



Education **IMPACT**
Academy Trust

Candidate information pack

Member

About Education Impact Academy Trust

Education Impact Academy Trust (EIAT) is a Multi Academy Trust based in Birmingham, dedicated to providing the best provision that we possibly can for children and young people with a wide range of special educational needs and disabilities. We work together with parents / carers and the wider community to achieve this.

The Trust oversees a diverse group of specialist provisions, including Lime Tree Nursery, Mayfield School, Queensbury School, The Hive College and Wilson Stuart School (including Bluesky Nursery).

Education Impact Academy Trust is guided by the ethos “**Better never ends!**”, underpinned by key values:

- Engage,
- Include
- Apply
- Together

Governance

Education Impact Academy Trust operates a clear governance structure to ensure effective oversight, accountability and leadership.

Members - Ensure that EIAT acts within its charitable objectives as set out in the “Articles of Association”.

Trustees - (Accountable body) - Sets the strategic direction and ensures EIAT complies with charity and company law.

Local Governors - Each School in EIAT has their own Local Governing Body who have their own delegated responsibilities.

Executive Leaders - Responsible for the day to day running of the Trust and its establishments

In addition to upholding the Trust vision and values, all Members, Trustees and Local Governing Body members must adhere to the Seven Principles of Public Life (the Nolan Principles):

1. **Selflessness**
2. **Integrity**
3. **Objectivity**
4. **Accountability**
5. **Openness**
6. **Honesty**
7. **Leadership**



Our establishments



Lime Tree nursery is our mainstream nursery on the same site as Mayfield in Lozells.



Mayfield School is for children and young people aged from 3 to 19 who experience a range of special educational needs and disabilities. The school is based on two separate sites in Lozells and Handsworth.



The Hive College welcomes students with a range of disabilities and learning needs aged from 19 – 25 offering three different pathways.



Queensbury School is a Secondary provision in Erdington for students a range of special educational needs and disabilities
New Horizons is a separate 6th Form Centre operated by Queensbury School.



Wilson Stuart School
A Special Academy

Wilson Stuart School is a Primary and Secondary provision in Erdington for students who have mainly physical disabilities and complex medical needs.



Bluesky nursery is our mainstream nursery based at Wilson Stuart School.



Main purpose of the role

Members operate under the principle of “eyes on, hands off” governance, they have a limited and distinct role. The Member body does not fulfil or replicate the same functions as the Board of Trustees and should not be confused as doing so. In essence, the Members may be seen as “guardians of the governance” of the Trust.

Members hold the Trust board to account for the effective governance of the Trust but have a minimal role in the actual running of EIAT. It is the Trust board, not the Members, who are the key decision makers. However, there are some critical decisions that sit with the Members.

The Member’s role is an important one in providing EIAT with a view on whether it is operating effectively. Key responsibilities include:

- Furthering and protecting the Trust’s charitable objects
- Appointing (and where necessary removing) Trustees in accordance with the Trusts’ Articles of Association
- Holding Trustees to account for effective governance and leadership of the Trust
- Receiving and reviewing the Trust’s audited annual report and accounts at the Annual General Meeting (AGM)
- Appointing (and where necessary removing) the Trust’s auditors

Being a Member is a rewarding role offering a chance to support our Trust, while maintaining a lighter time commitment than that required of Trustees. It provides a valuable way to contribute to the success of our schools and communities without the operational responsibilities of a Trustee or Local Governor.

What the role involves in practice

Members need to be aware of the boundaries within their role. They help to strengthen our governance arrangements by supporting the Trust Board to remain focused on the appropriate areas. While Members don’t make the actual governance decisions, they need to ensure they are satisfied that the standard of governance across EIAT is high.

Members duties normally involve attending one formal meeting per year known as the Annual General Meeting (AGM), held at the beginning of the calendar year. At this meeting Members will formally receive the audited accounts and annual report. The AGM is the opportunity for Members to hear from the Trust board and relevant Executive Leaders about progress made during the last year as well as plans for the future.

Members should maintain a high level understanding of the Trust’s performance, operations and strategic direction.

We will provide meaningful and structured opportunities to visit establishments where Members can walk around our schools, gain insight into the day-to-day running of EIAT, and meet students and staff.



What we are looking for

Academy Trusts must have at least three members, and the DfE advises that its strong preference is that Trusts have at least five. Education Impact Academy Trust currently has three Members. New Members should be independent, with no historic or current personal, professional or familial connections to existing Members, Trustees, staff or former leaders.

We are looking for individuals who:

- Are committed to high standards of governance and public accountability
- Demonstrate integrity, independence of thought and sound judgement
- Are willing to provide appropriate challenge while respecting and supporting governance boundaries
- Support our vision and values and our commitment to improving outcomes for children and young people
- Have acquired the wisdom and insights that will support the development of EIAT

We are committed to equality, diversity and inclusion and welcome applications from all backgrounds to ensure our governance teams reflects the communities we serve. An enhanced DBS check is required for all successful applicants.

Becoming a Member is a voluntary role. However, you can be reimbursed for expenses incurred while carrying out your duties in line with policy.

Welcome from the CEO

The Member role is a very responsible and important one in governance arrangements.

We are looking for people who can bring their insights and experiences from a range of areas to come and be part of our mission to improve the lives of our students and families. I am a Member of another Multi Academy Trust and I have found that to be very rewarding - without the time commitments involved with being a Trustee. It is important to adapt to the role and play your part in ensuring that we are remaining focused on the main priorities through the way that Trustees work.

We are an open minded organisation and want Members who can fit into that and understand that we are working in a highly complex sector. Of course, the joy is provided by meeting students and we will provide opportunities for you to do that!



Jon Harris
CEO of Education Impact Academy Trust

Welcome from the Chair of Trust Board

Have you thought about joining a Multi Academy Trust as a Trustee but not done anything about it because you are worried about being able to commit enough time to the role? Becoming a Member might then be the answer. The most essential skill or requirement of a Member is to be able to recognise what good governance looks like.

We are looking for people who can bring their insights and experiences from a range of backgrounds to come and be part of our Trust in a meaningful way but without having to commit to an open ended, potentially time consuming role.

If you are interested in finding out more about being a Member of Education Impact Academy Trust then either myself, our CEO or our Governance Professional would be very happy to talk to you.



Calvin Hussey
Chair of EIAT Trust Board



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**If you are interested in this role,
please get in touch**

Email: d.knibbs@educationimpact.org.uk
Trust Governance and Compliance Officer

Location: EIAT Head Office
c/o Queensbury School
Wood End Road
Birmingham
B24 8BL

We would be delighted to provide the opportunity for an informal conversation with the CEO and/or Chair of the Trust Board.

Alternatively, you can apply for the role here:

[Application form](#)

