

# gateways

because there's more  
than one way to be educated



## Recruitment pack Education Trustee



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...a place of healing where every student is respected, recognised and accepted, so they have an equal opportunity to become who they deserve to be.

# About Gateways

Gateways is an alternative education provider that exists to support the countless young people today, between the ages of 14-25, who are or have struggled to remain in mainstream education due to social, emotional, mental health challenges.

We believe that every young person should have the same opportunity to progress and thrive, regardless of the challenges they face. Gateways delivers a broad curriculum, academic and vocational, that caters for the interests, abilities and specific needs of each young person that attends. We aim to prepare them for a life beyond education.



1.7m

young people persistently missed school in 2024... an alarming

800,000

increase since pre-pandemic

## What has been achieved over the last year

The Gateways programme launched in 2014 and is the only provider of its kind in the UK Jewish community, enhancing the lives of over 700 vulnerable, young people to date.

125 admission enquiries

were received last year from distressed parents, carers and refereeing organisations.



23 partnerships with referring organisations, schools, local authorities and other charities too.

76 students

all of whom had previously been persistently absent from school, have attended weekly lessons in our new purpose built home in Hendon.



636 therapy hours were delivered in, including art therapy, set in purposefully designed rooms



12 subjects

on offer, including Maths, English, Science, Life Skills, Hair and Beauty, Cooking, Gym Instruction, Art and IT.



91% average attendance rate compared to a prior mainstream schools average of 34%



15 students graduated from Gateways in July 2024, starting careers, apprenticeships and moving onto further education.

100% pass-rate seen in August 2024 for all vocational qualifications taken

91% pass-rate seen in August 2024 for GCSEs and Functional Skill Certificates





# A message from Laurence Field

## Founder & CEO

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When I founded Gateways in 2014, I never anticipated the profound impact it would have on so many lives. Over the years, I have been continually inspired by the resilience and determination of our students as they overcome challenges to receive the education they truly deserve.

It is this powerful impact that drives me to expand Gateways further. I am more committed than ever to ensuring that we can reach and support anyone in need, helping them lead fulfilling and productive lives. With the increasing demand for our services, we are keen to continue to grow and develop our service to help even more young people.

For Gateways to continue to thrive and flourish, we need the support of a dedicated and passionate team. That's why we are seeking someone special for the role of Education Trustee. Your contribution will be pivotal in shaping the future of Gateways,

Thank you for considering making an application for the role of Education Trustee.

Laurence

Laurence

CEO, Gateways



# Education Trustee

## Job description



### About Gateways

Gateways is an alternative education provider dedicated to supporting young people aged 14-25 who have struggled to remain in mainstream education. Many of our students face significant challenges, including anxiety, depression, eating disorders, trauma, and serious medical conditions. We believe that every young person deserves the opportunity to progress and thrive, regardless of the barriers they face.

Our broad curriculum, encompassing both academic and vocational pathways, is tailored to meet the interests, abilities, and specific needs of each student. At Gateways, we are committed to preparing young people for life beyond education, equipping them with the skills and confidence to succeed.

### About this role

As Gateways' Education Trustee, you will play a key role in helping to shape the future of the organisation, while participating with other board members, in making strategic decisions for the charity as a whole.

In this board role, you will contribute your expertise, insights, and passion for education to help guide our strategic direction, oversee governance, and support the leadership team.

This position is voluntary and an opportunity to make a meaningful impact, while supporting Gateways' mission to provide a high-quality educational experience.

We are seeking individuals with experience in education, governance, leadership, or related fields, who are committed to our mission and values. ensuring Gateways' students receive the very best possible education and support.

As an Education Trustee, you will participate with the other trustees in making strategic decisions for the charity as a whole. This voluntary position offers an opportunity to make a significant impact in shaping the future of Gateways' educational provision, ensuring our students receive the best possible education and support.

## Responsibilities

- Provide governance oversight for Gateways' education provision.
- Liaise regularly with the Headteacher, Head of Teaching and Learning, and SENCO to support the development of the education strategy.
- Ensure that all education-related policies and protocols are up to date and aligned with regulatory requirements.
- Support the exams officer in understanding and complying with exam board policies, JCQ regulations, and alternative accreditation pathways.
- Help establish sub-committees as needed to enhance educational provision.
- Work closely with the SENCO to support Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Social, Emotional, and Mental Health (SEMH) students, ensuring best practices in SEND provision.
- Support Gateways staff in providing outstanding careers education, ensuring students have access to meaningful career pathways and opportunities.
- Collaborate with the CEO, Headteacher, and key trustees to develop a long-term education strategy.

## Attributes & skills

- Experience in leadership within alternative education provision, bringing expertise to the trustee board.
- Knowledge of SEN and SEMH and, if possible, the ability to provide guidance to the SENCO.
- Experience working with local authorities to strengthen relationships, particularly in relation to EHCPs.
- Understanding of exam boards, JCQ regulations, and alternative qualifications.
- Strong collaborative, communicative, and governance skills, with the ability to maintain effective review processes.
- A commitment to training and professional development, both personally and in supporting others.
- Passion for supporting young people facing educational barriers, ensuring they receive the education they deserve.
- A desire to help develop a best-in-class education provision for Jewish students, ensuring it meets their diverse and growing needs.

## Time commitment

- Attendance at trustee meetings four times a year.
- Participation in an annual strategy day with the trustee team and senior leadership team.
- Involvement in annual staff integration training days.
- Opportunity to attend events throughout the year.
- Engage in regular and occasional meetings with the Headteacher and senior staff to provide input on educational matters, typically amounting to a few hours per week.

## Tenure

- All trustee positions are for a three-year term, with the option for renewal for a second term.

## How to apply

For further information about this role, please contact Laurence Field at [laurence@gateways.org.uk](mailto:laurence@gateways.org.uk)

Gateways is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the role, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

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**CEO & Founder:** Laurence Field **Head Teacher:** Sasha Sharpe

**Trustees:** Ruth Green (Chair), Julia Alberga, Nicki Cohen, Dr. Andrew Hope, Mark Hurst, Sam Sanders, Aviva Steinberg

**Honorary President:** Prof. David S Latchman CBE