

# Annual Report

## Search & Governance Committee

### October 2022

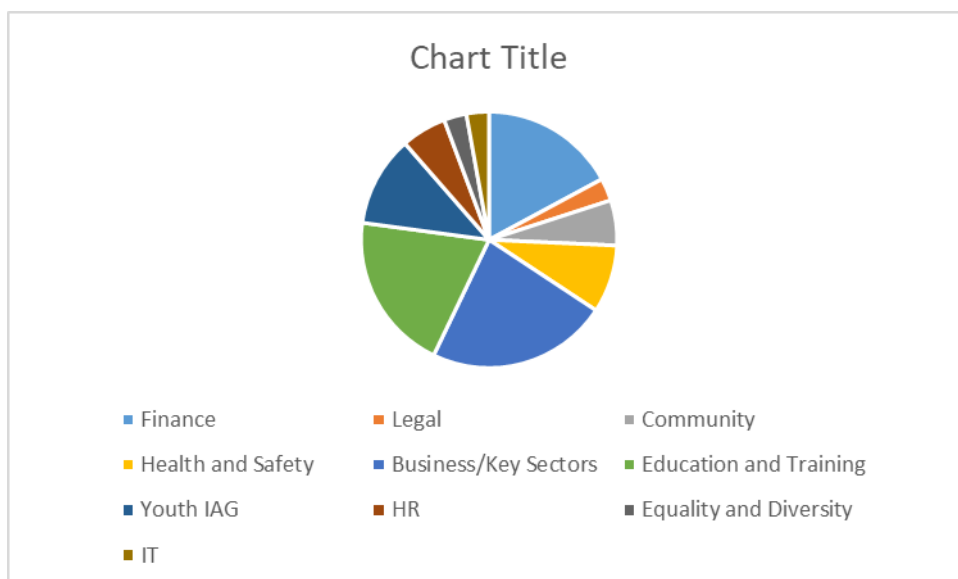
#### Introduction

The yearly review of Board membership is an expectation of best practice in governance and demonstrates that the make-up of the Board is given regular and serious consideration.

#### Overview of Membership

The composition of the Board is 18, with 13 independent governors; the Principal; two staff and two student governors. In 2021-22, we welcomed two new student governors to the Board, one new staff governor and one new independent member. We had two resignations towards the end of the year and have started 2022-23 with one new independent member and one new staff member, demonstrating that Board membership is regularly refreshed. You can meet the Governors [here](#).

There is a sound skills base to the Board, encompassing knowledge and expertise considered necessary for good governance. Some governors bring expertise from more than one area.



Staff governor positions bring in-house teaching experience and IT expertise. For the majority of the year gender balance has sat at 44% female to 56% male. There has been an improvement since 2018, when female membership sat at 30%, nevertheless a drop over the previous year.

It should be noted that the two District Council areas that the College serves are in the 97 percentile for rates of White British Residents (Census 2021), which impacts on the potential to attract ethnic minority representation to the Board.

## **Attendance**

Individual attendance figures are published in the annual financial statements. In 2020-21, overall attendance reached 84.3%, above target of 80%, with Board attendance sitting at 85.6%.

## **Annual Questionnaire and Review**

In an annual, anonymous questionnaire, no issues of concern arose. The Board felt that the Chair and the Clerk were effective and relationships with the Executive were good.

Almost all Governors felt that they had been able to make the contribution they wanted, that there were no dominant parties and there was the opportunity for good debate and discussion

## **Training**

All Governors participate in annual Safeguarding and Prevent training, and most governors attend or carry out other training and are being encouraged to complete the Education and Training Foundation's online training. In 2021-22, the Audit Committee received risk training and some governors regularly attend online governor conferences

## **Standing Orders**

These are refreshed on an annual basis and set out the delegations to working groups, committees and the Principal, and the Code of Conduct by which the Board agrees to abide. The standing orders are published on the website [here](#).