

## Trustee Appointment Brief

Science has always played an essential role in the growth of the global economy and now, more than ever, it is essential to the future sustainability of our planet as we know it. Physics Partners want to build-up the physics skills and knowledge of pupils so that we have a strong pipeline of enthusiastic young people helping the UK with the challenges ahead.

We are a small charity, focused on providing hands-on training and support for non-specialist and newly qualified physics teachers in state secondary schools. Our mission is to increase the number of young people studying physics beyond GCSE, with a particular emphasis on under-represented groups such as girls, and white boys from disadvantaged backgrounds. We have a central team of three part-time roles and had an income of £160k last year.

We are currently seeking **two new trustees** with experience in one or more of the following areas:

- **Charity Law**
- **STEM education/research**
- **Industry**
- **Fundraising**

Additionally, one of the new trustees will be invited to take on the **Honorary Secretary** role. We are looking for individuals who can bring their expertise to help steer the charity's growth while supporting its core mission of improving physics education.

### About Physics Partners

Physics Partners was founded to address the shortage of qualified physics teachers in state schools, especially in schools with fewer resources. Many schools rely on non-specialist teachers who lack the subject knowledge and confidence to inspire students in physics. Our training programs are designed to fill this gap by enhancing teachers' knowledge and skills, enabling them to deliver engaging, high-quality lessons that encourage more students—particularly girls—to pursue physics at the post-16 level and into STEM careers.

Last academic year we delivered over 3,000 hours of physics support, supporting teachers from 470 schools, impacting an estimated 120,000 pupils.

### The Role of Trustee

This is a **voluntary, unremunerated** role with reasonable travel expenses covered. Trustee meetings are held **four times a year** (both online and in person, typically in London).

We are looking for trustees who are **committed, collaborative**, and able to ensure the effective governance of the charity while supporting its growth strategy. Trustees should possess:

- **Strategic leadership skills**
- **A commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion**
- **Experience in governance and supporting the charity sector**

### Key Accountabilities

As a Trustee, you will work closely with the Chief Executive and the Board of Trustees to:

- Ensure the charity operates within its charitable objectives and meets regulatory requirements.
- Support the charity's strategic goals and fundraising initiatives.

- Help with trustee recruitment and oversight of senior appointments (e.g. CEO).
  - Participate in the governance of the charity, ensuring that all legal and financial processes are followed.
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### Person Specification

We are looking for trustees who are passionate about education and governance. Ideal candidates will bring expertise in **one or more** of the following areas:

- **Legal expertise**, particularly charity law and governance
- **Experience in STEM education and research**, particularly within higher education or academic institutions.
- **Industry experience** in STEM fields (engineering, technology, etc.) or corporate settings
- **Fundraising experience**, with a proven ability to support development and donor relationships

Additionally, candidates should be able to demonstrate:

- A genuine commitment to the work of Physics Partners.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills, able to engage stakeholders at all levels.
- A commitment to promoting diversity, inclusion, and equality.
- Previous experience serving on a charity board or in a governance role (desirable but not essential).

### Recruitment Timetable

- **Deadline for applications:** 5pm on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May
- **First stage interviews (online):** Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May
- **Second stage interviews (if required):** Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

### How to Apply

To apply for the position of Trustee, please send a **CV** and a **supporting statement** (no more than one page of A4) to [info@physicspartners.com](mailto:info@physicspartners.com) with the subject "Trustee Application [Your Name]". Please include your contact details and the names of two referees. If you have any questions, please direct them to the email address above.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for interviews, and references will be requested for preferred candidates.

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### Safeguarding

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Successful candidates will be required to abide by the charity's safeguarding policy and undergo an enhanced DBS check.

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### Equality and Diversity

Physics Partners is committed to achieving greater diversity on its Board and encourages applications from all sectors of the community, regardless of sex, gender, race, age, sexuality, belief, or disability. We are particularly keen to ensure that our board reflects the diversity of the communities we serve.