



Home-Start Rochdale and Bury Trustee Candidate Briefing

September 2026



Welcome and thank you for your interest in becoming a Trustee for Home-Start Rochdale and Bury

At Home-Start Rochdale and Bury, we are deeply committed to giving babies, children, and young people the best possible start in life. We believe that strong families create strong communities, which is why we work with parents and caregivers providing support through trusted relationships. By helping families make positive lifestyle changes, we drive lasting transformational change and brighter futures.

This is an exciting time for our charity. We are energised to expand our charity and embed ourselves as a leading provider of early years support in the Rochdale and Bury area. To meet this ambition, we are looking for a number of Trustees to bring new thinking, energy and commitment to enable us to grow and develop. We are particularly keen to recruit Trustees with experience of Governance, Digital, Finance, Family Support, Safeguarding and GDPR.

Our Board of Trustees plays a vital role in shaping the strategic direction of Home-Start Rochdale and Bury. Trustees ensure our financial sustainability, set priorities for the future and provide essential oversight to our operations.

As a Trustee you will have the opportunity to provide leadership to the organisation, applying your strategic vision and specific skills to help provide crucial lifechanging opportunities for our families. You will work closely with fellow trustees, our Head of Service, Business and Finance Manager, staff, volunteers, and key stakeholders to expand our impact and reach more families in need.



We invite you to be part of this journey and help us build a stronger, more resilient future for families in Rochdale and Bury. If you are passionate about making a difference and ready to be part of a period of transformational growth, we would love to hear from you.

The Board of Trustees



About Us

- Home-Start Rochdale and Bury has been supporting local families for over 25 years across Rochdale, Heywood, Middleton, Pennines and Bury.
- We are part of Home-Start UK, a federated network of over 180 local independent charities representing 9,000 volunteers transforming the lives of 76,700 children annually.
- By investing in early intervention, we improve long-term outcomes and life skills for families while safeguarding their mental health. This proactive approach prevents family breakdown and significantly decreases costly social care referrals.
- We often hear from our families that Home-Start is the most trusted support service involved with their children,

"Thank you for being there when we felt completely overwhelmed. Home-Start helped us understand our child better and, most importantly, helped us feel more confident as parents."

Parent Quote



Our Support

Any family living in Rochdale, Pennines, Heywood, Middleton and Bury with a child pre-birth to 12 years of age, can access support from an experienced parent volunteer or support worker who can visit them at home.

We support families from all backgrounds, including single-parent households, those living in poverty, diverse cultural communities, LGBTQ+ and those caring for children with additional needs or disabilities.

We have a team of dedicated, skilled volunteers and staff who all have parenting and lived experience, who visit families in their own home or group support within the community. Volunteers and staff are trained prior to being matched with families and supervised by a Family Support Coordinator.

Emotional support and practical help is offered. Volunteers build on parents' skills, help boost self-esteem and confidence whilst enabling them to cope with the pressures of family life. Our aim is to help reduce stress and prevent crisis and breakdown.



Neurodiversity Support for Families with or without a diagnosis

- Home visiting support for parents with a lived experienced support worker or volunteer for families with children aged 0-12 years.
- Sam's Sibs Group Support - for siblings of children with Neurodiversity (aged 6-15 years)
- Belong and Grow Group Support - for children with Neurodiversity (aged 6-15 years)
- Informal Group Support sessions for parents.
- Parent Information Sessions held in the community.

Emotional Wellbeing and Family Support

Home Visiting Support is offered for parents experiencing low level mental health difficulties, including stress, anxieties, depression, relationship breakdown, health needs, phobias or isolation. The Support Worker can help parents to access additional support they may need, encourage them to develop coping skills and improve confidence.

Early Years support for families with children age 2-5 years.

Support for parents who have children aged between 2 – 12 years, who require support around their child's development, play skills and behaviour.

PIMH—Parent Infant Mental Health

Practical and emotional support for expectant parents and newborns up to the age of 2 years.
Baby Bubbles Group Support sessions across the borough.

Home Safety Scheme

Visits within the home for safety checks and advice. Equipment is fitted by our Home Safety Coordinator for families within the borough.





The Trustee Role

Office Location: Rochdale

Time commitment:

- Approx 1 to 2 days a month.
- Attending Board Meetings bimonthly – approximately 4 hours.
- Occasional meetings as required.
- Contributing to working groups and sub-committees as required – approximately 4 a year.
- Flexible meeting dates and times in the daytime or evening, online or in person.

The Trustee Role

- Providing leadership and direction for the scheme within the ethos and values of Home-Start UK.
- Ensuring that the scheme has a clear mission, vision and strategic direction and is focussed on achieving these.
- Being responsible for the effective performance and management of the scheme supporting the Head of Service.
- Ensuring that the scheme complies with all legal and regulatory requirements, the objects of the charity, the governing documents including the Home-Start Standards and Methods of Practice and the Agreement and Quality Standards.
- Securing and acting as guardians of the scheme's assets.
- Ensuring that the scheme's governance is of the highest possible standard.
- Undertaking an ambassadorial role for Home-Start.
- Contributing to working groups and sub-committees.

Personal Qualities

We are looking for people that are:

- Approachable and naturally make people feel at ease.
- Empathetic.
- Interested in people and appreciate them for who they are and what they contribute.
- Motivated by doing what's right.
- Have a strong desire to achieve results and keep things on track.
- Reliable and takes ownership for what they do.
- Able to naturally see the bigger picture, where things fit and how they connect.
- Good at assessing risks.

Experience

We are particularly interested in people who have skills and experience in the following areas:

- Charity governance and leadership.
- Finance.
- Safeguarding.
- GDPR.
- Family support.
- Health.
- Digital.

**Remuneration:**

The Trustee role is not accompanied by any financial remuneration, although expenses for travel can be claimed.

Further Information

For further information please:

- Visit our website: www.homestartrochdaleandbury.org.uk
- Contact our chairperson: margaret.woods@hsrb.org.uk
- Or Head of Service - Sam Freeman - sam@hsrb.org.uk
- Visit Home-Start UK's website: Home-Start UK