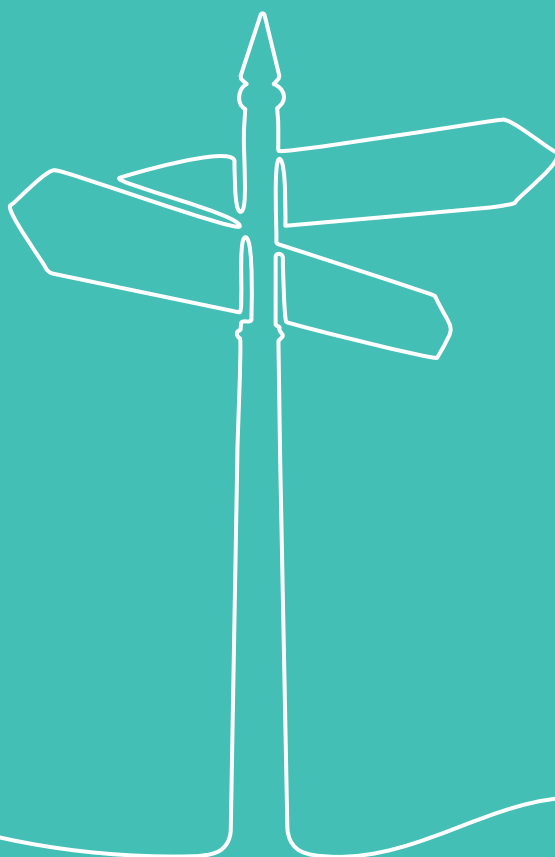




ACHIEVING MORE TOGETHER

Ormiston Academies Trust

Trustee recruitment information pack





Welcome

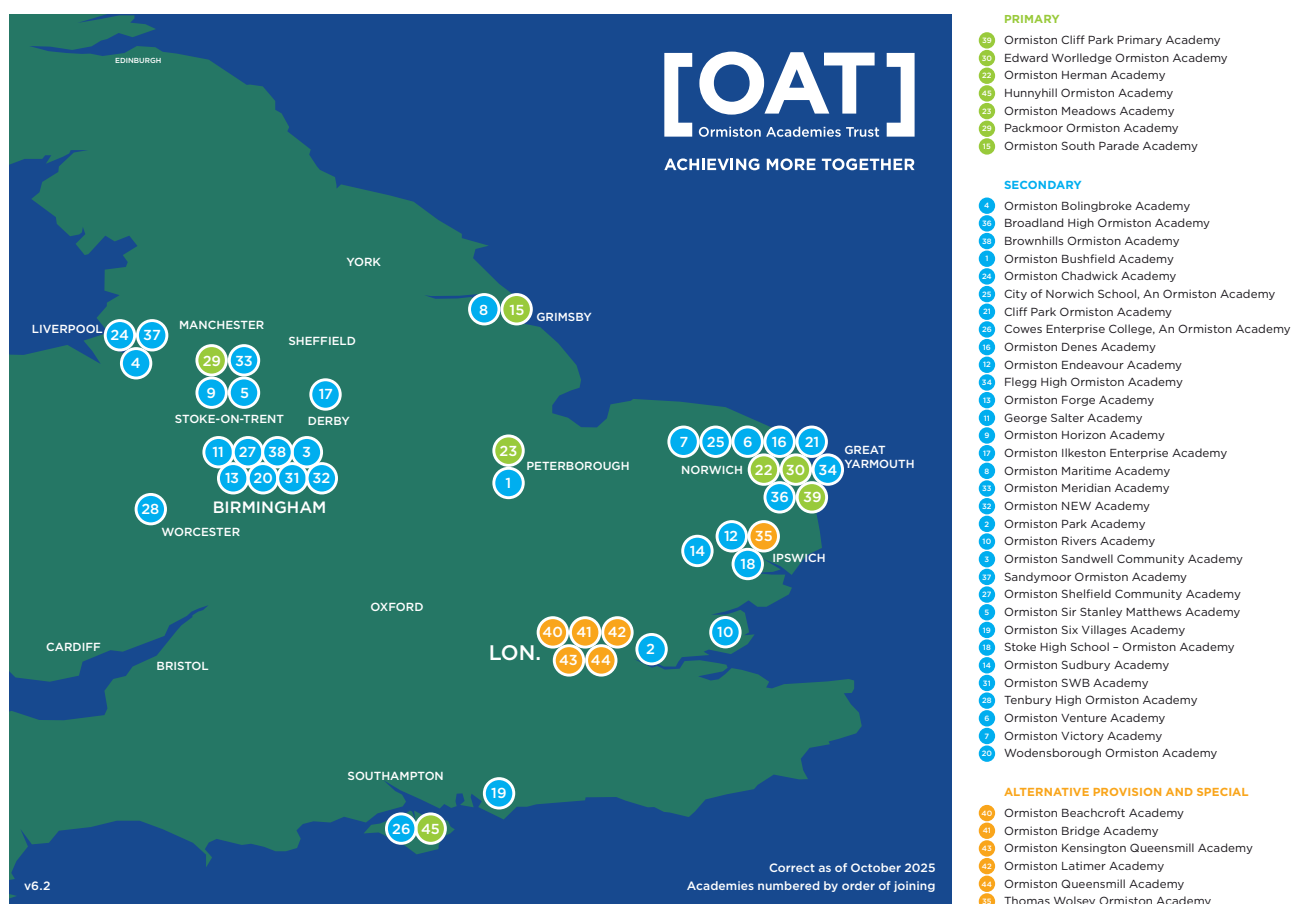
At Ormiston Academies Trust, we've been dedicated to transforming education since we were founded in 2009. We're proud to be one of the oldest, largest and most established school trusts in the country, supporting over 35,000 pupils in 45 schools with over 5,000 staff – currently 32 secondary schools, seven primary schools, three alternative provision schools and three special schools.

We are one of the few national trusts in the school system with our schools spread across England in diverse locations such as Lowestoft, the Isle of Wight, Grimsby, Runcorn, London and the West Midlands. This national reach reflects the diversity of the communities we serve and the learning opportunities we aim to provide for every child.

At the heart of everything we do is a simple yet powerful vision: a school system where every child can thrive. Our mission is to ensure every child has excellent learning opportunities, inside and outside of the classroom, which enrich their lives and afford them choice and opportunity in the future.

Our founding story and history provide us with three beliefs which guide our work.

1. Every child deserves the opportunity to thrive, regardless of their background
2. We work where the challenge is greatest, and we embrace this challenge
3. We have a broad and rich vision of education and are committed to providing the best learning experiences for every child both inside and outside the classroom





About the role

The Board of Trustees holds the CEO and National Leadership Group to account to successfully deliver against the Ormiston's mission and strategic plan. They ensure an excellent education and level of safeguarding for pupils, a clear strategic direction and the setting and monitoring of performance benchmarks.

Trustees also have overall responsibility for ensuring that the Trust complies with all legal and regulatory requirements, that resources are managed prudently, and that governance is of the highest possible standard. The role of a Trustee is wide-ranging. Trustees are responsible for: governance of the Trust; oversight of investment, finance and legislative responsibilities; supporting school improvement and personal development; and exercising the powers set out in the Articles of Association. Collectively, Trustees ensure the Trust delivers its charitable objectives for the public benefit and manages public funds appropriately.

Role specification

- Ensure strategic decisions reflect Ormiston's core belief that every child deserves the opportunity to thrive, regardless of background, and its commitment to working where the challenge is greatest
- Uphold and champion the Trust's vision, mission, and values (Ambition, Learning, Perseverance, Collaboration, Inclusion)
- Monitor delivery of the Trust's long-term strategic goals including:
 - Improving pupil outcomes
 - Enhancing enrichment and wider opportunities
 - Strengthening futures and post school pathways
 - Ensure safeguarding, wellbeing, and inclusion commitments are consistently met across all academies, ensuring pupils and staff feel safe and able to thrive
- Uphold the expectations set out in the Academy Trust Handbook, including ensuring financial propriety, effective risk management, and stewardship of public money
- Ensure compliance with statutory duties, funding agreements, and the Seven Principles of Public Life (Selflessness, Integrity, Objectivity, Accountability, Openness, Honesty, Leadership)
- Promote a culture of collaboration, inclusion, and continuous improvement across the Trust and its 45 schools
- Support the Trust's aim to be an invigorating place to work and an employer of choice
- Act as an ambassador for Ormiston Academies Trust and uphold the reputation of the organisation nationally and locally
- Ensure the Trust continues to operate as an outward facing organisation contributing to wider educational improvement

Person specification

Ormiston Academies Trust is looking for a Trustee with a background in finance, specifically, an experienced Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies (CCAB) qualified finance professional, with extensive professional services experience and/or CFO level experience within a similar sized or larger organisation.

The successful candidate does not need previous external non-executive experience. However, they will have operated at board level within an organisation of comparable size or larger and will bring a high level of integrity, strong interpersonal skills, and the confidence to provide constructive challenge and informed guidance to both the Trust Board and the National Leadership Group.

At Ormiston Academies Trust, we look for Trustees who demonstrate:

- A deep commitment to education and improving life chances, alongside a genuine alignment with our values, aspirations, and mission to ensure every pupil thrives
- A willingness to act as a supportive and critical friend to senior leaders – championing the Trust's work while offering rigorous oversight and strategic challenge
- The capacity to dedicate sufficient voluntary time, including attendance at Trust Board meetings and active participation in relevant committees

Board composition

A list of current Trustees can be found [here](#).

Diversity

Ormiston Academies Trust welcomes applications from everyone regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, belief or disability. All appointments will be made on merit, following a fair and transparent process.

In line with the Equality Act 2010, however, the organisation may employ positive action where candidates from underrepresented groups can demonstrate their ability to perform the role equally well.

Terms of appointment

There are five Board meetings per year which take place in working hours, predominantly in Central London. Trustees will normally join an additional board subcommittee; either the Education Committee, the Finance and Operations Committee or the Audit and Risk Committee. Committees meet three or four times per year either virtually or in Central London. Trustees should visit one or two schools per year. The time commitment should be roughly one day per month, and it is a four-year term. Trustees can also attend the annual two-day leadership conference in November but this is optional. The role is unremunerated but reasonable, pre-agreed expenses will be reimbursed.

The schools are located across the country, the Trust is open to candidates from any geography but Trustees should be UK-based.

Safeguarding

Ormiston Academies Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment. All successful appointments will be subject to suitability checks in accordance with KCSIE, including identity, Right to Work, qualifications, online searches, prohibition check, two references and enhanced DBS check including Children's Barred List.

The post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (ROA) 1974. Guidance on the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and the Exceptions Order 1975, which provides information about which convictions must be declared during job applications and related exceptions, can be found [here](#).



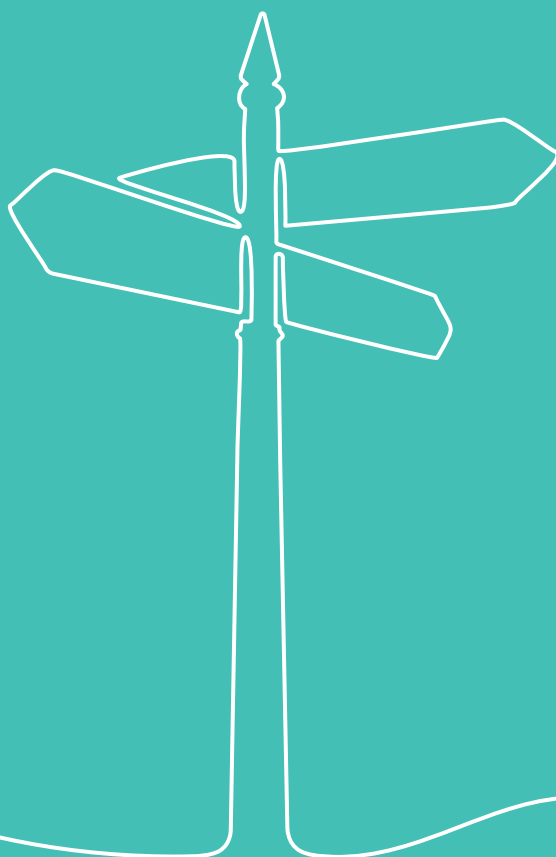
How to apply

Apply by sending a CV and cover letter to recruitment@ormistonacademies.co.uk.

After we have closed the application window we will shortlist candidates for interview with Trustees, members and senior leaders. This meeting will take place online.

For an informal chat about the role, contact Sunita Yardley-Patel, Head of Governance – sunita.yardley-patel@ormistonacademies.co.uk.





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