

Non-Executive Directors - Atwea College Board

Three volunteer Board positions | Hunter and surrounding communities | Purpose-led education and training organisation

The Board of Directors of Atwea College invites expressions of interest from suitably qualified individuals to join the Board as a Non-Executive Director in the lead up to the Annual General Meeting. This opportunity is open to candidates who are committed to supporting Atwea College's mission and governance. If you are interested in playing a pivotal role in the organisation's strategic direction, please submit your expression of interest for consideration.

Position Description - Non-Executive Director

This is a volunteer position with an expected commitment of approximately six Board meetings per year, and committee or working group involvement. Through their commitment, Atwea College Board Directors help drive positive outcomes for students and the broader communities served.

Atwea College Board members are committed to advancing excellence in education, promoting lifelong learning, and supporting meaningful community development. We believe that strong, diverse, and dedicated leadership is essential to achieving our mission and shaping a future that benefits all.

Our Board comprises dynamic individuals from varied backgrounds, each bringing unique skills, experiences, and perspectives. United by a shared passion for education and community empowerment, Board members work collaboratively to support Atwea's strategic direction and uphold its values.

Members are expected to actively engage with and contribute to the broader community, leveraging existing networks and cultivating new connections across industries and sectors – with a strong emphasis on inclusion and meaningful engagement.

In partnership with the Chair, Board members play a critical role in supporting investment in high-quality training and fostering student achievement.

They are expected to:

- Participate actively in Board and committee meetings
- Provide strategic oversight and input into governance processes
- Support and promote community engagement initiatives
- Champion gender equality, inclusivity, and equitable opportunities
- Uphold the highest standards of integrity, transparency, respect, and accountability

Women, First Nations Australians, People from Diverse Backgrounds, and People with Disabilities are encouraged to apply.

About Atwea College

Atwea College is a long-established not-for-profit education provider with more than 100 years of history, delivering accessible senior secondary education across New South Wales. Atwea College is a school proprietor, operating in a regulated education environment with governance responsibilities for education quality, student wellbeing, safeguarding and compliance. As an ACNC registered charity, Atwea supports learners through community based, fee for service and government funded programs, with a strong focus on quality, equity and social impact.

Please visit Atwea College website for further information: <https://atwea.edu.au/>

Selection Criteria

The following selection criteria apply to all candidates seeking appointment to the Atwea College Board. Applicants are encouraged to demonstrate how they meet the essential governance criteria and to outline any desirable specialist skills they bring in one or more of the identified priority capability areas.

Essential

1. Governance and leadership

A successful applicant will have demonstrated experience at board level, which may include previous Chair experience or an aspiration to develop into Chair-level contribution, regularly engaging in board processes, with a strong understanding of contemporary governance principles, director responsibilities and the distinction between governance and management.

2. Strategic thinking and decision-making

A successful applicant will most likely have experience contributing to strategic discussions and long-term decision making, including the ability to consider complex tradeoffs, organisational sustainability and reputational impacts while maintaining a whole of organisation perspective.

3. Representational skills

A successful applicant can demonstrate they understand the complexities in representing a not-for-profit education organisation with strong local community focus. They will be able to demonstrate a track record of collaborating with integrity, transparency, respect and accountability.

4. Purpose Alignment

A successful applicant is aligned with Atwea College mission and values as a not-for-profit, education and purpose driven organisation.

Desirable – Targeted (Priority specialist skills)

Applicants may demonstrate expertise in one or more of the following priority areas. Not all candidates are expected to meet all desirable criteria.

Education, Schools Governance

Experience in education, schools, training or student-centred service environments, with the ability to provide Board-level oversight of education quality, student wellbeing, safeguarding, child safety, inclusion and regulatory obligations. Candidates may bring experience from school governance, vocational education, alternative education, student support, safeguarding, quality assurance or education-sector leadership.

Legal, Risk and Regulatory Governance

Experience in legal, risk, compliance or regulatory governance, with the ability to support Board oversight of statutory obligations, regulated operations, policy frameworks, enterprise risk, assurance, conflicts, complaints, investigations and governance controls. Candidates may bring experience in legal practice, regulatory compliance, risk management, governance, internal audit, probity, not-for-profit regulation, education regulation or complex organisational accountability frameworks.

Atwea College values diversity of experience, background and perspective and encourages applications from individuals who will contribute to a balanced and effective Board.

How to Apply

Applications are to be submitted to lauren.barnett@assuregovernance.com.au with the subject line: Expression of Interest – Atwea College Non-Executive Director.

Please email by COB Monday, 5 October 2026 by submitting:

- a concise cover letter describing how you meet the essential criteria, highlighting your relevant skills, experience, and suitability for the position; and
- a current resume including relevant qualifications, experience and at least two referees.

For a confidential discussion, please contact Lauren Barnett, Assure Corporate Governance on 0402 750 192.

Assure Corporate Governance has been exclusively engaged to facilitate the recruitment process for this appointment on behalf of Atwea College.