



GIPPSLAND GRAMMAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ABOUT GIPPSLAND GRAMMAR

Gippsland Grammar is Gippsland's oldest independent school and celebrates its Centenary in 2024.

Located in the heart of Gippsland, the School has three campuses including the St Anne's Campus and the Garnsey Campus, both at Sale, and the Bairnsdale Campus in East Gippsland. Enrolments at St Anne's and Bairnsdale begin at the Early Learning Centres (ELC) with 3s and 4s kindergarten while Garnsey caters for students from Years 7-12. Gippsland Grammar is also the only boarding school east of Melbourne's suburban fringe and is a home-away-from-home for students from East Gippsland, South Gippsland, Victoria's High Country and the Latrobe Valley.

The student body of about 1100 students is mostly from East, South and Central Gippsland but also has attracted international students who see the school as a great opportunity to experience regional living while being provided with a high-quality academic-focussed education. Gippsland Grammar has a strong history of supporting all students to optimise their career goals, whether this be by the completion of VCE or VET. This success continued not only throughout the pandemic but post-pandemic and as the school marks the completion of its first 100 years, it is now looking to build on its solid foundation and academic record to ensure it is set up for success in the next 100 years.

To that end, the Chair of the Board is looking to attract a new Board member whose professional and life experience will enable them to challenge and enhance the current Board. The education sector and regional Victoria are currently facing both great challenges and exciting opportunities, which the Gippsland Grammar Board is keen to address with this successful appointment.

STRUCTURE AND ROLE OF THE BOARD

Gippsland Grammar's Board comprises up to 10, and no less than eight, members who are appointed for terms of no more than three years but are eligible to serve multiple terms. The Board's office bearers include a Chair and Deputy Chair. The Board also has a number of sub-committees, as required.

All Gippsland Grammar Board Directors will help drive the development, culture and performance of this leading regional educational institution and assist in its relationships with a wide range of stakeholders.

This is a great opportunity to contribute to the strategic direction of an historically successful educational institution which is looking to ensure its relevance in the future.

THE GIPPSLAND GRAMMAR BOARD EXPERIENCE

All Gippsland Grammar Board Director roles are volunteer, however relevant expenses will be reimbursed. These could include travel expense for a candidate who does not live close to the School but chooses to attend Board meetings in person.

The Board has operated successfully via video conference both prior to and post the pandemic so travel is not a requirement for all meetings, however Board member presence is desirable for particular occasions. All Board members are expected to participate in at least one Board sub-committee. Board meetings and subcommittee meetings take place generally outside of normal working hours.

You will also have the opportunity to participate in the annual strategic planning process and, in this way, contribute to the impact Gippsland Grammar has on regional Victoria.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed against the school's skills matrix, including the applicant's ability to apply their skills, backed by their experience.

All Board members are expected to possess the ability to:

- Have capacity for independent and strategic thinking.
- Have excellent teamwork skills, be capable of building working relationships with fellow Directors and sub-committee members, including those with different backgrounds and ways of thinking.
- Fully participate in the governance process, including an understanding of the policy role of a Board.
- Attend regular Board meetings and important related meetings, with adequate preparation including reviews and comments on minutes and reports.
- Provide guidance and feedback to the School Leadership, where appropriate.
- Have or be prepared to obtain appropriate working with Children approvals

While formal qualifications from a body such as the Australian Institute of Company Directors is desirable, it is not essential. Prior experience in governance practice as Board member or as a senior executive would be viewed as an advantage.

Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

Creating and maintaining a student safe culture requires input from the entire School community. Our aim is to provide a safe environment that aligns with the core values of academic care at Gippsland Grammar; compassion, leadership, excellence, respect and responsibility.

To achieve this, we promote a model of education where students are understood not just as learners, but as an integral part of the School and broader community. As such, we value wellbeing and resilience, celebrate diversity, and embrace a growth mindset, through classroom experiences, and in our approach to academic care, practices policies and procedures.

The commitments, values and principles which guide the School are further outlined in the School's Student Protection and Safety Policy (a copy of which is available on the School's website).

If applying for a position, please note that Gippsland Grammar is a child safe environment. Every child has a right to be safe, and at the School, we take a zero-tolerance approach to any behaviours that jeopardise student safety (including child abuse and reportable conduct).

As such, preferred applicants will be subject to child protection screening, background and reference checks, verification of identity checks and must adhere to the School's child safe practices, as outlined in the Student Protection Program policies on the School's website

.

This Position Description is a guide only and is not intended to be an exhaustive or exclusive list of duties for this position.