

# Tapton SCHOOL

ACADEMY TRUST

Realising the life chances and dreams of every child

# Trustee

## Volunteer Recruitment Pack



Registered address: Tapton School Academy Trust, Darwin Lane, Sheffield, S10 5RG  
Tel: 0114 267 1414 Email: [enquiries@taptontrust.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@taptontrust.org.uk) Web: [www.taptontrust.org.uk](http://www.taptontrust.org.uk)

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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 3 key aims:

# About Tapton School Academy Trust continued

Intent	Objectives
High quality education and experience for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Highly ambitious leaders striving for excellence and continual improvement.</li><li>• Effective safeguarding culture, policy and practice.</li><li>• High level of attendance.</li><li>• A strong learning state through relationship and behaviour.</li><li>• Reading is a gateway to learning.</li><li>• High quality appropriate curriculum facilitating high rates of progress for all.</li><li>• Attainment and progress gaps and variation are closed.</li><li>• Build strong relationships across our community.</li></ul>
Sustainable Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Active communication and engagement</li><li>• Best value</li><li>• Effective revenue raising.</li><li>• Futureproof our schools.</li><li>• Strong effective governance.</li><li>• Effective systems, data and processes.</li><li>• Clear plan for growth.</li></ul>
A Great Place to Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Build capacity through collaboration.</li><li>• Creating opportunities and career plans.</li><li>• Effective succession planning.</li><li>• Positive staff wellbeing and morale.</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)

# 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 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, leaving our schools fully prepared for successful lives.

To find out more about our schools, please visit their websites:

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](#)



# About The Role

**The Trust Board are looking to appoint volunteers to join the Trust in the role of Trustee.**

Trustees are responsible for governing the Trust and directing how it is managed and run. Trustees must also ensure that the Trust complies with all legal and statutory requirements.

Trustees work together to carry out their core functions:

- Ensuring a clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
- Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the Trust and the performance management of staff.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the Trust.

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

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

# 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 Trust.
- Maintaining confidentiality.
- Equal opportunities and the promotion of diversity.
- Developing an understanding of the full range of responsibilities that a Trustee has.
- Undertake training to develop skills and knowledge as a Trustee.

## Desirable Experience

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

- Finance
- Governance
- Education
- Chairing experience – ideally in a Multi-Academy Trust setting.



# Time Commitment

Trustees are expected to attend full Board meetings ( typically 6 meetings per year) and sit on at least one committee (committee meetings take place once per term).

Trustees 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.

Trustees are also expected to visit a link 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 Trustee
- 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 Trust 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.