



**Rt Hon Damian Hinds MP**  
Secretary of State for Education



**Stephen Martin**  
Director General, Institute of Directors

9 May 2018

Dear IoD Member

There are many ways that you, and your fellow business leaders, make a positive contribution to your communities but few are as far reaching in their impact as being a governor or trustee at a school or college.

We have a shared interest in shaping children's futures for the better - improving their chances in life, nurturing their talents and expanding their career opportunities. Making sure children and young people across our country receive an excellent education is vital to achieving this and the skills and expertise you and your employees bring is invaluable.

We would therefore like to ask you to encourage your staff to sign up as a governor or trustee and help us offer high quality leadership and advice to more schools and colleges through the governance system.

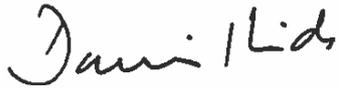
The direct links these pro-bono roles create between businesses and schools and colleges are unmatched. What's more, encouraging staff to volunteer as governors can bring you enormous benefits. These roles provide an unparalleled opportunity to shape the leaders of today and tomorrow – supporting your current staff to develop their skills in a new environment and helping you improve the prospects for those coming up behind them.

Few other volunteer roles are likely to be as challenging and rewarding, and this can have a positive impact on staff confidence and commitment to their chosen career, and your business.

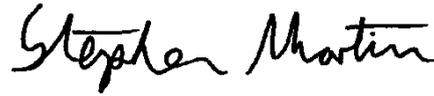
You can hear from current business leaders in [this new video](#) and find out more about what being a governor involves on the [Institute of Directors website](#). In September the Institute of Directors will also publish a guide to help business leaders get the most out of these roles.

If you think you or your employees have what it takes we'd like to encourage you to speak to [Inspiring Governance](#) or [Academy Ambassadors](#) to register your interest in becoming a governor or trustee at a school or college.

Yours sincerely,



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