

# **BOARD SKILLS MATRIX**

EDU Holdings Limited ACN 108 962 152

Last reviewed 27 February 2024



## 1 INTRODUCTION

This Board Skills Matrix provides a guide as to the skills, knowledge, experience, personal attributes and other criteria appropriate for the Board of EDU Holdings Limited (**Company**). The Board of the Company (**Board**) has identified this matrix as a useful tool to assist with professional development initiatives for directors and for the Board's succession planning.

#### 2 PRINCIPLES

The Board is a skills-based Board comprising of directors who collectively have the skills, knowledge and experience to effectively govern and direct the organisation.

The skills and attributes of the Company can be broadly categorised as follows:

- (a) governance skills (that is, skills directly relevant to performing the Board's key functions);
- (b) industry skills (that is, skills relevant to the industry or section in which the organisation predominantly operates); and
- (c) personal attributes or qualities that are generally considered desirable to be an effective director.

The Board as a whole should also encompass desirable diversity in aspects such as gender, age or different perspectives.

It is expected that each director has a broad understanding of the education sector with particular regard to tertiary education. However, some board members bring stronger governance and other requisite skills (e.g. corporate development, finance etc.) to complement the Board, as opposed to a background in the education sector.

#### **3 REFERENCES**

This matrix has been designed in accordance with the ASX Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations.

#### 4 POLICY

The skills, knowledge and experience required on the Board will change as the organisation evolves. In relation to each skill identified in this matrix, the Board will assess whether the identified skill is 'essential' or 'desirable' to the Board.

The Board Skills Matrix comprises three parts:

(a) Part A is an assessment of governance and industry-based skill areas which should be held <u>collectively</u> by the Board. Each skill area is accompanied by a description and a separate column for the Board organisation to assess whether they consider the skill essential or desirable.

The Company seeks to achieve a collectively "high" level of skill, professional experience or expertise across all of the categories identified in its matrix. Where there are gaps in the skills of the Board, these are filled through the employment

of suitably experienced senior executives and/or the engagement of professional experts and consultants.

Based on a self-assessment, each Director attributes a skill rating from 0 up to 3 for each skill area. The skills rating system uses the following scale:

- A rating of 0 indicates the Director does not possess the skill, professional experience or expertise;
- A rating of 1 indicates that the Director is currently developing the skill, professional experience or expertise;
- A rating of 2 indicates the Director possesses a competent level of skill, professional experience or expertise; and
- A rating of 3 indicates the Director possesses a high level of skill, professional experience or expertise.
- (b) Part B is a description of personal attributes that <u>all</u> of the Directors of the Board should be expected to possess.
- (c) Part C contains observations regarding the diversity and nonskills-based Board attributes.

Regular Board performance evaluations should address Board skills and personal director attributes.

The skill areas in the matrix will be regularly reviewed to ensure that the composition of skills on the Board remains aligned with the Group's size and stage of development and strategic direction.



## PART A - COLLECTIVE SKILLS

# 1. Governance Skills

Skill Area	Description	E (Essential) D (Desirable)	Key Director Strengths Average Rating
Strategy	Ability to think strategically and identify and critically assess strategic opportunities and threats and develop effective strategies in the context of the strategic objectives of the Company's relevant policies and priorities.	E	3.0
Policy development	Ability to identify key issues and opportunities for the Company within the education sector and develop appropriate policies to define the parameters within which the organisation should operate.	E	2.6
Financial performance	<ul> <li>Qualifications and experience in accounting and/or finance and the ability to:</li> <li>(a) analyse key financial statements;</li> <li>(b) critically assess financial viability and performance;</li> <li>(c) contribute to strategic financial planning;</li> <li>(d) oversee budgets and the efficient use of resources; and</li> <li>(e) oversee funding arrangements and accountability.</li> </ul>	E	2.8
Risk and compliance oversight	Ability to identify key risks to the organisation in a wide range of areas including legal and regulatory compliance, and monitor risk and compliance management frameworks and systems.		2.4
Information technology strategy and governance	Knowledge and experience in the strategic use and governance of information management and information technology within the organisation.	E	1.8



Skill Area	Description	E (Essential) D (Desirable)	Key Director Strengths Average Rating
Executive management	<ul> <li>Experience at an executive level including the ability to:</li> <li>(a) appoint and evaluate the performance of the CEO and senior executive managers;</li> <li>(b) oversee strategic human resource management including workforce planning, and employee and industrial relations; and</li> <li>(c) oversee large scale organisational change.</li> </ul>	E	2.6
Commercial experience	A broad range of commercial/business experience, preferably in the small to medium enterprise context, in areas including communications, marketing, branding and business systems, practices and improvement.	E	3.0



# 2. Industry Skills (Education)

Skill Area	Description	E (Essential) D (Desirable)	Key Director Strengths Average Rating
Service delivery, operations and administration	Knowledge of and experience in providing tertiary education services to domestic and/or international students. This encompasses all aspects of the operations of a private education provider.	E	2.4
Product development and innovation	Understanding the current drivers of product development and innovation in the education sector. Experience in delivering new product offerings in response to market demand, to achieve market leadership or to take advantage of opportunities for innovation including through technology.	E	2.6
Industry engagement	Strong existing networks and relationships with participants at various levels within the education sector.	E	1.8
Client engagement	Experience in engaging with management of businesses and organisations to assess needs and deliver appropriate solutions and the ability to maintain positive relationships with clients and service providers over time.	E	2.8
Community and stakeholder engagement	High level reputation and networks in the local community including with relevant industry organisations and consumer or business groups, and the ability to effectively engage and communicate with those stakeholders.	E	3.0
Marketing	Knowledge of and experience in marketing of education services both through agents and direct.	E	2.2



## PART B: PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

Attributes	Description
Integrity (ethics)	<ul> <li>A commitment to:</li> <li>(a) understanding and fulfilling the duties and responsibilities of a director, and maintain knowledge in this regard through professional development;</li> <li>(b) putting the Company's interests before any personal interests;</li> <li>(c) acting in a transparent manner and declaring any activities or conduct that might be a potential conflict; and</li> <li>(d) maintaining Board confidentiality at all times.</li> </ul>
Effective listener and communicator	The ability to: (a) listen to, and constructively and appropriately debate, other people's viewpoints; (b) develop and deliver cogent arguments; and (c) communicate effectively with a broad range of stakeholders.
Constructive questioner	The preparedness to ask questions and challenge management and peer directors in a constructive and appropriate way about key issues.
Contributor and team player	The ability to work as part of a team, and demonstrate the passion and time to make a genuine and active contribution to the Board.
Commitment	A visible commitment to the purpose for which the Company has been established and operates, and its on-going success.
Influencer and negotiator	The ability to negotiate outcomes and influence others to agree with those outcomes, including an ability to gain stakeholder support for the Board's decisions.
Critical and innovative thinker	The ability to critically analyse complex and detailed information, readily distil key issues, and develop innovative approaches and solutions to problems.
Leader	<ul> <li>Innate leadership skills including the ability to:</li> <li>(a) appropriately represent the organisation;</li> <li>(b) set appropriate Board and organisation culture; and</li> <li>(c) make and take responsibility for decisions and actions.</li> </ul>



## PART C: DIVERSITY & NON-SKILLS BASED CRITERIA

Skill Area	Description	Assessment of Board
Gender diversity	Relatively equal gender representation should be sought for the Board to reflect gender diversity in the local community and given that gender diversity has been positively correlated with performance.	Low. Opportunity exists to improve the gender diversity of the Board
Geographic and cultural diversity	The Company is designed to have a strong link to their local and global community and respond effectively to local needs. Therefore, the Board should have strong local and global representation. Where possible, cultural diversity on the Board should be reflective of the cultural diversity in both the local and global community.	Medium. Opportunity exists to improve the cultural diversity of the Board
Age	Some age diversity should be sought among directors to bring different generational perspectives to the Board's deliberations.	Medium. Reasonable age diversity on the Board
Previous Board experience	The Board should collectively comprise directors who demonstrate competence and experience at Board level and/or who have completed formal training in directorship/governance.	High. Significant previous experience held by members of the Board