



Governors Wanted for The Pinetree School within The Engage Trust

The Engage Trust is a specialist Multi Academy Trust sponsoring academies and Free Schools who work with some of the most vulnerable and challenging young people. We believe strongly in the right of all children to a high standard of education in line with their peers in mainstream schools.

The Thetford Alternative Provision Free School opened in September 2013. The school is designated for 40 places at Key Stage 3 and 4 and is intended to support those learners whose behavioural needs could not be met within a mainstream environment.

The school became part of the Engage Trust in April 2015 and is undergoing a period of rapid improvement in the coming months this includes a rebranding exercise and a new name – The Pinetree School.

The current small cohort is predominantly KS3 and Year 10 and are commissioned largely by Norfolk County Council. However the Trust has extensive plans to develop new provision from the school to meet local and countywide needs. This will include developing a Key Stage 1&2 offer in later years.

The student profile is has a consistent history of challenging behaviour, exclusion from school, substance abuse, offending and safeguarding concerns. The School provides these young people with a new chance of success and a place of safety in a hectic and often incoherent world.

Our Local Governing Body is made up of Directors from Engage Trust, Community, Partnership and Staff Governors. Our Governors may come to us through a variety of routes and with a range of different backgrounds, skills and experiences, but they are all volunteers who work together for the benefit of the Academy. We value the link they provide between the school and the community it serves. We are currently looking for new governors and would be delighted to hear from anyone who has:-

- An interest in supporting the most vulnerable and challenging cohort of children in the county
- A desire to provide support and challenge to the school
- An open and enquiring mind – with a good sense of humour!
- The ability to look at issues objectively
- The confidence to ask questions and join in debate
- A willingness to listen and make informed judgements
- The ability to work well with others
- Time to spare

What we can offer is:-

- The opportunity to make a difference in some of the most vulnerable young lives.
- A massive sense of achievement
- The pleasure of helping our pupils reach their potential
- A chance to develop skills in strategic management
- The opportunity to work with our team of governors and staff in improving our school
- Training to develop an understanding of specific school management issues

The Local Governing Body's role is:-

- Setting targets for raising standards of educational achievement
- Monitoring progress towards meeting those targets
- Finding the right balance between supporting and challenging the performance of the Headteacher and therefore the performance of the staff and the school as a whole
- Deciding policy and future development plans
- Upholding good governance and working towards the success of the school
- Supporting the work of the Engage Trust
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Please read further guidance found on the DFE website:-

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/481147/Governance_handbook_November_2015.pdf

For further information please email: ceo@engage.norfolk.sch.uk .

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all Governors and volunteers to share this commitment.

We aim to be an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications irrespective of race, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation and/or age. We value the individuality and creativity that every worker potentially brings to the workforce.

All Governors are subject to an enhanced DBS check.