

Saxton Bampfylde



The

Childhood Trust

Alleviating the impact of child poverty

APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

APPOINTMENT BRIEF

MAY 2020

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“We believe that every child in London has the right to a healthy, happy and safe childhood.”



INTRODUCTION

The Childhood Trust is a grant making and fundraising charity founded in 2013 by the philanthropist and social entrepreneur Grant Gordon. Its mission is to alleviate the impact of child poverty in London.

Child poverty is a significant and pernicious problem in London that affects an estimated 700,000 children. 400,000 children are experiencing food insecurity and 90,000 children are homeless. A decade of austerity and local authority budget reductions for children's services have placed voluntary sector organisations under increasing pressure resulting in these organisations struggling to meet increasing demand for their services.

Since its foundation, the Childhood Trust has supported over 400 projects across London working to alleviate the impact of child poverty. The Trust uses its funds to generate and match other donations, primarily through online fundraising campaigns and fundraising partnerships with philanthropists, companies and trusts and foundations. Since 2013 these campaigns have brought people together and inspired them to donate through matched giving to raise £14.8 million for grassroots child poverty charities working throughout London. The grassroots and community organisations that the Trust funds provide a full range of support, activities and opportunities directly to children and young people living in poverty. The Trust's work is themed across three areas:

- Meeting children's practical needs
- Supporting children's emotional needs
- Inspiring children with new experiences and opportunities

To enhance sector capacity beyond grant-making, the Trust also leverages its partnerships, currently with over 100 small charities, to listen closely to children in order to better understand their experiences and needs. This helps to raise the visibility of the challenges faced by children as well as helping to focus a spotlight on child poverty to help attract the resources and support that children need to thrive. The Trust has also developed a limited number of partnership programmes directly supporting some of the most vulnerable children in London.

The Childhood Trust is a successful and growing charity. With a staff team of four, the charity already punches well above its weight having impacted the lives of 180,000 children. However, there is still a huge amount of work to be done to support the most vulnerable. The Childhood Trust is looking to scale up its programmes and reach even more children in the future, with the hope of doubling in size in the next three years. The charity currently runs two successful fundraising campaigns a year, generating approximately £3 million in income. In order to make a tangible difference to the lives of more disadvantaged children across London, the Childhood Trust will be looking to accelerate its fundraising.

700,000 London children live in poverty



42%

Inner
London

34%

Outer
London

28%

Rest of
England

Figures from London's Poverty Profile 2017



THE ROLE

The Childhood Trust's board currently has six Trustees, who bring a wide range of experience and perspectives from many different walks of life. The Childhood Trust is seeking new Trustees to join its board to support and continue the charity's growth. The Childhood Trust is looking for motivated and ambitious people who want to make a tangible difference to the lives of disadvantaged children.

Trustees will be fully committed to the cause and will help to accelerate the charity's mission through playing a key role in setting strategic objectives and supporting the Trust in its revenue and capital fundraising.

Each Trustee volunteers their time and talent as well as being encouraged to make philanthropic donations towards supporting the core costs of the charity. This is discretionary and not a requirement of the role, however, all Trustees with the financial means are expected to donate towards supporting of the charity's mission.

As a Trustee with the Childhood Trust will have the pivotal opportunity to make an impact to the lives of children living in poverty in London. The Trust is looking for people to join its board and play a part in scaling its mission.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for:

- Overall governance and strategic direction
- Developing the organisation in accordance with its mission
- Monitoring and supporting the organisation's leadership
- Reviewing key risks facing the charity
- Furthering the Trust's objects (these are set out in the Articles of Association)
- Being subject to company law, the Charities Act 2016, the Childhood Trust's Articles of Association and the Charity Commission's guidance and recommendations regarding good governance.

In practice this means that Trustees will:

- Regularly attend Board meetings (3 per a year) and sit on one or more sub-committees.
- Be committed to participating actively in Board and sub-committee work.
- Be informed about committee matters, preparing for meetings, reviewing and commenting on minutes and reports.
- Get to know other Board members and build good working relationships.
- Actively participate in the Board's strategic planning.
- Play an active role in governance and raise issues as appropriate.
- Where possible, attend the Childhood Trust's events and visit projects in London.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

The Childhood Trust are looking for people who can ideally bring the following skills and experience:

- A commercial background, with strong financial acumen,
- Experience of supporting revenue and capital fundraising at Board of Trustee level,
- A belief in the Childhood Trust's mission and the ability to champion the Trust's projects in pursuit of that mission,
- Exceptional relationship-building and communication skills in order to act as an ambassador for the Trust particularly amongst major donors, philanthropists and at fundraising events,
- A willingness to use personal and/or professional networks for the advancement of the Childhood Trust's fundraising and philanthropy.

It is important that all Trustees adhere to 'The Seven Principles of Public Life', i.e. selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty, leadership.

"For every £1 we invest in our campaigns we generate on average over £4.60 for the charities we support. Leveraging our grants through matched giving means we can help over 4 times as many disadvantaged children."





TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

- Trustees can be appointed for up to three terms of three years each.
- The Board meets three times a year to help guide the Trust's strategy and advise the Chief Executive.
- Meetings are usually in January, May and September.
- Trustees are also expected to join one subcommittee (grant making, development, finance) which meet on average between two and four times each year.
- Travel and any other expenses incurred whilst undertaking the role are reimbursed.
- The Childhood Trust is a registered charity operating in London.

HOW TO APPLY

Saxton Bampfylde Ltd is acting as an employment agency advisor to The Childhood Trust on this appointment.

Candidates should apply for this role through our website at www.saxbam.com/appointments using code **BAKAEA**.

Click on the **'apply'** button and follow the instructions to upload a CV and cover letter, and complete the online equal opportunities monitoring* form.

The closing date for applications is noon on **Thursday 4th June 2020**.

** The equal opportunities monitoring online form will not be shared with anyone involved in assessing your application. Please complete as part of the application process.*

GDPR personal data notice

According to GDPR guidelines, we are only able to process your Sensitive Personal Data (racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, genetic data, biometric data, health, sex life, or sexual orientation) with your express consent. You will be asked to complete a consent form when you apply and please **do not** include any Sensitive Personal Data within your CV (although this can be included in your covering letter if you wish to do so), remembering also not to include contact details for referees without their prior agreement.



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