

ESKDALE COMMUNITY TRUST FOR EDUCATION - TRUSTEE ROLE DESCRIPTION

The Eskdale Community Trust for Education is searching for 3 new trustees to join the Board, who share our passion for Steiner Waldorf teaching principles.

We are looking to diversify the boards skillset and develop its leadership pipeline. The Board is particularly interested in looking for Trustee's who have expertise in the following skillsets:

- HR
- Legal Expertise, particularly charity law
- Education (a focus in non-mainstream schooling desirable)

The board is also very interested in those who may want to develop their skills into a long-term leadership position within the Board.

The trustee will help support our work and contribute to achieving our goals by offering their skills and expertise to the Board and by giving an appropriate amount of time, depending on their other commitments, to the Board and its purposes.

The role of these new board members is to:

- improve and reimagine the services we offer locally
- recruit more children to the school
- Steer the school through to building more educational opportunities (formal & informal)
- Run the Trust more efficiently

The Organisation:

- The Eskdale Community Trust for Education is an incorporated charity and company limited by guarantee, whose mission is to provide educational opportunities in the Eskdale area of North Yorkshire.
- Its main activity is to run Moorland Waldorf School, an independent primary school run on Steiner Waldorf principles.
- Steiner Waldorf Education offers an unhurried and creative learning environment where children can find the joy in learning and experience the richness of childhood rather than early specialisation or academic focus:
 - Takes account of the needs of the whole child – academic, physical, emotional and spiritual;
 - Is based on an understanding of the relevance of the different phases of child development;
 - Develops a love of learning and an enthusiasm for school;
 - Sees artistic activity and the development of the imagination as integral to learning;
- ECTE currently offers classes to Kindergarten children aged 2-6 and is looking to redevelop its class offerings to older children over the next few years.

Qualities of the Trustee:

- Ability to work as part of a team and willingness to take collective responsibility for the governance of our charity and contribute to a new vision for the Trust.
- Ability to work at a strategic level whilst understanding the detail and complexities of delivery, and the influencing skills needed to bring staff and stakeholders along with plans.
- Good communicator.
- Ability to analyse risks and opportunities, and take a balanced approach to both.
- Extensive networks, and a willingness to draw on contacts as appropriate.
- Some understanding of primary and adult education, in particular (but this is not essential) in a Steiner Waldorf context
- Commitment to Moorland Waldorf School and the Eskdale Community Trust for Education Responsibilities
- To attend regular Board meetings
- To be responsible for the leadership and management of Moorland Waldorf School, working with the College of Teachers.
- To undertake certain tasks (to be agreed in discussion with the Board) in relation to the smooth running of the charity and its activities
- To deliver on commitments in a timely fashion and keep to agreed deadlines
- To take responsibility for certain areas of the Trust's work – to be discussed and agreed with the other Board members.
- All members are expected to join the Eskdale Community Trust for Education.

Time commitment and location

- The Board meets formally once per month, for a 2-hour meeting.
- You will also be required to be a member of at least one working group/committee which meet once per month (or as needed)
- There is an annual general meeting in May each year
- Board meetings are virtual and we envisage this will continue to be the case in order to keep our board diverse, although occasional attendance at the school and visiting from time to time would be desirable.

How to Apply:

If interested please send an expression of interest and a CV to secretary@ecte.org.uk.