

## A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THE LIFE CHANCES OF CHILDREN IN THE WEST MIDLANDS

### Audit committee and local governing body members required

Victoria Academies Trust is a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) in the West Midlands. We are a relatively new and expanding trust and are now looking to appoint a number of local people to sit on the MAT Audit Committee or to be a member of well-established Local Governing Bodies at one of our five primary schools.

Places are limited and so we are seeking to invite local citizens to apply to become a governor or member of the audit committee.

With a budget of almost £10 million, 1,800 pupils and over 300 staff, we are looking for suitably experienced local community members to help us take our organisation to the next stage of development.

Led by the outstanding Victoria Park Academy in Smethwick (listed by the government as a top 100 school), we sponsor academies that are in special measures as well as build powerful partnerships with local high-performing schools.

Our mission is simple: 'To create standout schools' so that every child in the West Midlands receives a world-class education in an outstanding primary school.

If you want to join us and help fulfil our mission by transforming the lives of future generations, please get in touch.

### Audit Committee members

Under the leadership of our Chief Executive, our newly appointed Director of Finance and Operations is keen to invite local community members to sit on our new Audit Committee. As a committee member, you will have a key role to play in ensuring that our governance, financial procedures and risk management processes are sound.

Ideally, you will have a financial qualification, although this is not necessary if you have had experience of working within a complex organisation. Audit Committee will meet three times per year in Smethwick. You may also from time to time be required to attend training.

Meetings commence at 8.00am (with breakfast) and are usually finished by 9.30am, leaving you time to get back to work.

As you may be aware, employers are obliged to consider any requests for paid leave to sit on governing bodies, not least because it provides you with additional experience and skills that benefit the workplace.



## Local Governing Body members

The board of trustees are responsible for running the MAT. To achieve this, each academy has its own local governing body (or advisory board) that is accountable to the board via a scheme of delegation. In addition to elected staff and parent representatives, each local governing body can co-opt a number of additional governors from the local community.

If you have a strong sense of civic duty and are excited at the prospect of providing strategic direction, challenge and support to a local primary school, then we want to hear from you. In particular, we are looking for new members who have a strong financial and business background, perhaps with experience in the commercial and/or educational sector.

Elected for four years, you will attend at least three morning meetings per year (8.00 – 10.00am). In sponsored schools (those in special measures) it is likely that you will attend six meetings per year. In addition, you will be required to attend locally provided induction training.

Being a governor (or an audit committee member) is a very rewarding experience in the knowledge that you are part of the largest voluntary workforce in the UK. Schools would not be able to operate without governors and so the role that you are fulfilling is not only essential but also hugely worthwhile.

### Want to know more?

If you would like to visit any of our schools, or have a chat with Andrew Morrish, chief executive, please call us on 0121 558 8701.



If you would prefer to email, then please do so at [andrew.morrish@victoriaparkacademy.org.uk](mailto:andrew.morrish@victoriaparkacademy.org.uk).

Alternatively, more information can be found on our website [www.victoriaacademiestrust.org](http://www.victoriaacademiestrust.org).

If Twitter is your thing, then find us @VicAcademies, @VicParkAcademy or @AndrewDMorrish.

Application is simple.

All we need to do is meet you and hear what you can bring to us. We want to make sure that you have the necessary desire, values and commitment. We want to make sure you have the same passion and drive as us to make our schools internationally renowned. You will of course need to be cleared by the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Most importantly though, we want to be able to see what *we* can offer *you* in terms of your own personal and professional development.

We hope you want to join us and look forward to hearing from you.

The deadline for expressions of interest is 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015.