



The Brilliant Club

Recruitment Pack

Brilliant Club Trustee



Registered Limited Company: 07986971

Registered Charity: 1147771 (England and Wales), SC048774 (Scotland)

Registered Office: 17th Floor, Millbank Tower, 21-24 Millbank, SW1P 4QP

Welcome To The Brilliant Club

Thank you for taking the time to find out more about The Brilliant Club and the role that Trustees play in supporting the charity to work with more students than ever before. Over the course of our 21-26 strategy, The Brilliant Club will support over 100,000 students from less advantaged backgrounds to build the knowledge, skills and confidence to access a competitive university. The charity will also support 10,000 undergraduates to make a smooth transition from school to university, and succeed when they get there.

We have set these goals because we believe that achieving them will make a significant difference to the lives of young people. We work with students who - because of their family income, parental history of education and where they live - might otherwise miss out on the life changing opportunities that university education can bring.

As Trustees, our role is to support the charity's leaders by offering guidance, brokering connections, and bringing constructive challenge to support the charity's ongoing success throughout this strategy and beyond.

As Chair of Trustees, it is my pleasure to work with people from a range of backgrounds and sectors, and I have benefitted a great deal from the insight they bring. I look forward to welcoming new Trustees into the Board and would encourage anyone who is passionate about supporting young people to access and succeed at the most competitive universities, to consider the role they might play in bringing this mission to life as one of our new Trustees.



Dr Josephine Valentine OBE, Chair of Board of Trustees

About the role

Our 'Join The Club' strategy sets out our ambition for university access and success, focusing on two goals: working with more students than ever before and extending our support across the student journey. Our Trustees play a vital role in supporting us to achieve these goals.

The Board of Trustees, led by our Chair of Trustees, comes together on a quarterly basis to ensure that the charity is delivering its strategy, meeting its charitable objectives and being managed in a financially sustainable way. Trustees work with the Executive Leadership Team to understand successes and challenges, monitor organisational risks and make key strategic decisions on the future of the charity and its mission. These meetings are also an opportunity for Trustees to engage directly with people in different roles across the organisation and hear their experiences of working with the students, universities and schools in our community.

Outside of these meetings, Trustees are also part of the wider Brilliant Club community. They will often engage directly with our teams to broker introductions within their network or join us for events. Trustees are also welcome to see our work first hand by joining us on the university visits we arrange for students or attending celebration events for our programmes.

We are seeking up to three new Trustees to join us, and we are looking for experience in the following areas:

- **Risk Management:** Key responsibilities include developing risk management strategies, monitoring and reporting on risk-related issues, and advising the board on potential threats

and mitigation measures. The ideal candidate will have a strong background in risk management, excellent analytical and problem-solving skills, and experience in governance. This Trustee will also sit as a member of the charity's Finance, Audit and Risk Subcommittee.

- **Legal:** Key responsibilities include advising on contractual issues, governance, policy development, and ensuring that our operations align with our charitable objectives. The ideal candidate will have a strong legal background, preferably with experience in the education or non-profit sector, excellent analytical skills, and a passion for advancing educational opportunities.
- **Safeguarding:** We are seeking a Trustee with significant experience of safeguarding to join our board. The successful candidate will oversee the implementation of effective safeguarding policies and procedures. Responsibilities include advising on best practices, ensuring compliance with relevant legislation, and providing guidance to the board on safeguarding issues. The ideal candidate will have a strong background in safeguarding, excellent communication skills, and a commitment to upholding the highest standards of safety and welfare.

There may be a candidate who is qualified to occupy the position of Legal and Safeguarding Trustee, in which case we would place these two positions together.

About you

This role will suit you if you:

- Share our commitment to The Brilliant Club's mission and are willing to contribute your time and insight as a Trustee to support this.
- Have experience operating at a senior level and can draw on this experience to ask insightful questions and make strategic decisions.
- Build strong relationships and are open to sharing, where appropriate, these connections with the charity.
- Have the skills and the passion to advocate for the charity.
- Are interested and willing to learn what the role and responsibility of a Trustee is, and how this interacts with the Chair of Trustees, CEO and wider Trustee Board.

You, as part of the Board of Trustees, will be responsible for:

- Attending and participating fully in quarterly Board of Trustees meetings. For the Trustee leading on risk management, this will also include additional quarterly Finance, Audit and Risk Subcommittee meetings.
- Ensuring that the charity delivers its charitable objectives and fulfils all governing responsibilities.
- Safeguarding the charity's reputation and values.
- Ensuring that the charity's strategy is fit for purpose to deliver its mission and objectives.
- Championing the charity's mission within your network and the wider community.
- Ensuring the financial stability of the charity, and that the charity's assets are being well managed by the Executive Leadership Team.
- Supporting recruitment, remuneration and disciplinary processes for the CEO.
- Drawing on your specific skills, knowledge or experience to help the Board make effective decisions.

“It is incredibly rewarding to collaborate with a diverse and professional leadership team at The Brilliant Club, and to help deliver our invaluable mission which resonates with me personally, including my broader passion for social mobility.” Pawan Dhir, Brilliant Club Trustee



About The Brilliant Club

What we do

Access to higher education and the life-changing opportunities that come from attending the most competitive universities is not equal. 1 in 3 of the most advantaged students progress to the most competitive universities. In contrast, only 1 in 33 of the least advantaged young people access these universities. We think this is fundamentally unfair. We work across the UK to support less advantaged students to access the most competitive universities, and to succeed when they get there.

Between 2021 and 2026, we will work with 100,000 students across the UK to help them to develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to access the most competitive universities. We will also support 10,000 students from disadvantaged backgrounds to succeed once they enter universities. We hope that you'll consider joining us, as we work to create a fairer society where no child's education is limited by their background.

Working for us

- **Salary:** This is a voluntary role and therefore is unremunerated. We are able to pay reasonable travel expenses.
- **Location:** Our meetings take place in person quarterly, in our London office, and usually run from 4pm to 6.30pm.
- **Time Commitment:** Trustees are asked to commit to attending four Trustee meetings annually, at a time commitment of two and a half hours per meeting. For the Risk Trustee, the time commitment is for an additional four hours per year, to participate in the Finance, Audit and Risk Subcommittee. Trustees may also be asked to support on ad hoc requests that relate to

their particular areas of expertise, which we do not expect to exceed more than four hours per year.

- **Start Date:** October 2024, with the opportunity to shadow our September Board of Trustees in advance of formally joining.
- **Term:** Three years, with the possibility of further terms.

Diversity at The Brilliant Club

We mobilise the PhD community to support students who are less advantaged to access the most competitive universities and succeed when they get there. We think it is important that our charity reflects the lived experience of the communities we work with, and we want to be an organisation where employees from any background can thrive. We particularly welcome applications from disabled, Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic, Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans, Non-binary (LGBTQ+) candidates, and candidates from low-income families.

Safeguarding

The Brilliant Club is committed to proactively safeguarding children, beneficiaries and staff and to taking reasonable steps to protect all those who come into contact with the Charity from harm. The safety and welfare of everyone affected by the Charity's activities, especially children, is a key governance priority. As part of our recruitment and selection process and commitment to safeguarding, we will undertake a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check of all individuals in this role. Any role offer will be subject to a satisfactory disclosure report.

What comes next

If you are interested in applying for one of these roles, please send an email to shelby.mchugh@thebrilliantclub.org by **Wednesday 28th August** outlining which Trustee role you are interested in, along with a short summary of your current role and any relevant experience that you think would be useful context. We will then get in touch to arrange a call to find out more about you and answer any questions you may have about the role.

Thank you for your time and we hope you'll consider joining us as we continue our mission to support less advantaged students to access the most competitive universities and succeed when they get there.

