
Position: Chair of Trustees (non-executive director)

Subject: Governance

Type: 4 years term

Closing date: 25 May 2026

Start date: Summer term 2026 transition to commence September 2026

Location: St Chad's Academies Trust, c/o Birchills CE Community Academy, Farringdon Street, Walsall, WS2 8NF

St Chad's is a Diocesan Multi-Academy Trust (MAT), for the Diocese of Lichfield, is seeking to appoint a Chair of the Trust Board to provide visionary, innovative, and strategic non-executive leadership to the Board of Trustees and to work effectively, efficiently, and creatively with the CEO, to drive the Trust's future vision, through evolution not revolution.

Through an embedded and strong support system, the Chair's aim is to continue to enable and steer the Board to fulfil its responsibilities for setting the strategic direction of the Trust, ensuring clarity of vision, ethos, and strategic direction and its overall governance, ensuring compliance in line with regulation and legislation, and the objects of our articles.

Developing an effective work partnership with the CEO, the Chair will optimise relations with trustees, empower employees, enhance trustee participation and visibility within our academies, to achieve the aims of the organisation. In addition to the general responsibilities of a trustee, the Chair has specific public duties.

The Trust is interested in individuals with wide-ranging experience (in the education sector is desirable) and must be able to demonstrate proven leadership capability as well as a commitment to education and the Trust's vision and values founded in its Christian origin.

In making this appointment we are looking for an inspirational, motivated, and visionary leader, who will seek to further enhance the next stages of our Trust's journey, through collaboration, challenge to achieve the best possible opportunities for the children and communities we serve through holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation.

We seek an inspirational, motivated and visionary leader who will help drive the next stage of the Trust's development by fostering collaboration, providing coaching and challenge to ensure the highest educational, financial and staff performance for the children and communities we serve.

ROLE OF THE CHAIR

- Make sure everyone is actively contributing their skills and experience and actively participating in meetings and Committees.

- Uphold and promote the Christian values and distinctiveness of the Trust.
- Chair and facilitate Board meetings.
- Give direction to Board policymaking.
- Work with the governance professional to make sure the right data is accessible to the right people.
- Represent the organisation at functions and meetings with both internal and external agencies/ parties, acting as a spokesperson as appropriate.
- Bring impartiality, and objectivity to decision-making with the CEO to promote and maintain the highest educational standards.
- Hold the CEO to account for the educational performance of pupils and performance management of colleagues.
- Provide effective oversight of the Trust's financial performance and ensuring best value for money.
- The role of the Chair is to ensure that development points are in place for Trustees through effective induction, appropriate training, development and experience; continually monitoring succession planning.
- Liaise with the CEO to keep an overview of the organisation's affairs and to provide support as appropriate., as a 'critical friend'; offering challenge, support, and encouragement
- Make decisions on behalf of the Board ('Chairs action') in cases of urgency, when this power has been granted by the Board.
- Lead on making sure the Trust meets its statutory and regulatory requirements, provides value for money and that business is conducted efficiently and effectively.
- Lead the process of supporting and appraising the performance of the CEO
- Sit on appointment and disciplinary panels, as required and in line with approved policy/ procedure.
- Set clear direction and expectation of the Vice Chair of the Trust Board, to ensure effective and efficient strategic leadership and direction when the Chair sends apologies.
- Make a casting vote in the event of a tie.



APPLICATIONS

Interested in this opportunity, please reach out to Chloe Norton, Personal Executive Assistant, and Governance Professional Chloe.norton@stchads.uk if you would like to express an interest and have an initial conversation with the current Chair of Trustees or CEO.



As per the Candidate Brief, firm candidates should email their CV and short supporting statement to Chloe Norton, Personal Executive Assistant, Chloe.norton@stchads.uk in line with the below timeline.

KEY DATES:

Application close	25 May 2026
Shortlisting	1 June 2026
Professional conversation	9 June 2026

Visits to the Trust are welcomed, to arrange an appointment, please contact Chloe Norton (contact details above)

Please see our website for more information: www.stchadsacademiestrust.co.uk/about-us/vision-values/

SAFEGUARDING

St Chad's Academies Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The appointment will be made subject to an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service approval ('DBS') signed by the Secretary of State, as part of our rigorous approach to safeguarding our children, based on a three-year renewal. A Prohibition from Management check will also be carried out.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

St Chad's Academies Trust is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all suitably qualified candidates.

As a provider of employment and education, we value the diversity of our staff and pupils, and all our staff are equally valued and respected. We are committed to providing a fair, equitable and mutually supportive learning and working environment for our pupils and staff.