunteering Roles \(taptonttrust.org.uk\)](https://taptonttrust.org.uk)



# Our Schools

Our five primary and four secondary schools work in close partnership with the aim of realising the life chances and dreams of every child and becoming an outstanding Trust.

Each of our schools has its own distinctive character, reflecting the local community it serves. Children joining us have broad range of abilities and social backgrounds. We recognise and celebrate different aptitudes and interests and believe that everyone can develop through dedication and hard work, leaving our schools fully prepared for successful lives.

Hallam Primary School: [Home - Hallam Primary School](#)

Hillsborough Nursery and Primary School: [Home - Hillsborough Nursery & Primary School](#)

Meynell Primary School: [Home - Meynell Primary School](#)

Southey Green Primary School and Nurseries: [Home - Southey Green Community Primary School and Nurseries](#)

Wisewood Community Primary School: [Home - Wisewood Community Primary School \(wisewoodprimary.co.uk\)](#)

Bradfield Secondary School: [Bradfield School - Home](#)

Chaucer Secondary School: [Chaucer School - Home](#)

Forge Valley Secondary School: [Forge Valley - Home](#)

Tapton Secondary School: [Tapton School - Home](#)

# Person Specification

## Required Skills

- Critical listening and ability to ask effective questions
- Strategic thinking
- Ability to work with others and share decision making.

## To be committed to:

- The vision and ethos of Tapton School Academy Trust
- Improving education and welfare for all children in the school
- Maintaining confidentiality
- Equal opportunities and the promotion of diversity
- Developing an understanding of the full range of responsibilities that the Local Governing Board has
- Undertake training to develop skills and knowledge as a Local Governor.

## Desirable Experience

Due to the nature of the key challenges currently facing our schools we are particularly interested in candidates with a background in:

- Education, in particular:
  - Attendance
  - Behaviour
  - Literacy
- Community Engagement (we would particularly welcome applications from a local community leader)
- Social Care
- Leadership & Management.



# Time Commitment

Governors are expected to attend full board meetings (a minimum of 6 per year) and sit on at least one committee for schools with a committee structure in place.

Governors may also be requested to attend other strategic meetings throughout the year.

Preparation for meetings includes reading papers and preparing any questions for senior leaders.

Governors are also expected to visit the school while it is open to students at least 3 times per year.

The term of office is 4 years in the first instance.



## How to apply

This is a voluntary, unremunerated role for someone who has the energy and skills to make a real contribution to shaping the future of our school.

If you are interested in applying then please send an expression of interest to Lyndsey Appleyard (Trust Clerk) – [lappleyard@taptonttrust.org.uk](mailto:lappleyard@taptonttrust.org.uk)

The expression of interest should be 1 page of A4, and include:

- Why you want to volunteer as a Local Governor
- What skills and experience you have that make you suitable for the role.

If your application is successful you will be contacted to take part in a discussion with the Chair of the Local Governing Board and a member of the Tapton School Academy Trust Core Executive Team.

### **Please Note:**

All appointments are subject to declaration of business/pecuniary interests. As part of your application please state the following:

- 1) Any organisation for which you are a Director, Partner, Trustee, Governor, Significant Shareholder (more than 20% of the shares or votes), Senior Controlling Employee (either individually , or acting with a relative, can direct the organisations decisions). Please state for all interests:
  - The organisation name
  - The nature of the business
  - Your position / nature of interest
  - The date the interest began.
- 2) Any organisation for which your close family\* / related party\*\* is a Director, Partner, Significant Shareholder, Senior Controlling Employee, Trustee of Governor.

## How to apply - continued

\*Close family – close member of the family, or member of the same household, who may be expected to influence, or be influenced by, the person. This includes, but is not limited to, a child, parent, spouse or civil partner

\*\*Related party – relative, organisation where I am a partner, company where I or a relative control over 20% of the capital or votes, organisation I control (alone or with a relative).

Please state for all interests:

- Relative or related party name
- Organisation name
- Nature of the business
- Position / Shareholding
- Date the interest began.

Successful applicants will also be required to undertake a DBS Enhanced Disclosure check.