



think grow care



TRUSTEE RECRUITMENT INFORMATION

An Introduction for Prospective Trustees

Thank you for considering the opportunity to become a Trustee at Wyvern College. Wyvern is a high-achieving mixed comprehensive school with a strong reputation for academic excellence, pastoral care, and community engagement. The college is located in Fair Oak and is the catchment school for the communities of Bishopstoke, Horton Heath, Upham, and Durley – we also welcome many students from neighbouring areas.

About the College

Wyvern College is a stand-alone academy, having converted in 2012 following consultation with parents and staff. The school has a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 270, making it significantly larger than the average secondary school. It was rated Good by Ofsted in 2023 and continues to build on its strengths under the leadership of Headteacher Ben Rule, appointed in 2018.

Most of our students are articulate, courteous, and motivated to learn. They benefit from a well-rounded curriculum and a positive, respectful learning environment. Literacy and numeracy skills are strong, and behaviour standards are consistently high.

Curriculum and Pastoral Care

Wyvern offers a broad and balanced curriculum designed to meet the needs of all learners.

Pastoral care is a cornerstone of the Wyvern experience. Each year group is supported by a Pastoral Leader and Deputy Pastoral Leader, ensuring students receive support throughout their time at the college. We also have several specialist roles aimed at strengthening the support that we can offer to students and families. We strive to be inclusive and are actively evaluating initiatives to better support disadvantaged students.

Key Challenges

While Wyvern continues to thrive, we face several challenges:

- Addressing the attainment gap for disadvantaged students.
- Navigating the socio-economic pressures affecting education nationally.
- Promoting wellbeing for our community in an increasingly complex world.
- Managing financial sustainability while maintaining staffing levels and curriculum quality.

Despite these challenges, Wyvern has maintained a strong and committed staff team, which remains one of our greatest assets. Relationships with our parents is positive.

Community Enterprise

Wyvern Community Enterprises Ltd, our wholly owned subsidiary, operates a full-service nursery and health and fitness centre on-site. These services contribute considerably to the trust's turnover, with profits reinvested into the college to enhance student opportunities and resources. These facilities are highly valued by the local community and reflect Wyvern's role as a community hub of education and wellbeing.

Trust Board Structure

The governance of Wyvern College is overseen by the Wyvern College Academy Trust (WCAT). The Trust Board is regulated by the Articles of Association and guided by the Academy Handbook. Trustees work closely with the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team, maintaining a professional and supportive relationship.

The trustees have full board meetings (FTB) and there are two sub-committees. One of these (RAR) monitors personnel, finance, risk, audit requirements and contractual matters. The other (SCP) concerns itself with safeguarding, pastoral and curriculum matters.

At present, meetings are currently held on Monday evenings at 6pm. Any change to this would need to be discussed and agreed by the FTB. Trustees are expected to spend some time before each meeting reading through the documents that are prepared to support the items on the agenda.

In addition, there are activities that are planned to take part during the college day. Trustees are encouraged to come into college to monitor the progress initiatives from the college improvement plan, ensure that our safeguarding culture is robust and support praise or special events. Trustees may be required to hold panel meetings to consider disciplinary issues or investigate and deliberate on complaints brought against the trust.

The Board is made up of individuals with a range of skills and backgrounds, and we are seeking to appoint further Trustees to bring valuable insight and community perspective to our strategic decision-making. Trustees regularly review performance, set direction, and ensure the college remains focused on delivering the best possible education for all students.

The board is also supported by a governance professional/clerk who is there to support and guide all trustee and members. The clerk will help all new trustees through their introduction process.

As a Trustee, you would join a committed and enthusiastic governing body that plays a vital role in shaping the future of Wyvern College. Your insights are invaluable, and we look forward to the possibility of working together to ensure Wyvern continues to thrive.

Wyvern College Trustees: Qualification and Vetting Process

In the interest of safeguarding children, it will be necessary for your application to undergo vetting process. Criminal records may be disclosed because being a trustee is covered by the rehabilitation of offender's exemption act.

Disqualification regulations: please seek advice if you think you may be affected you can contact our clerk in confidence clerk@wyvern.hants.sch.uk.

A trustee must be 18 or over at the time of their election or appointment.

A registered pupil of the school cannot be a trustee.

a person is disqualified from holding off and continuing to hold office as a trustee if they

- are in contravention of the trustee's code of conduct.
- are bankrupt or subject to disqualification order or disqualification undertaking any under companies' legislation or an order concerning insolvency
- have been removed from the office of trustee for a charity on the grounds of misconduct or mismanagement or from being concerned in the management or control of any body

- are included in the list of those considered by the Secretary of State to be unsuitable to work with children
- are subject to the direction of the Secretary of State under section 142 of the Education Act 2002
- are subject to the direction of the Secretary of State under section 128 of the Education and Skills Act 2008
- are disqualified from working with children or from registration for childminding or providing daycare
- have received a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of not less than three months (without the option of a fine) in five years before becoming a trustee or since becoming a trustee
- have received a sentence of 2.5 years or more in the 20 years before becoming a trustee
- anytime having received a prison sentence of five years or more
- have been fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school premises during the five years prior to or since appointment as a trustee
- refuse to make an application for a criminal record certificate.

Further Reading for All Potential Trustees

We would strongly advise that you read through the noted pages of the following documents before application. They contain the DfE and college expectations for all trustees:

- Section 1 Roles and Responsibilities (pages 9-19) of the [Academy trust handbook 2024](#)
- Wyvern College Academy Trust – [Code of Conduct for Trustees.](#)
- Staff Code of Conduct – contained in pages 12-24 of the [Wyvern College Safeguarding Policy.](#)

