



Marches Academy Trust

## Trustee Recruitment Pack

March 2025



[marchesacademytrust.co.uk](https://marchesacademytrust.co.uk) |



SY11 2AR |



@MarchesAcademyTrust

# Who we are

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Welcome to the Marches Academy Trust!

We are a multi-academy sponsor based in Shropshire, currently comprising five secondary schools, five primary schools and one special school.

Across our Trust we have a wealth of experience to inspire and motivate children, young people and staff to be the very best they can.

Achievement Through Caring drives our Trust, and our values are shared throughout our family of schools; we work together on embedding them in everything we do.

Our Trust prides itself on delivering high quality education and connecting with our children and young people to inspire and enthuse them to learn, achieve and to be happy.



Our Trust is seeking to recruit three new Trustees to join the existing seven Trustees on the Board to help champion and drive the Trust's strategic vision, helping take forward this successful family of schools.

As a Trust we have made a promise to develop and live by our strategy to achieve key goals by 2025 which focuses on four key areas:

People First; Anytime, anywhere learning; Belonging; and Working today to protect tomorrow.

Trustees are responsible for setting and overseeing this strategy and direction for all our schools and you will have a key role in driving the quality of education, robust safeguarding, strong financial management and efficient performance management of staff.

The Trust Board needs members with strong interpersonal skills, an adaptive approach and a strategic mindset. Our current Board benefits from Trustees with a wide range of skills and experience, however, we are currently looking in particular for people with experience in the legal sector, business, finance and marketing as well as SEND in education.

# Welcome from the CEO

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This is a high achieving Trust that is imaginative and creative in its approach to teaching and learning and is keen to look for continued sustained improvement.

Our vision 'Achievement through Caring' is central to all that we do at The Marches Academy Trust. Our schools are , innovative and striving to ensure that young people make the very most of their learning adventure and are equipped with the skills required to prosper in the modern world.

We are immensely proud of our Teaching School, the Alliance of Leading Learning. We provide a wide range of professional development opportunities internally and externally.

Our family of schools currently includes:

- ♦ The Marches School and Sixth Form in Oswestry
- ♦ Sir John Talbot's School and Sixth Form in Whitchurch
- ♦ Tilstock CE Primary School and Nursery in Whitchurch
- ♦ The Grove School and Sixth Form in Market Drayton
- ♦ Lower Heath CE Primary School and Nursery in Lower Heath
- ♦ Shrewsbury Academy in Shrewsbury
- ♦ Longlands Primary School and Nursery in Market Drayton
- ♦ Grange Primary School and Nursery in Shrewsbury
- ♦ Oakmeadow CE Primary School and Nursery in Shrewsbury
- ♦ Woodlands School in Wem
- ♦ Idsall School and Sixth Form in Shifnal

**Sarah Finch**  
**CEO**  
**The Marches Academy Trust**



# Meet our Chair of Trustees

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The Trust is looking to appoint an enthusiastic and dynamic individual to build on our Trust's current strengths and achievements.

As a thriving Trust serving over 5,000 students and their families in Shropshire, this a pivotal role in driving continuous improvement across our schools and will contribute to our vision of 'achievement through caring'.

Collaborative working with other schools in our Trust offers many benefits for students and staff; sharing best practice in teaching and learning, curriculum collaboration, extra-curricular opportunities, staff development, finance and human resources, legal services, school improvement structures and governance arrangements.

We have an amazing team of teachers and staff that are dedicated to creating amazing places for students to learn whilst instilling a love of learning and life, the drive to achieve, to develop a sense of responsibility, combined with honesty and respect.

We hope that the opportunity to shape the work of our schools and their staff to harness their professional expertise, with the goal of securing excellent outcomes, is one you would relish.

The prospect of this role goes beyond the immediate job description. The successful candidate will influence and help shape the strategy of the Trust, have the opportunity to support our ITT provision, support leadership development and career paths as well as drive efficiencies across our schools.

For the right individual, this is an exceptional opportunity. The right candidate will have no better chance of working with wonderful students, super staff and shaping our Trust into the future.

Alex Fry  
Chair of Trustees

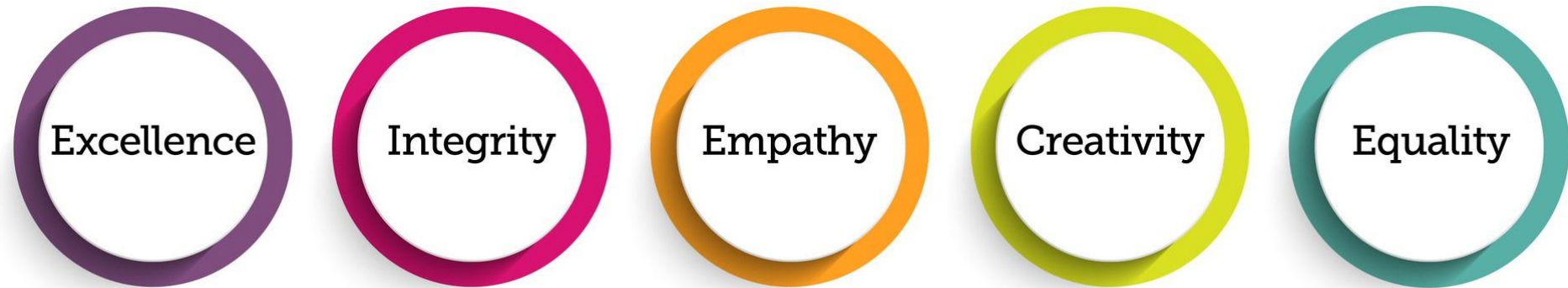
# Our Trust vision statement and values

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**Our vision:**  
Achievement through caring

**Mission statement:**  
As a Trust, it's our mission to empower everyone in our Trust and our communities to live and breathe our values and Achievement Through Caring, to reach their full potential.

## Values:



# Our investment in our people

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## Talent Spotting

Our Talent Pathway supports the professional development of staff, Trustees and Governors within the Trust. We identify leadership talent and leadership needs for future succession planning - ensuring relevant and practical leadership development opportunities for everyone.

## Talent Pathway

We promise to do our very best to support and develop you professionally. We provide a variety of professional development opportunities and encourages you to identify and pursue your training needs.



**We believe successful creative lifelong learners participate in a journey of self discovery. They know how to learn, acquire skills and feel safe to take risks with confidence and courage.**

# Interested?

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## Expectations of Trustees:

It is important that applicants fully understand what is expected of them in their role.

## This includes:

- ♦ Attendance at six full Board meetings per year and at termly sub-committee meetings. Currently these are on a Monday (some am some pm). We offer hybrid meetings, so you do not always have to attend in person.
- ♦ Commitment to maintain confidentiality and conduct in line with the Trust's vision and values;
- ♦ Participation in relevant training, approximately 6 hours a year.
- ♦ Participation in the Board's skills audit and external reviews of governance.

👤 [Check out our CEO video here.](#) 🧠

Interested? Please register your interest with our Trust Governance Officer via email and they will send you a registration form.

[belen.lopezbloor@mmat.co.uk](mailto:belen.lopezbloor@mmat.co.uk)

Closing date for applications is **5pm on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025.**

The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children in our care and expect all of our teams to share this commitment.



**Bits you need to know:**

The Marches Academy Trust values each person equally. We are committed to building a diverse team and embedding a welcoming, inclusive culture that encourages diversity and authenticity. We believe this will encourage creative ways of thinking - ensuring we collaborate more effectively and achieve better outcomes. We welcome applicants from all qualified candidates who share this commitment.

Everyone within our Academy Trust shares the objective to help keep children and young people safe by contributing to:

Providing a safe environment for children and young people to learn in an education setting and identifying those who are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, taking appropriate action with the aim of ensuring they are kept safe both at home and within the education setting and we expect all staff to share this commitment. Shortlisted applicants will be asked to declare any criminal convictions and will be subject to online checks. The successful applicant will be subject to an enhanced DBS check.

“This role is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and as such all applicants who are appointed to this post will be subject to an Enhanced Disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau before the appointment is confirmed. This check will include details of cautions, reprimands or warnings, as well as convictions and non-conviction information. Once provisionally appointed, the successful applicant may also be required to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure at predetermined intervals during the course of their employment whilst in this post.”







# Marches Academy Trust

**#togetherwegrow**



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