

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE BCAT**

**The Challenge**

BCAT operates two schools in Bedford both of which are oversubscribed and growing.

The Trust wishes to serve a wider community that matches the area served by its sponsor, The Bedford College Group.

Because of its small size, and the different nature of each academy (a secondary and a primary), the Trust has no senior Executive capacity to develop and increase the size of the Trust and the number of schools it runs.

As a result we wish to appoint a Chief Executive to identify new opportunities for growth and to expand the Trust in line with our strategic aims. We are also looking to expand the existing schools to assist the local authority in meeting the needs of a fast-growing local population. We are looking to significantly increase the size of both academies and introduce sustainable sixth form provision as soon as we can.

**You**

We are looking for someone who will have strong credibility with the DfE and Regional Schools Commissioner, with a track record of developing a multi-academy Trust.

The Chief Executive will also act as the Accounting Officer for the Trust. This role is currently performed by the Group Executive Director of Finance of The Bedford College Group. The Chief Executive will manage a small team that delivers support services to the Trust and its academies. This includes financial management, marketing and website management, information technology and HR services. The Trust benefits from its sponsorship arrangement with The Bedford College Group by also being able to access high levels of expertise in these areas, so the Chief Executive will develop good links with senior college leaders.

We expect the shape of these arrangements may need to change as the Trust grows larger and will look to the Chief Executive to guide the Board accordingly.

**The academies**

Our two academies were created as new schools to serve the new Wixams community in Bedford. Neither has yet been subject to a full Ofsted inspection though monitoring and other visits suggest both schools are performing very strongly, with very good leadership teams. The Board will look to the Chief Executive to oversee the performance of the academies but not manage either directly. Clearly if the Trust expands significantly we will wish to keep the overall management arrangements under review.