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**About the opportunity**

South Thames Colleges Group (STCG) is one of London’s largest providers of post-16 education and training and is an ongoing and significant contributor to its local communities. We aim to put students’ success at the heart of everything we do. STCG is keen to hear from people who are interested in becoming a governor and can contribute to the work of the Board. We are looking for hard-working and collaborative people to join our team and through their challenge and scrutiny help our students to progress and achieve.

STCG was created by a merger in 2017 and operates from four main College campuses located at Carshalton, Kingston, Merton and Wandsworth spread across four London Boroughs STCG has established itself as one of the top Colleges in London having made impressive progress since its creation, and we are keen to continue making this progress.

The Corporation (Governing Body) is made up of individuals who are committed to education and training and volunteer their time and act in the best interests of the College and its learners. The role of a college governor is unremunerated (apart from reimbursement of expenses) but is extremely rewarding in terms of personal satisfaction. It provides the opportunity to help shape the strategic direction of STCG whilst ensuring that its educational provision meets the needs of the students and the wider community.

 The Corporation operates as a non-executive Board and has specific responsibilities for overseeing the strategic direction of the College, its performance and financial health. Governors help to drive up the performance of the College by attending regular meetings and participating in active scrutiny and questioning.

Governor appointments are based on skills – such as audit, finance, legal, or curriculum - and an ability to contribute at strategic level. The Corporation has vacancies for two suitably-qualified Governors for the 2019-20 academic year. One vacancy is for a qualified accountant or someone with significant financial experience.

**Required Skills**

Governors can bring a variety of skills, knowledge or experience from all walks of life. Governors should have an enthusiasm to contribute time and energy to help STCG to grow and continue with its commitment to success and should be committed to training and education. The role requires good interpersonal skills; the ability to work as a member of a team and to devote the necessary time commitment. Governors should be curious with an enquiring mind; able to challenge the status quo to improve things; collaborative to build strong relationships; critical to improve their own work and that of the board; and creative in problem solving and being innovative.

STCG is currently recruiting to fill two vacancies- one for a qualified accountant or someone with significant financial experience. For the other vacancy professional qualifications such as audit, law, surveying, estate management, HR, marketing, management skills or an education background would all be very useful but are not essential.

All governors must be prepared to adopt the principles of public life- selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership. Previous experience as a Governor, Trustee or Non-Executive Director would be helpful but not essential as induction and training support is available for all Governors.

South Thames Colleges Group is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults. All governors are therefore required to undertake an enhanced DBS check.

South Thames Colleges Group seeks to have a diverse Board and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.

**Working Arrangements**

Working in a team alongside other Governors to set strategic direction and ensure the effective delivery of STCG’s Strategic Plan.

The time commitment will be approximately 10 days a year for reading meeting papers and attending Corporation and Committee Meetings, away days and training and networking events.

Description

Governors at STCG play a key role in contributing to the strategy and direction of our successful College Group with a strong sense of mission.

For more information please contact Helen Meredith, Head of Governance, by e-mail to Helen.Meredith@stcg.ac.uk