Carisbrooke College Academy Committee Governor (SEND Link)

“Education is Our Castle”

At our school, we believe that Education is Our Castle—a strong, welcoming place where every student can find where they belong and build the confidence to grow.

Just like a castle stands firm through time, education gives our young people the strength to face challenges, the space to explore, and the security to discover who they are. Every subject is like a room in that castle—maths, science, the arts, sport, technology, languages—each offering something different. Students are encouraged to find the places where they feel at home, and to step bravely into those they haven’t yet explored.

Our values shape how we live and learn within this castle.

As well as supporting students in our mainstream environments, we also support a resourced provision for students who require additional support – The Einstein Centre. The Centre caters for 16 students across years 7 to 11 with a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC), and who need additional and more specialist support.

One in nine students at Carisbrooke College has an EHCP and we are seeking a suitably experienced individual to join the Academy Committee and work with us to support SEND students as a link governor.

School governors are one of the largest volunteer forces in the UK

They provide schools with strategic leadership and accountability for educational and financial performance. In academy trusts like HISP Multi Academy Trust, governance is split across 2 levels. Our board of trustees is responsible for strategy and monitoring across the whole trust. Academy Committees at each individual academy fulfil the following functions:

- Provide strategic leadership in accordance with the Trust’s Strategic Plan, Vision & Values
- Meet its statutory duties
- Monitor the educational performance of the Academy including reviewing data and reports which shall include but not be limited to attendance, exam and assessment results, behaviour including suspensions and exclusions, complaints and pupil

progress

- Work with the Headteacher and the Trust School Improvement Team to identify and monitor areas of improvement.
- Undertake school visits and submit report of visit to Academy Committee.
- Monitor and review the provision for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- Monitor and review Pupil Premium Funding
- Monitor safeguarding practice, ensuring compliance with Academy and Trust Policies and statutory requirements
- Monitor compliance and review effectiveness of Academy policies and procedures
- Promptly implement and monitor compliance with Trust Policies
- Monitor Academy spending against the Academy budget and ensure that money is well spent and value for money is obtained.
- Support the performance management of the Headteacher and the self evaluation of the Academy
- Monitor Health & Safety assessment and compliance
- Monitor and review the Academy's Risk Register including the assessment and management of risk.
- Engage with key stakeholders including staff and pupils and work in partnership with the local community and ensure that stakeholder views are considered and reported to the Trust Board

Skills and experience

Essential:

- A good understanding of SEND funding, local administration barriers and parent voice challenges
- Critical listening and ability to ask effective questions
- Strategic thinking
- Excellent communication
- Problem solving and analysis

Desirable:

- Knowledge of education
- Leadership and management skills

Benefits to you

New skills you could gain:

- Strategic planning
- Experience on a board
- Holding senior leaders to account and the ability to provide challenge
- Analysing data
- Communication and teamwork
- Decision-making
- Problem solving

Additional information

The time commitment for governors on Academy Committees will vary. However, governors are expected to attend 6 meetings of the Carisbrooke College Academy Committee per year, including 3 combined stakeholder monitoring and meeting days. Link governors may also be required to carry out additional monitoring as agreed with the school.

The term of office is 4 years.

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

You will also be expected to undertake any training required to enable you to discharge your role effectively.

Please note that this role is not open to Carisbrooke College staff.

If you would like to know more about becoming the SEND Link governor, please get in touch with the chair of the Academy Committee, Richard Bridgford:

Email: richard.bridgford@carisbrooke.iow.sch.uk