GOVERNOR ROLE

PURPOSE
• To act as an independent member of the governing body, working collectively to bring skills, experience and external insight • To act in the best interests of TBCG and its learners, supporting educational excellence, inclusion and long-term sustainability • To provide strategic oversight, assurance, constructive challenge and collective stewardship, not operational management

ROLE
Strategic oversight and decision making • Contribute to setting and approving the strategic direction, mission and educational character of TBCG • Scrutinise and challenge proposals so that decisions are evidence-based, robust, aligned with strategy and support the sustainability of TBCG • Test major proposals for student value, strategic alignment, affordability, organisational capacity, risk and long-term impact **Assurance and accountability** • Hold the CEO and senior leadership collectively to account for delivery of agreed strategic aims, learner outcomes and organisational performance • Triangulate assurance using Executive data and reporting, committee scrutiny and relevant lived-experience evidence from students, staff, employers, visits and link activity • Use Board and committee time effectively, recognising where detailed scrutiny has already taken place and avoiding unnecessary duplication or operational discussion **Financial stewardship, risk and compliance** • Ensure proper oversight of public funds, value for money, financial health and solvency, risk management and internal controls • Ensure TBCG operates legally, meets its obligations as an exempt charity and acts in line with its governing documents and applicable regulatory requirements **Governance process and responsibility** • Work collectively and in line with agreed schemes of delegation • Engage in induction, training, development and annual review conversations, reflecting on personal contribution to Board effectiveness • Prepare thoroughly for meetings, critically assess papers in advance and actively contribute to discussion, assurance, challenge and decision-making • Maintain at least 80% attendance, subject to exceptional circumstances, and participate in the wider life of the Board including strategy and creative sessions • Respect confidentiality, collective decision-making and support agreed Board decisions once reached **Civic leadership and ambassadorship**

- Understand the local and regional context, skills needs and TBCG's role as an anchor institution
- Where appropriate, use networks and external relationships to strengthen TBCG's civic, employer and community impact while managing conflicts of interest appropriately

Behaviours and attitudes

- Behave in accordance with and demonstrate the seven Nolan Principles: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership
- Listen, question and challenge constructively, remaining willing to change your view when presented with better evidence
- Contribute to a culture of trust, inclusion, curiosity and honest debate, valuing student, staff and stakeholder perspectives
- Support effective relationships between Governors, Senior Leaders and Stakeholders, contributing without dominating and respecting the expertise of others

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Person Specification for Board Member

CATEGORY	ESSENTIAL CRITERIA
Skills	• Strong verbal and written communication skills • Ability to analyse and interpret complex information and identify the material issue • Strategic thinking and sound judgement, including an understanding of the distinction between governance and operational management • Ability to make evidence-based decisions and understand collective authority, accountability and delegated responsibility • Sufficient digital skills to use Microsoft 365, Teams, Outlook and the Board portal effectively
Attributes	• An understanding of, and commitment to, TBCG's core purpose, strategic aims and values • Curiosity and confidence to ask difficult questions constructively and hold senior leaders to account • Ability to listen to, respect and integrate different perspectives, including student, staff, employer and community voice • Ability to contribute proportionately to discussion without dominating and to change your view when presented with better evidence • Ability to provide a balanced and objective view and challenge the views of others appropriately • Ability and commitment to deal with information and data confidentially • Ability to build professional relationships and influence appropriately while maintaining clear governance boundaries • Ability to act as an ambassador for TBCG and use external networks appropriately without creating conflicts of interest • Commitment to collective responsibility and to supporting Board decisions once reached • Integrity, high ethical standards and commitment to the seven Nolan Principles • Commitment to inclusion, educational excellence and acting in the best interests of learners
Additional Requirements	• Ability to travel to campus locations for meetings, events and governor activity as required • Willingness to commit the time required to prepare for and attend Board, committee, development, strategy and other agreed governor activities • Commitment to maintaining at least 80% attendance, subject to exceptional circumstances • Commitment to induction, continuing development and an annual review conversation with the Chair • A clear understanding of appropriate professional boundaries and relationships with children and young people