



Recruitment Information: Grants Trustee

www.shinetrust.org.uk

Our Journey so Far

SHINE was established at the turn of the millennium to transform educational opportunities for children from less advantaged homes.

Our founders knew that education had played a critical role in driving their success, and they wanted to create a smarter way to give, helping ensure the same rigour and standard that drove decisions in their corporate lives also applied to their charitable giving.

They hoped that by giving more children access to the very best teaching, they could attract a wider network of supporters and someday back effective programmes which could positively impact on children's futures nationally.

For our first 17 years, SHINE was based and primarily focused on giving in London, where we backed hundreds of teachers and many thousands of children. During this time, the education prospects of children in London were transformed. In 2017, in view of the growing regional disparities in education outcomes across the country, SHINE took the bold decision to relocate and refocus on the North of England, where we have been based ever since.

Driving sustained improvement to education outcomes in London took time, and it took many partners. We now see similar momentum building in the North of England, as more organisations commit to growing their reach and impact in the region. SHINE is proud to have helped lead this shift and we are committed to working with like-minded partners who are driving impact for the children we serve. Our long-term ambition is the same as it was in London: to help build the capacity, evidence and partnerships needed for sustained improvement, so that SHINE's role in the North is no longer needed.

SHINE has a proud history of spotting early potential in new ideas and then providing the funding and backing they need to achieve continued growth and scale. We were an early-stage adopter of many of the most successful education programmes in the country, from Teach First to Times Tables Rock Stars, and our search for new and promising innovations continues to this day.

Our strategy and programmes evolve as we continually adapt, update and improve, but our core purpose – driving improved education outcomes for the children who need it most – remains.

Our strategy to 2029

OUR VISION

There are no barriers to learning for children from low-income backgrounds in the North of England.

OUR MISSION

We develop and fund innovative and sustainable programmes that work to improve educational outcomes for children living in areas of deprivation in the North of England.

How we tackle barriers and unlock potential

Grant funding

We provide funds to high-potential innovators who need help to get their ideas off the ground.

Support

We connect grantees to networks of support to help ideas reach their full potential.

Insights

We turn data from our projects into actionable insights to inform and influence others.

Scaling

We scale-up innovations which show the strongest evidence of promise and help them reach sustainability.

We aim to:

- Develop the culture of educational innovation in the North of England.
- Support the insights and ideas of teachers and schools in the North of England, particularly in relation to the experiences of children from backgrounds of socio-economic disadvantage.
- Connect through the education system to other networks of philanthropy, community and policy, so that the challenges faced by children in the North can be tackled in collaboration, and outside the school gates as well as in the classroom.
- Ultimately, through our programmes and partnerships, we aim to improve the educational outcomes of children from backgrounds of deprivation in the North of England.

Role Description

Role description

As a Trustee of SHINE, you will play a vital role in shaping the organisation's priorities and impact at an exciting and pivotal point in its journey. It is an opportunity to bring your experience and perspective to a fantastic organisation, and to make a practical, lasting difference to the lives of children. SHINE combines passion and commitment with a clear focus on evidence, impact and doing what it takes to drive positive change.

Role purpose

- 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;
- Strong credibility within education, with access to relevant networks;
- Strong understanding of research evidence which is both rigorous and proportionate;
- Knowledge and understanding of what works in the classroom to close the disadvantage gap;
- 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, including attendance to meetings.

Desirable:

- Previous Board experience.
- Previous experience in grant-making.
- Strong network across the North of England.

Required time commitment

Estimated 1-2 days per month including attendance to 4 Board meetings and 4 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 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 for further information about our work.