



**Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity**  
**Trustee Recruitment Pack**  
**September 2025**

## Welcome from the Chair

Thank you for your interest in Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity. We are on an exciting journey to help more seriously ill children through our Roald Dahl Nurse Specialists and support that we provide to them and their families. We are looking for like-minded people to join our governance board and support the team with their finance and accounting skills and experience. I hope the information you find in this pack, encourages you to apply and get involved with this unique and ambitious charity.

Since 2019, we have had our CEO, Louise Grieve on board who has worked with us to transform the charity to ensure we are sustainable, have viable plans in place and that the organisation runs efficiently and effectively.

Roald Dahl knew that nurses work magic and can make seriously ill children smile again. It's why he admired them, and it's what inspires us to establish more and more specialist nurses. We are able to achieve this by working in close collaboration with NHS Trusts who respect our track record of innovation and improving paediatric nursing care throughout the UK.

We now have established over 200 Roald Dahl Nurse Specialists in our nurse community and between them they are supporting over 40,000 children who have lifelong, complex illnesses. We are focused on those children who have exceptional and complex health conditions which include a multitude of needs, so they are under multiple consultants and need expert care on a daily basis. This is where our nurses come in. The care they provide is clinical whilst also holistic and families have described them as a "lifeline".

We are proud that almost every single post we have established within the NHS Trusts still remain and that is because we know how important it is to demonstrate impact and how to build on partnerships, so they grow and flourish. On our 30th anniversary in 2021, we launched the research report we had commissioned Sheffield Hallam University to do, to demonstrate the value of our nurses. Please do go to our website and have a look at our highlights report and the latest annual review. We are now excited about our plans for our forthcoming 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2026 and I look forward to discussing these with candidates for this role.

We also provide value to the nurses and the NHS Trusts in other ways; we have an online platform which is a safe and private place for our nurses to be in touch with each other to share best practice, learnings and knowledge – this is absolutely unique and the nurses also can belong to individual specialism groups such as our rare disease nurses group, so they can really gain from being in touch with others based at other parts of the UK. We also provide our nurses with a robust professional training and development programme including leadership courses and workshops, in order for them to continually improve the care and experience of care, their patients receive.

As we have seen and read from all Roald Dahl's stories, he was an unbelievable innovator and we are proud to continue his legacy through our work, for example establishing the first specialist epilepsy nurse in the UK who we are still in touch with today.

During the pandemic, following research with the families and our nurses, we understood how financially challenging it is to live with a child who is seriously ill and we launched a family financial support telephone service which looks to practically help families by unlocking benefits for them.



To date, as I write this, we have unlocked over £3.8 million pounds for these families. We have also launched and are developing emotional and counselling support services too, to ensure these families don't have to suffer alone.

So, on behalf of thousands of very ill children across the UK, I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who applies for this volunteer position. I hope if you get the role, you find it as rewarding as I and my trustee colleagues do. We have some realistic ambitious plans and I look forward to working with the successful applicant and all the Board members and executive team to achieve these.

With warm wishes,

Carolyn Bradley

**Chair, Board of Trustees, Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity**

## About Us: Building on Solid Foundations

Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity, which provides specialist nurses and support to seriously ill children, was established in 1991 by Roald Dahl's widow Felicity, shortly after his death.

Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity provides specialist nurses and support for seriously ill children across the UK.

Currently, over 200 Roald Dahl Nurses care for more than 40,000 seriously ill children, but there are many more who do not receive this vital specialist care.

For many families, the road to diagnosis is complex and uncertain, juggling hospital visits, managing medications, and navigating treatments and tests. They are often under the care of multiple specialists, across different hospitals.

Navigating this challenging world can be daunting. That is where our marvellous Roald Dahl Nurses come in - ensuring that families no longer have to face their illnesses alone.

Roald Dahl Nurses are a vital lifeline to the whole family, coordinating care and providing access to emotional support. They help families feel less overwhelmed and isolated and more in control.

The dedication and expertise of Roald Dahl Nurses reduces A&E visits, hospital admissions and consultant appointments.

**That's why we believe every seriously ill child deserves a Roald Dahl Nurse.**

### **Our Vision**

Every seriously ill child deserves a Roald Dahl Specialist Nurse to help them lead a more marvellous life.

### **Our Mission**

To provide specialist nurses and support for seriously ill children living with complex, lifelong conditions.

### **Key Strategic Charitable Aim**

To improve the healthcare outcomes and resilience of seriously ill children and their families living with complex, lifelong, and under-funded conditions.

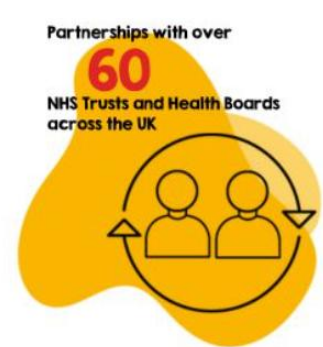
When our charity was set up, no one could have foreseen that it would celebrate its 30th anniversary in the midst of a global pandemic. That was a humbling period for everyone, and we saw just how vital is the support our network of Roald Dahl Nurse Specialists provides to the seriously ill children and families in their care.

In order to better understand the contribution of Roald Dahl Nurse Specialists to children's healthcare, thus informing future investment strategies, Sheffield Hallam University was commissioned to independently explore and evaluate the role and impact of our nurses. The findings from this research unequivocally highlighted the profoundly positive impact of our nurses and the need for future investment in establishing more of them.

Over the last five years or so, the charity has strived not only to ensure its financial sustainability, but also to convey clarity, focus and purpose in its messaging and activities. We are proud to say that we have achieved this. Now, we look forward to building on these solid foundations and supporting many more thousands of seriously ill children and young people as well as their families.

The future is exciting, and we are keen to ensure we have the skills and recruit a finance trustee to ensure robust governance and financial controls; strengthen the existing Board; and help drive Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity forward.

## Our Impact



Roald Dahl Nurse Specialists are a vital lifeline to the children and their families, supporting them clinically and emotionally.

"If we didn't have our Roald Dahl Nurse, we'd feel completely alone". Parent of a seriously ill child.

We highly value our relationships with the NHS, creating and innovating seriously ill children's healthcare with them, improving outcomes and making better lives.

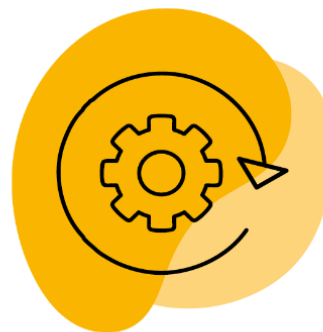
## Roald Dahl Nurses' four impact areas



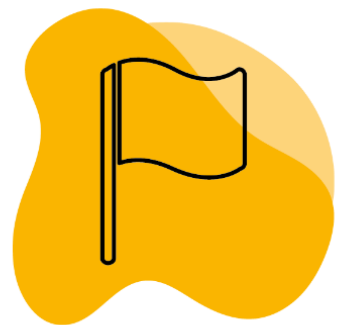
**Quality and experience of care**



**Holistic family-centered care**



**Efficiencies and cost-effectiveness**



**Leadership and innovation**

## The Role

We are now seeking a **Trustee with strong financial skills and sound understanding of the regulatory and governance landscape** to join our Board, act as the lead for financial oversight, and help guide the organisation through its next stage of growth and impact.

Trustees are expected to use their knowledge, skills, and experience to ensure that Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity achieves its charitable objectives, represents the interests of all stakeholders, and acts as ambassadors for the charity.

Meet our Trustees here – [Trustees | Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity](#)

## Principle Responsibilities

- **Strategic Leadership:** Provide direction and advice that aligns with the charity's strategic plan and objectives, ensuring we stay true to Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity mission and values.
- **Governance and Compliance:** Ensure effective governance and the smooth running of the organisation, maintaining financial stability and adhering to all legal and regulatory requirements, including those set by the Charity Commission.
- **Financial Oversight:** Monitor the charity's financial health, ensuring strong internal controls, risk management, and financial reporting. Consider the financial impact of new or revised activities, making sure Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity operates within its means.
- **Strategic Approval:** Approve strategic plans, budgets, reserves policies, and authorisation limits, ensuring that Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity has the resources-both financial and human-to meet its goals.
- **Executive Support:** Recruit, appoint, and support the Chief Executive, delegating the day-to-day management of the organisation to them while providing oversight.
- **Investments:** Ensuring that our funds are invested responsibly and with care.
- **Representation:** Represent the Board at events, engaging with external stakeholders to promote and advance Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity's mission.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Connect with volunteers, beneficiaries, and other stakeholders to stay informed about our activities and the issues that affect our work.
- **Ambassadorship:** Act as an ambassador for Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity, upholding our reputation and promoting our values in all your activities.
- **Remuneration Oversight:** Oversee the remuneration, compensation, and benefits provided to staff, ensuring they are fair and aligned with the charity's policies and legal requirements.

## Finance responsibilities

- To Chair the Finance & Investment Sub-committee.
- Oversee the financial strategy, budget and long-term sustainability of the charity.
- Liaise with the CEO and Director of Finance and HR on key financial matters.
- Support the development of management accounts, annual accounts, and statutory returns, ensuring compliance with charity law, Companies Act (where applicable), and relevant regulations (e.g., SORP).
- Lead on relationship management with external auditors.
- Ensure that robust financial controls, risk management processes, and policies are in place and adhered to.

## Terms and Conditions

Compensation	Unpaid – Trustees can claim out of pocket expenses incurred in travelling to meetings
Time Commitment	<p>Approximately 10 days per year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Trustees are expected to attend an induction session at our offices.</li><li>• Trustees are expected to prepare for and attend all board meetings which are held three times per year, generally in London during normal office hours and normally last approximately three to four hours.</li><li>• Trustee to chair the Finance and Investment Sub-Committee. These meetings take place virtually also three times a year.</li><li>• There can be an additional strategic planning away day when appropriate and it may be a residential event starting one afternoon and lasting the whole of the following day.</li><li>• Trustees will also be asked to attend two to three events per year.</li></ul>
Head Office	The Charity is registered at 17 Chiltern Business Centre, 63-65 Woodside Road, Amersham, Buckinghamshire, HP6 6AA, however meetings are generally held in London.

## How to Apply and the Recruitment Process:

Please send the following to [recruitment@roalddahlcharity.org](mailto:recruitment@roalddahlcharity.org) with your full name and Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity Trustee in the subject heading.

- An up-to-date CV detailing your relevant experience including the details of two referees (who will not be contacted without your prior consent)
- A supporting statement addressing the criteria in the person specification and your motivations for applying.

If you would like to have an informal and confidential discussion about the role, please email [recruitment@roalddahlcharity.org](mailto:recruitment@roalddahlcharity.org) and we will put you in touch with one of our current Board members.

<b>Closing date for applications</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> October 2025
<b>Shortlisting of candidates for interview</b>	Week commencing 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025
<b>Interviews with the panel</b>	Monday, 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2025
<b>Formal invite to the Board</b>	By 25 <sup>th</sup> November 2025
<b>Successful candidate to attend board meeting</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> November 2025 (2pm, Central London)

We actively welcome applications from anyone with suitable experience, irrespective of disability, ethnicity, heritage, sexuality, gender, and socio-economic background. We know that greater diversity will lead to better decision-making and better outcomes. Therefore, we also particularly encourage applications from those currently underrepresented on our Board, including people of different ethnic origins or faiths, younger people, people with disabilities and people from the LGBTQ+ community.

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