



Safeguarding Trustee – Chance UK

Remuneration	The role of Trustee is not accompanied by any financial remuneration. Expenses for travel may be claimed.
Location	London
Time commitment:	4 Board meetings per year (currently Tuesday afternoons) Board Away Day Dates TBC Attendance at other events as appropriate Trustees with fundraising or finance experience will be invited to join the Finance Subcommittee (x 4 meetings a year)
Reporting to	Chair of the Board of Trustees

Job Description

Chance UK is an award-winning early intervention children's charity founded in 1995. Our vision is for every child in the UK to feel happy about themselves, realise their potential, and be confident in their ability to build a brighter future.

The Charity provides solution focused mentoring and family support for children aged 5-12 with behavioural and emotional difficulties alongside group workshops designed to build social and emotional skills and resilience. The children we work with have often faced trauma and challenge in their lives but we know that with the right support they can flourish.

The Chance UK team are passionate about creating child-centred, solution focused interventions which make a difference. We are a forward thinking team, creatively looking at ways of adapting and growing our programmes, whilst continuing to deliver best practice.

Under new leadership, the past three years have been a period of significant growth and development for the organisation. We have more than doubled the number of children we work with, developed new ways to provide support for children and now work in more Local Authority areas than before. This is in line with our strategy of growth and diversification in order to better meet the needs of more children and families.

This last year we have had to adapt significantly in response to the COVID 19 pandemic. This has included delivering all our services online including mentoring, parent support and workshops. We have also piloted the use of youth workers in addition to volunteers to ensure services continued through this period of disruption. We are now developing our new strategic plan for the coming 5 years and want to learn from the adaptations we have made to help us continue achieving our mission and purpose.



We are looking for a Trustee with specific expertise and knowledge relating to safeguarding who shares our values to join the Board during this time of growth and change. We are committed to being an actively anti-racist organisation and particularly welcome applications from those from Black, Asian, and other minority ethnic backgrounds.

We are also seeking to broaden the diversity of the Board in other ways and welcome applications from LGBTQ+ candidates, candidates with disabilities and also those with lived experience of the issues we work on, including: exclusion from school, being a parent of a child who has been excluded or who has additional social, emotional or behavioural needs. We believe that a diverse board leads to better results.

Our Strategic Objectives 2018 – 2021

1. Double the number of children we support across the UK
2. Increase the impact, value and financial sustainability of our services
3. Lead innovation where we see children at increased risk because current services cannot meet their needs; and
4. Influence the debate on children's future to place greater emphasis on the transformative power of early intervention.

Our values

- **We are passionate:** championing early support that is transformative for children and families
- **We are inclusive:** embracing the diversity of everyone that we work with
- **We are child-centred:** listening to children's best hopes to bring out the best in them and provide a unique experience
- **We are solution focused:** enabling children and their families to use their strengths to achieve their own goals
- **We are collaborative:** working in partnership with other services to maximise our impact and embed sustainable changes
- **We are forward thinking:** creatively looking at ways of adapting and growing our programmes, whilst continuing to deliver best practice

The statutory duties of a trustee are:

- To ensure the organisation complies with its governing document.
- To ensure that the organisation pursues its objectives as defined in its governing document.
- To ensure the organisation applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its objectives.



- To contribute actively to the Board of Trustees' role in giving firm strategic direction to the organisation, setting overall policy, defining goals and setting targets and evaluating performance against agreed targets.
- To safeguard the good name and values of the organisation.
- To ensure the effective and efficient administration of the organisation.
- To ensure the financial stability of the organisation.
- To protect and manage the property of the organisation and to ensure the proper investment of the organisation's funds.
- If the organisation employs staff, to appoint the Chief Executive Officer and monitor his or her performance.

In addition, with other trustees, to hold the charity “in trust” for current and future beneficiaries by:

- Ensuring that the charity has a clear vision, mission and strategic direction and is focused on achieving these.
- Being responsible for the performance of the charity and for its “corporate” behaviour; ensuring that the charity complies with all legal and regulatory requirements.
- Acting as guardians of the charity’s assets, both tangible and intangible, taking all due care over their security, deployment and proper application.
- Ensuring that the charity’s governance is of the highest possible standard.

As well as the various statutory duties, any trustee should make full use of any specific skills, knowledge or experience to help the board make good decisions.

The above list of duties is indicative only and not exhaustive. The Trustee will be expected to perform all such additional duties as are reasonably commensurate with the role.

Person specification

Individuals are sought who have a strong empathy with our mission of early intervention and to provide the right support at the right time for children and their families. **In particular at this time we are seeking** experience, insight and expertise in Safeguarding as core to our purpose is the safety of the children and families we work with.

The Board of Trustees are jointly and severally responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of the charity, its financial health, the probity of its activities and developing the organisation’s aims, objectives and goals in accordance with the governing document, legal and regulatory guidelines.

All trustees should also be aware of and understand their individual and collective responsibilities.

Skills & Experience:

- Understanding of how a successful board operates within a charitable, public sector or commercial organisation



- Demonstrable experience of building and sustaining relationships with key stakeholders and colleagues to achieve organisational objectives
- A proven track record of sound judgement and effective decision making
- A history of impartiality, fairness and the ability to respect confidences
- A track record of commitment to promoting equality and diversity
- Understanding of good governance

At present we are seeking a Trustee with the experience and expertise in the following areas:

Essential requirements

Safeguarding

- Senior management and/or practitioner experience with responsibility for safeguarding and child protection services

Knowledge, skills and understanding:

- Commitment to the organisation and a willingness to devote the necessary time and effort
- Willingness to be available to staff for advice and enquiries on an ad hoc basis
- Good, independent judgement and strategic vision
- An understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship
- Preparedness to make unpopular recommendations to the board, and a willingness to speak their mind
- An ability to work effectively as a member of a team
- An understanding of the respective roles of the Chair, Trustees and Chief Executive

How to Apply

We are open to applications from those who do not have any formal governance experience and Our Chair, Hugh Thornbery, welcomes informal conversations ahead of a formal application.

To arrange a call please contact our CEO Geethika Jayatilaka on ceo@chanceuk.com.

To apply please email a CV and covering letter to ceo@chanceuk.com.