



**Recruitment Information:  
Grants Trustee**

**[www.shinetrust.org.uk](http://www.shinetrust.org.uk)**

## **Background Information**

SHINE was first established in 1999 by a group of committed philanthropists who wanted to help improve education for the most disadvantaged children. Since then, SHINE has invested more than £33 million in programmes which have benefited 1.4 million children from 20,000 schools.

Our vision is for all children to leave school with real choices in their future lives. We believe that children should be given the best possible chances in education, no matter what their backgrounds or starting points.

Our mission is to raise the attainment of children from disadvantaged backgrounds across the North of England. We do this by supporting innovations in education which have the potential to transform the education of the most disadvantaged children.

SHINE acts as an early stage adopter of promising new ideas. We help to test and scale up those programmes with the strongest potential. For its first 18 years, SHINE was based and focused in London, where education results for disadvantaged children have significantly improved.

In 2017, we relocated to Leeds to focus on improving outcomes for children in the North of England. We are now the only locally-based, specialist funder of education to cover the full geography of the Northern Powerhouse. Thanks to the continued generosity of our trustees, central operating costs are covered so we take no overhead on donations.

SHINE has set some ambitious goals to meet by 2025:

### **Improve the school attainment of children across the North of England.**

- Working with partners to invest at least £25 million into education across the North West, North East and Yorkshire.
- Raising awareness of the educational barriers facing children from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Building partnerships with others who share our vision and objectives.

### **Further the knowledge base of what works in overcoming educational barriers.**

- Assessing the impact of everything we do.
- Sharing our key successes and learning with the widest possible audience.
- Supporting education programmes across different communities in the North, from urban cities like Leeds and Newcastle, to rural and coastal areas like Cumbria and Scarborough.

### **Champion the power of great teaching to change children's lives.**

- Helping inspirational teachers to deliver evidence-based approaches in the classroom.
- Developing teachers as innovators and helping them to improve the education system from within.
- Building a movement of excellent teachers with a shared belief in the most disadvantaged children.

To help SHINE meet these goals, we are seeking additional expertise to help inform our grant-making strategy and decisions and to ensure we are making the biggest difference we can to the issues that matter most for children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

This is an exciting opportunity to join an ambitious organisation at a critical juncture and drive forward the impact of SHINE's funding over the coming years. The role would particularly suit someone who is passionate about the big ideas in education, and who can help translate strategy into practice.

## Role Description

### **Role description**

- To support the Grants Cluster in assessing grant proposals according to agreed criteria;
- To further the impact of SHINE by ensuring the results from funded work are measured appropriately and that key lessons are fed into future strategy.
- To promote SHINE and its funding to schools, donors and other relevant stakeholders.

### **Person specification**

#### **Essential:**

- Strong commitment to the values and mission of SHINE;
- Recent experience teaching and/or in a school leadership role in a disadvantaged area;
- Strong credibility within education and/or the voluntary sector;
- Significant experience on decision-making panels;
- Able to build rapport with other trustees and staff; and
- Able to make a significant time commitment to the charity.

#### **Desirable:**

- Previous Board experience.
- Previous experience in grant-making.
- Strong links to the North of England.

### **Required time commitment**

Estimated 1-2 days per month including attendance to 4 Board meetings and 6-8 Grants Cluster meetings annually.

Trustees are appointed for an initial term of five years, after which they are eligible for reappointment for a second term of four years.

## How to apply

Please contact [fionaspellman@shinetrust.org.uk](mailto:fionaspellman@shinetrust.org.uk) if you would be interested to find out more.

We plan to meet with shortlisted candidates in October and November for a final decision to be taken before Christmas.

Please visit [www.shinetrust.org.uk](http://www.shinetrust.org.uk) for further information about our work.