



## **About our Board of Trustees**

The Board of Trustees ensures that we operate within the law and meet our charitable objectives. In consultation with senior staff, Trustees set strategic priorities, monitor the charity's performance and make sure we are working to our vision, mission and values in everything we do.

The Board can have up to nine members and currently has eight (with our Vice Chair retiring in October 2021). Although the charity is registered in England with our office in Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, we ensure that the Board is international in nature. We have a number of trustees from outside the UK and, as a charity that works in partnership with organisations around the world, we aim to continue to recruit internationally to reflect our work.

Trustees are appointed initially for three years. Thereafter they may be reappointed for a further three years, but after six years' service must step down. The position is unpaid, though reasonable expenses (such as travel to meetings) are reimbursed. A full induction is offered to new Trustees, including class visits to observe our Skills for Life Programmes being taught in primary schools.

## **About Partnership for Children**

Partnership for Children is an independent charity which promotes the mental health and emotional wellbeing of children around the world.

Our principal activities run in primary schools and kindergartens in 30 countries and have already helped more than two million children. We also develop resources for parents and teachers to help young children cope with difficult situations, such as bereavement, bullying or divorce and separation. Many of these resources are available free of charge on our website.

Each year more than 180,000 children take part in our Skills for Life Programmes around the world. That's a big number but only a small fraction of the world's children. We see both a need and an opportunity to do more to achieve our vision of a world in which the development of mental health and emotional resilience is part of life for every child – at home, at school and in the community.

Our Mission is to help children and young people throughout the world, develop skills which will enhance their present and future emotional well-being. We aim to do this by increasing our impact globally through collaborative, multi-lateral partnerships.

Our strategic goals for the period 2020 – 2022 are:

- Reach more children and young people, including underserved groups, through evidence informed programmes
- Enhance partnerships to increase reach and sustainability
- Grow our funding to resource our ambitions for new programmes and partnerships
- Optimise the structure and capacity of Partnership for Children to deliver our strategic goals

More information about our programmes, our strategy and the current members of our Board of Trustees can be found on our website [www.partnershipforchildren.org.uk](http://www.partnershipforchildren.org.uk)

## Trustee – Role Description

**Remuneration:** The role of trustee is unpaid but reasonable travel expenses may be claimed

**Location:** Partnership for Children’s offices, Kingston-upon-Thames or central London or Zoom

**Time commitment:** Up to 4 board meetings annually. Two are evening meetings (18.00 – 20.00), two are half-day meetings (10.00 – 13.00). Trustees can attend via Zoom as necessary, however we hope to return to in person half day meetings in Autumn 2022. Working groups and Sub Committees are organised as required (usually 4 times per year – 1 hour meetings online) and Trustees are asked to be on one Sub Committee or Working group. Staff members may contact individual trustees between meetings on matters relating to their particular areas of expertise.

**Term of Office:** Trustees serve a 3-year term and can serve for a maximum of 2 terms.

### The statutory duties of any charity trustee are:

- To ensure the charity complies with its governing document and pursues its defined objectives
- To contribute actively to giving clear strategic direction, setting overall policy, defining goals and setting targets, and evaluating performance
- To safeguard the charity’s good name and values
- To ensure the charity’s effective and efficient administration
- To ensure the charity’s financial stability, protecting and managing its property and ensuring the proper investment of its funds.
- To appoint the Chief Executive and monitor his or her performance

## Trustee - Person specification

The ideal **Trustee** will have:

- Commitment to our aims and a willingness to devote the necessary time and effort
- A keen interest in children's mental health and an understanding of the issues facing vulnerable children
- Appreciation of the challenges and opportunities facing a small charity working internationally
- Sound judgement and effective decision making
- The ability to work effectively as a member of a team
- A willingness to share insights, learning and practices from other sectors and organisations and to share contacts and opportunities
- Help make sure the Board is connected with the reality of promoting good mental health in children

In addition, for the role of Chair or Vice Chair, the person will ideally have:

- Proven experience and skills in strategic planning and leadership
- An understanding of good governance and the respective roles of the Chair, Trustees and Chief Executive

We have a 'rolling' recruitment process for new Trustees to replace Trustees who are coming to the end of their term of office. We are looking to build a diverse team of people to steer the charity and welcome applications from all sectors of society **particularly those who do not have prior experience of being a Trustee**. An interest in improving the social and emotional well-being of children and maybe experience of working with children who may be vulnerable to mental health difficulties would be ideal but this is not essential. We will provide a full induction and on-going support and training to those who are new to the role of Trustee.

### Expressions of Interest

If you are interested in becoming a Trustee of Partnership for Children, please contact our Chief Executive Wendy to arrange an informal chat.

[Wendy.tabuteau@partnershipforchildren.org.uk](mailto:Wendy.tabuteau@partnershipforchildren.org.uk)

*Thank you for your interest in our work – we look forward to hearing from you.*