



Nene Education Trust (NET) is a company limited by guarantee and is constituted as a non-profit charitable trust.

Academy Schools are state funded schools in England which are directly funded by central government (specifically the Department for Education) and independent of direct control by the local authority.

Academies are self-governing, however, they must meet the same National Curriculum core subject requirements as other state schools and are subject to inspection by Ofsted. As part of a Multi-Academy Trust, the Local Advisory Board is a Committee of the NET Board of Trustees. The Local Advisory Board acts within a scheme of delegated authority and terms of reference.

Nene Education Trust are currently seeking to recruit Community Governors to sit on individual schools Local Advisory Boards across a range of schools in the Trust.

NET is a high performing multi academy trust (MAT) located in East Northamptonshire, catering for students from age 2 to 18. We recognise and champion all that our pupils and students realise and achieve. Originally set up as the Manor Learning Trust in 2013 we have a reputation for our strong leadership and our focus on delivering high quality educational and personal support for young people in East Northamptonshire.

The Trust is committed to developing the whole child. We are passionate about using the power of education to help our young people become individuals our community is proud of.

We are looking for individuals who are committed to supporting and developing the schools in the Trust for the benefit of our students.

To be eligible to be a community governor nominees must:

- (a) live or work in the community served by the academy or,
- (b) be a person who, in the opinion of the governing board, is committed to the governance and success of the academy

Safeguarding Nene Education Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Appointments are subject to satisfactory checks, including references, disqualification declaration, Disclosure and Barring Service clearance.

Only applications submitted on the Trust application form will be considered.

What does a Local Advisory Board Governor do?

To contribute to the work of the Schools Local Advisory Board your overarching aim is to ensure that the children and young people in our academies are able to achieve to the best of their ability.

With Senior Leaders, monitor and evaluate the school's progress towards achieving the Trust's vision, ethos and strategic direction;

As part of the Local Advisory Board a governor is expected to:

- Champion the Trust vision and values in the Academy to ensure the spiritual wellbeing of the pupils
- That all children, including those with special educational needs, have access to a broad and balanced curriculum;
- Be familiar with and have an awareness of the key priorities within the Academy Improvement plan;
- Have an oversight of a range of compliance matters relating the school

Hold the Senior Leaders to account by monitoring the school's performance.

This includes:-

- Asking challenging questions of school leaders;
- Ensuring senior leaders have arranged for the required audits to be carried out and receiving and monitoring the results of those audits;
- Ensure the school is operating effectively according to statutory and agreed policies;
- Acting as a link governor on a specific issue, making enquiries of the relevant staff, and reporting to the School Standards Board on the progress on the relevant school priority;
- Listening to and reporting to the school's stakeholders: pupils, parents, staff and the wider community, including local employers.

When required, serve on panels of governors to:

- Hear appeals about pupil exclusions.

A Governor does not:

- Write school policies
- Undertake audits of any sort – whether financial or health and safety – even if the governor has the relevant professional experience;
- Spend much time with the pupils of the school – if you want to work directly with the children, there are many other valuable voluntary roles within the school;
- Undertake classroom observations to make judgements on the quality of teaching – Schools monitor the quality of teaching in the school by requiring data from the senior staff and external sources;
- Do the job of the school staff – if there is not enough capacity within the paid staff team to carry out the necessary tasks, the Local Advisory Board may consider and send recommendations to the Trust for rectifying this.

As you become more experienced as a governor, there are other roles you could volunteer for which would increase your degree of involvement and level of responsibility.

In order to perform the role well, a governor is expected to:

- Get to know the school, including by visiting the school occasionally during school hours, and gain a good understanding of the school's strengths and weaknesses;
- Attend induction training and regular relevant training and development events;
- Attend meetings and read all the papers before the meeting;
- Act in the best interest of all the pupils of the school;
- Behave in a professional manner, as set down in the Trust Code of Conduct and adhere to the 7 Nolan Principles of Public life, including acting in strict confidence.

Time commitment:

Under usual circumstances, you should expect to spend between 10 and 15 days a year on your governing responsibilities, although this is the top end of this commitment. Initially, we would expect your commitment to be nearer 10 days a year. However, there may be periods when the time commitment may increase, it is fairly common for governors to undertake additional volunteering roles over and above governance.

Under Section 50 of the Employment Rights Act 1996, if you are employed, then you are entitled to 'reasonable time off' to undertake public duties; this includes school governance. 'Reasonable time off' is not defined in law, and you will need to negotiate with your employer how much time you will be allowed.

Expenses Governors may receive out of pocket expenses incurred as a result of fulfilling their role as governor, and NGA recommends that a governing body should have such an expenses policy. Payments can cover incidental expenses, such as travel

After reading the details regarding joining the Trust as Governor to a Local Advisory Board and you are inspired and enthused to be part of our family of schools, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please apply using the application form and forward to

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About the application process Please read carefully the Governors role description and person specification.

In completing your application form, please ensure that you answer fully and provide all relevant information.

Not everyone will be selected for an interview, but every application we receive will be carefully considered against the published criteria and all applicants will be treated equally and fairly.