

# HOW MUCH TIME DOES IT TAKE AND WHAT WOULD MY COMMITMENTS BE?

**The workload is relatively modest, and for the main Board involves attending a minimum of four Board meetings a year plus a maximum of two development days.**

In addition, most members also become a member of a committee of their choice (either Audit, Resources, or Quality, Standards and Achievement) that meet for about three hours, four times a year. These meetings are typically held in the late afternoon and early evening. Briefing and support for new members is provided as required.

As with many public sector roles, Board membership is voluntary and unpaid (although expenses can be claimed).

The workload for the subsidiary company boards typically involves attending between three to six meetings a year, with additional opportunities to become involved in strategic planning projects.

## INTERESTED IN APPLYING?

**We anticipate that most prospective Board members will want to talk through the role and the process of appointment.**

The first point of contact should be Rachel Nicol who is the Director of Governance, Clerk to the Board and Company Secretary to the subsidiaries (see contact details below). You may also want to talk in confidence to the Chair of the Board whose contact details will be provided by Rachel on request.

You may also wish to look at The Group website ([www.bedfordcollegelgroup.co.uk](http://www.bedfordcollegelgroup.co.uk)).

Appointment is subject to Board approval following an interview with members of the Search & Governance Committee. You will be asked to complete an application form.

Inline with both our values and relevant governance codes, we are eager to welcome people from all backgrounds and identities to our Board, and we encourage applications from all suitably qualified and experienced individuals.

For more information please contact Rachel Nicol at [rnicol@bedford.ac.uk](mailto:rnicol@bedford.ac.uk) or on phone number 01234 291003.

## BECOMING A BOARD MEMBER

AT THE UK FE COLLEGE OF THE YEAR 2020



The Bedford College Group is recruiting motivated volunteers who are passionate about education to fill a number of governance roles.

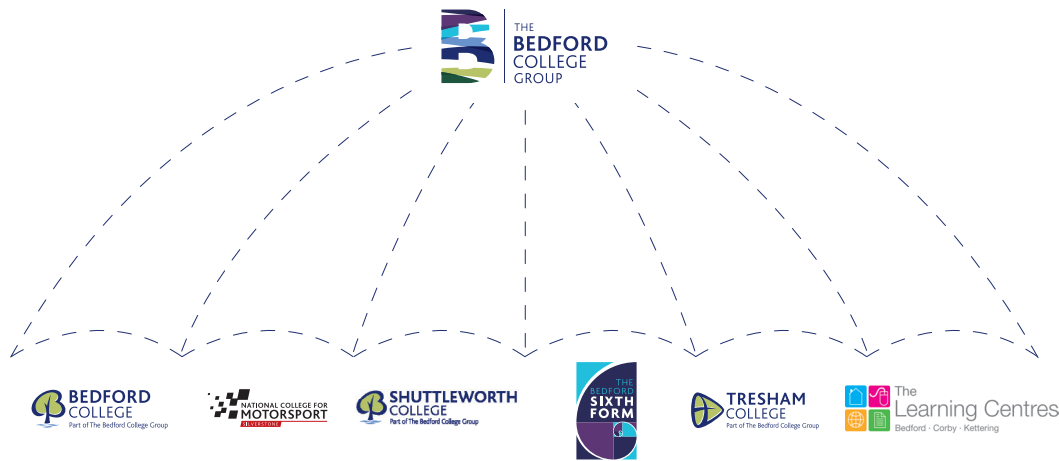
**IF YOU'RE INTERESTED READ ON.....**

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# THE BEDFORD COLLEGE GROUP

The Bedford College Group has an income of over £50 million pa, and is committed to providing high quality education and training.

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The Group operates from campuses in Bedford, Corby, Kempston, Kettering, Shuttleworth, Silverstone and Wellingborough. It has a strong reputation locally, and is one of the country's largest and most financially stable further education (FE) colleges. The Group is committed to supporting the economic prosperity of the region by strengthening educational attainment and developing technical and skills training, supporting individuals to reach their potential and meet employer needs.

The Board of The Group has a reputation in the FE sector for being knowledgeable and effective. However, inline with good practice there is a planned turnover of Board members. We are therefore recruiting a number of experienced volunteers to The Board and separately to the boards of three wholly owned subsidiary companies.

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## WHAT DOES IT INVOLVE?

The Bedford College Board has a role similar to most private and public sector boards.

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Board members are collectively responsible for setting the strategic direction of The Group, monitoring its achievement, overseeing financial sustainability and ensuring legal and regulatory compliance. The Board is not involved in operational issues which are delegated to senior managers.

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## WHAT EXPERIENCE DO I NEED AND WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

With many national changes to education and skills training (including apprenticeships) the work of the Board in the next few years will be stimulating and challenging.

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We hope - and expect - Board membership to be beneficial to those giving their time by aiding aspects of their own development and extending their knowledge and experience, whilst helping to shape education and training strategy in the main regional provider. It is also an opportunity to work with a group of like-minded volunteers to benefit students and the local community.

New members are invited to apply on the basis of the specific management skills and experience that they can offer the Board, this may be in a wide range of areas including Finance, HR, Digital Communications, Managing Change, Community Engagement, and so on. We do not expect potential members to have had direct experience in educational institutions, although they should obviously have a keen interest in education and training.

The Bedford College Group has three wholly owned subsidiaries which are run by independent boards of primarily volunteer non-executive directors;

- Bedford College Services Ltd oversees hospitality and commercial activities for The Group.
- Bedford College Professional Services Ltd provides personnel to support The Bedford College Group operations.
- Aston Recruitment & Training Ltd a company offering dedicated apprenticeship training in Northamptonshire.

Bedford College is also a member of Bedford College Academies Trust Ltd (BCAT) which oversees Wixams Academy and Wixams Tree Primary School (part of the major Wixams development project near Bedford).

BCAT recruits volunteers as non-executive directors and as members of local advisory bodies at individual schools.