



Board Recruitment: Trustees x 4

Applications close on 8 May 2026

EUREKA!
SCIENCE+
DISCOVERY

EUREKA!
the national children's museum ●

Trustee Recruitment 2026



Thank you for your interest in Eureka! As Eureka! enters its next phase of growth and development across two sites, we are strengthening our Board to ensure long-term sustainability, inclusive leadership and strategic ambition.

This pack provides everything you need to know to apply for this role and what it means to be a Trustee at Eureka!

In this pack you'll find:

- Who we are
- Our values
- Information about Eureka! The National Children's Museum, Halifax, and Eureka! Science + Discovery, Wirral
- The role profile and information on who we're looking for
- Process and timeframes

Through our IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equality and Accessibility) strategy we are working towards making Eureka! a place where a variety of voices and experiences are not just heard but are an integral part of our organisation by 2026. Our goal is to nurture an environment where everyone feels valued and supported.

- We are incredibly proud of our disability confident status.
- We believe our diverse team is our strength
- We encourage applications from people with different backgrounds and experiences.



Who we are

Eureka! is a well-known and well-loved family and children's visitor attraction in the north of England. We are 34 years old in 2026, and at a pivotal moment in the history of our organisation.

In November 2022 we opened a new Eureka! visitor attraction in Wirral. Eureka! Science + Discovery is a high-profile addition to the exciting cultural landscape of the Liverpool City Region, a crucial element in the regeneration of the left bank of the River Mersey, and the only Science and Discovery centre specifically for children and young people aged 0 - 14 in the UK.

Our new science and discovery centre in Wirral sits alongside Eureka!'s National Children's Museum located in Halifax, West Yorkshire. The National Children's Museum is an interactive hands-on experience specifically for children aged 0 – 11.

Eureka! is an independent and self-sufficient educational charity which relies on earned income primarily from admissions to sustain operations - with grants, fundraising and commercial income an increasingly important element of our business model - ensuring families from all backgrounds can benefit from the play and learning opportunities offered.



Eureka! The National Children's Museum, Halifax



Eureka! Science + Discovery, Wirral

Our Values

Our values make us who we are and inform the way we work. We wouldn't compromise them under any circumstances because they're the building blocks of our brand.

- We are **captivating**

Eureka! exists to capture children's and young people's imaginations, inspiring them to learn, develop and grow in confidence within a playful, engaging and thought-provoking space.

- We are **involving**

Eureka! is for everyone. Every community, every family and every child and young person – regardless of background or ability – is invited to spend time discovering and learning in a nurturing yet challenging environment.

- We are **expert**

Our collective knowledge of children's development, play and discovery-based learning and exhibition design combined with an active co-creation process results in rich and meaningful experiences grounded in solid research and contemporary approaches.

- We are **pioneering**

Eureka! was the UK's first children's museum and set the gold standard for playful learning experiences in museums and galleries throughout the country. We continue to sustain this approach, looking to the future, taking risks and always being one step ahead of the sector.





Eureka! isn't like other museums. At Eureka! The National Children's Museum nothing is behind a glass cabinet. It's the only fully interactive museum totally dedicated to children aged 0-11 anywhere in the UK.

Situated in Halifax, West Yorkshire, Eureka! has over 400 interactive, hands-on exhibits designed to inspire enquiring minds to find out about themselves and the world around them. There are six unique zones, each with a different theme to explore.

Since 1992, Eureka! the National Children's Museum has welcomed more than 9m visitors. It has attracted £22m of capital investment, employed more than 2500 people, won 60 local, national, and international awards and changed the face of the sector by spearheading a more immersive and interactive approach to traditional museums throughout Britain.

Moreover, it has created a much loved and well recognised brand in the north of England in the visitor attraction sector.



EUREKA! SCIENCE+ DISCOVERY

In November 2022, Eureka! opened a second attraction in Wirral. Co-created with over 300 children and young people from the local area, Eureka! Science + Discovery brings a whole new experience for children, young people and families to the North West.

Awarded Best New Visitor Attraction at the LCR 2024 Visitor Economy Awards, we have also been recognised for our approach to inclusion winning the LCR Accessible and Inclusive Tourism Award in both 2024 and 2025, going on to win the national Visit England Gold Award for Excellence in Accessible and Inclusive Tourism.

The attraction has 3 main galleries encompassing themes of our Bodies, our Homes and our Environment exploring these subjects in hands on, engaging, fun and accessible interactives designed for young people up to the age of 14. The attraction also includes a MakeCreate space and a specific gallery for under 7's called The Burrow.

Funding of £11.49M was received from LCRCA, Wirral Council, The Wellcome Trust, the Johnson Foundation and other trusts and foundations, and a £100K sponsorship from local company Orsted, in order to deliver this project.

Launched in a very challenging time for visitor attractions and museums generally, and now in our fourth year of operation, Eureka! Science + Discovery is focussed on working towards sustainability.



Expertise we are looking for

Our [current board of Trustees](#) are a fab bunch – honestly.

To complement their skills, we are looking for 4 new Trustees to join us, with knowledge, experience and networks to support the following areas:

- 1. Chair of Finance & General Purpose Committee:** A qualified accountant, senior finance professional or business leader with strong finance experience, particularly in budgeting, financial planning and control. Experience of governance/chairing committees.
- 2. Property Expertise:** Professional background in property development or asset management, experience maintaining buildings, managing risk and compliance, and ideally experience with public facing buildings or heritage assets.
- 3. Legal Expertise:** a background in law or legal advisory work. They may be a qualified lawyer, a legal generalist, or someone with a specialist area who can still take a broad, strategic view
- 4. Fundraising & development expertise:** - background of fundraising, development, partnerships or commercial income. Experience securing incremental income across funders/supporters aligned to charity mission and long term sustainability.

We welcome applications from first-time Trustees and will provide induction, mentoring and reasonable adjustments throughout the recruitment process and role.



Kirsty Ward
Chair of Trustees



Alan Evans
Trustee
Chair Site Committee



Susannah Hammond
Trustee
Interim Chair F&GP



Rachel Palmer
Trustee
Member HR H&S



Shagufta Sharif
Trustee
Chair HR&HS



Leigh-Anne Stradeski
Trustee
Chief Executive Officer



Nick Woodrow
Trustee
Member F&GP

What attributes are we looking for?

- A good understanding or willingness to learn about the children's museum, charity or cultural sector, and the challenges and opportunities facing Eureka!
- Sound judgement, with the ability to look at information critically and make clear, well-reasoned decisions.
- Strong communication skills, with confidence to listen, collaborate and offer constructive challenge.
- A genuine commitment to diversity, equality, inclusion and accessibility, and why this really matters for children, families and communities.



Trustee Role: Statutory & Fiduciary Duties

Purpose & Strategy

- Ensuring the charity delivers its purposes for the public benefit
- Setting and overseeing a clear long-term strategy aligned to Eureka!'s objects

Compliance & Integrity

- Complying with the governing document and all legal and regulatory requirements
- Acting in the best interests of the charity and managing conflicts of interest

Financial Stewardship

- Ensuring responsible use of resources, effective financial oversight and long-term sustainability

Care, Skill & Judgement

- Exercising reasonable care, skill and diligence when making decisions
- Using appropriate information to assess performance and risk

Risk & Accountability

- Maintaining robust governance, internal controls and transparency
- Identifying and monitoring key strategic and operational risks in line with Charity Commission guidance (CC26)



Trustee Role: Responsibilities & Contribution

Trustees collectively:

- **Set strategic direction** and agree organisational goals
- **Monitor performance** against agreed objectives and key indicators
- **Ensure effective and efficient administration** of the organisation
- **Oversee financial planning**, budgeting, and reserves
- **Appoint, support, appraise** the Chief Executive

Each Trustee is expected to:

- **Prepare thoroughly and engage actively** in meetings
- **Apply their knowledge** and experience to support strategic decisions
- **Scrutinise information** and provide effective challenge
- **Focus** on the most significant risks and opportunities



We want Trustees who

- Have the same level of passion and commitment as the Eureka! staff about the work that we do and the attractions we run
- Are genuinely committed to Eureka!'s mission and visitor experience
- Support the long-term future of the charity across both sites
- Think strategically while respecting the boundary between governance and operations
- A willingness and enthusiasm to devote the necessary time and effort, including participation in induction, training and development activities
- Exercise independent judgement and provide constructive challenge
- Work collaboratively and uphold collective decision making
- Build respectful effective relationships with Trustees and the Leadership Team
- Have a commitment to Nolan's seven principles of public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership

We want our trustees to represent the communities we serve and actively encourage applications from individuals of diverse backgrounds, including those from underrepresented groups, to ensure a wide range of perspectives and experiences are reflected in our decision-making processes



Commitment

Remuneration

Trustee roles are voluntary (unpaid), with reasonable expenses reimbursed

Term of Office

Initial term of 3 years. Eligible for up to two further terms

Board Attendance

3 Board meetings per year (including AGM) + 1 Away Day

Occasional extraordinary meetings if required

Meetings held alternately in Halifax & Wallasey (Away Day off-site)

In-person preferred (AGM in-person), virtual attendance possible

Board meetings: 2.5–3 hours | Away Day: 10am–4pm

Wider Contribution & Time

Participation in at least one subcommittee

Preparation time and occasional advice between meetings

Typical commitment: ~0.5–1 day per month

We recognise Trustees have other commitments and aim to schedule meetings well in advance.



Process and timeframe

To apply, please send your current CV and a covering letter to jobs@eureka.org.uk.

In the cover letter please tell us:

- Why you would like to be a Trustee for Eureka!
- What skills you would bring to the role
- How you would support Eureka!'s future plans. Our Strategic Framework 2024 to 2026 is available on our website at eureka.org.uk/about and will be updated later this year.

If you would like to discuss this opportunity with the Chief Executive or one of our existing Trustees, please contact leigh-anne@eureka.org.uk

- Closing date for applications 8 May 2026
- Site tour (Details confirmed with shortlisted candidates)
- Interview dates 18 & 19 May
- Announcement 1 June
- Appointment Eureka! AGM 22 June 2026

We are committed to a fair, transparent process and will notify all applicants of the outcome. Thank you!

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