



Young  
Enterprise

Member of JA Worldwide

# Applicant Information Pack

## Young Enterprise Trustee

**May 2026**



## A message from our outgoing Chair

Dear Candidate

As I prepare to step down after seven years as Chair at the end of this year, I do so with a deep sense of pride in all that this organisation has achieved and with great optimism for its future. It has been a privilege to serve alongside such dedicated trustees, colleagues and partners, all united by a shared commitment to improving financial and enterprise education for young people across the UK.

At a time when the economy and workplace are evolving faster than ever, with technology and artificial intelligence reshaping industries almost by the day, ensuring young people develop the financial capability, confidence and enterprise skills they need to navigate their futures has never been more important. Through our programmes, we aim to equip young people with the financial understanding and enterprising mindset that will help them thrive in an increasingly complex world, while also helping them build the wider skills, confidence and work readiness needed to take their next steps into employment, further education or enterprise.

During my tenure, the charity has evolved significantly. We have refreshed our strategy and sharpened our focus on impact and reach, strengthened our governance, and welcomed a new Chief Executive whose energy and vision are helping to drive the organisation forward. Together, these developments position the charity strongly for its next phase of growth and influence.

What has remained constant, however, is our core purpose: to empower young people with the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to thrive, and to contribute to the wider society, no matter their starting point. This mission has never felt more important, and it continues to inspire everyone involved in the charity's work.

The role of Trustee is both rewarding and engaging. It offers the opportunity to contribute to the charity's strategic direction, support and constructively challenge an excellent executive team, and work collaboratively with a committed Board of Trustees. It also provides a valuable perspective on the real difference the charity makes in the lives of young people.

As we look ahead, we are keen to welcome individuals who share our passion and ambition. We are seeking trustees who will bring energy, sound judgement and a strong commitment to our mission—people who will help connect the charity to supporters and funders, build on our strong foundations, and support the organisation through its next chapter.

We warmly encourage you to consider applying for this role and to join a charity that is making a meaningful and lasting impact.

**Simon Lewis OBE**  
**Chairman**  
**May 2026**



## About Us

### What we do

Young Enterprise (YE) is the UK's leading youth charity, specialising in enterprise and financial education. Since our founding, we have supported 7.2 million young people with financial and enterprise opportunities, including 1.1 million who have started Young Enterprise businesses.

As a founding member of Junior Achievement Worldwide (JAWW), YE is part of a global network spanning over 100 countries, united in the mission to inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy.

We provide programmes, resources, and training that give young people the skills, confidence, and mindset to earn and manage money responsibly, be enterprising, and make a positive contribution to their communities. We also bring our youth expertise to influence policy, acting as secretariat for the All Party Parliamentary Group on Financial Education for Young People and working closely with various Government departments to advocate for systemic change.

### Why we are needed

The UK faces a serious skills gap: many young people leave school without the skills they need to thrive in work and life. Young Enterprise's programmes address this by equipping young people with enterprise skills, financial literacy, and employability capabilities that prepare them for a rewarding future.

### Transforming Futures Strategy – 2024-2030

Young Enterprise's *Transforming Futures* strategy sets out an ambitious vision to ensure that every young person, whatever their starting point, has the financial education, enterprise capability, and work readiness they need to succeed.

The strategy focuses on deepening impact where it is needed most, strengthening the quality, relevance, and accessibility of programmes, and harnessing partnerships to scale what works.

Central to this is our close engagement with government and other stakeholders, ensuring that the lived experience of young people helps shape policy and drive systemic change.

*Transforming Futures* positions Young Enterprise as both a leading delivery organisation and a powerful advocate for high-quality youth financial and enterprise education across the UK.

### Where we operate

We operate in England, Scotland and Wales, and licence the delivery of Young Enterprise Programmes and services in Northern Ireland through Young Enterprise Northern Ireland and Gibraltar through Young Enterprise Gibraltar.

Young Enterprise is a founding member of the global organisation, JA Worldwide (JAWW).



## Role Description

### Main duties and responsibilities of the Young Enterprise Trustee

- To ensure that the Charity complies with its governing document (Articles of Association), charity and company law and other relevant legislation or regulations.
- To ensure that the Charity pursues its objects as defined in its governing document.
- To ensure that the Charity applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its objects (i.e. the charity must not spend money on activities which are not included in its own objects, no matter how worthwhile or charitable those activities are).
- To contribute actively to the Board of Trustees' role in ensuring that the Charity has a firm strategic direction, clear overall policy, agreed objectives and targets, and monitoring and evaluating performance against those objectives and targets.
- To safeguard the good name and values of the Charity.
- To appoint the Chief Executive Officer and Senior Leadership Group members.
- To monitor the effective and efficient management and administration of the Charity (including the employment, management and welfare of all staff), delegating day-to-day responsibility to the Chief Executive as appropriate.
- To safeguard the financial stability and solvency of the Charity.
- To protect and manage the property of the Charity, including any buildings or other assets, and to ensure the proper investment of the Charity's funds.

In addition to the statutory duties above, each Trustee should abide by the *Good Governance Code of Practice*, using any specific skills, knowledge or experience they have to help the Board of Trustees reach sound decisions. This may involve scrutinising Board papers, leading discussions, focusing on key issues, providing advice and guidance on new initiatives, or other issues in which the Trustee has special expertise.

The Board of Trustees share and promote the following qualities:

- A passionate enthusiasm for supporting the beneficiaries of the Young Enterprise Programmes and the work of the Young Enterprise Charity.
- The adherence to the [\*\*Good Governance: a code for the voluntary and community sector\*\*](#): an effective board will provide good governance and leadership by:
  1. Understanding their role
  2. Ensuring delivery of organisational purpose
  3. Working effectively both as individuals and as a team
  4. Exercising effective control
  5. Behaving with integrity; and
  6. Being open and accountable

## Other requirements

### Essential

- To attend Trustee board meetings (6 per year) and other meetings as required, usually in London
- To undertake visits and other Trustee responsibilities as required
- To undertake training and participate in evaluation of the Board's work

### Time commitment

It is anticipated that Trustees will be required to commit to between 7-10 days per year and be able to attend 4-6 Board meetings in London per year.

### Payments

This is an unpaid role and Trustees are not entitled to receive any payment out of the Charity's funds, other than reasonable 'out of pocket' expenses e.g. for travel to meetings.

### Appointment term

The normal term is three years. Trustees may be considered for reappointment up to a maximum period of six years.

### Keeping Young People Safe

Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and vulnerable adults to protect them from harm.

At Young Enterprise, we take our commitment to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults seriously. We design our roles, programmes and services with safeguarding in mind; conduct thorough checks on new employees, contractors, trustees and volunteers in line with UK safeguarding legislation; and ensure that our people have the safeguarding knowledge and skills they need to do their role and are supported to regularly refresh their training.

All successful applicants in eligible roles, including our Trustees, will need to undertake an enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) Check prior to starting in the role, and at subsequent 3-year intervals. In addition, no Young Enterprise Trustee will at any point be unaccompanied while in the presence of children under the age of 18. All Trustees will also be required to undertake Safeguarding Training prior to starting the role and at subsequent 3-year intervals.

In line with the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, in the vast majority of cases DBS checks which contain information on previous convictions will not disqualify an individual from working with us. If you have any questions, please contact the Young Enterprise Volunteering Team at [volunteer.support@ye.org.uk](mailto:volunteer.support@ye.org.uk)



## Person Specification

We seek individuals who are passionate about our mission and recognise the powerful difference that education in all forms can make to the futures of young people.

We need innovative, strategic thinkers who look at the bigger picture and will be bold and ambitious for our future. There is a huge opportunity to drive transformative change and create the conditions for all young people to thrive.

We know that diverse perspectives make us stronger, and our continued aim is to bring together a Board who are diverse in ideas, in background, in experience, in outlook and in the views they express. We're encouraging applications from people who have lived experience of disadvantaged communities or experience of working with young people facing barriers to opportunity. What matters is to bring a strategic lens, and to help us represent the breadth of communities we serve.

### Key Attributes

- Good listening skills
- Collaborative, effective communicator
- Commitment to working with young people
- Ability to be an effective ambassador and influencer
- Sound judgment
- Strategic mindset
- Understanding of good governance
- Ability to dedicate the necessary time to the role
- A commitment to Safeguarding

### At this time we are looking for individuals with expertise and abilities in the following areas:

- Finance – a qualified accountant interested in chairing our Risk and Audit Committee
- Governance – with experience of employment law and/or charity law
- Human Resources – experience at a senior level



## How to apply

To apply for this role please provide the following documents:

- ◆ An up to date CV. Please provide a PDF document labelled 'CV' and your name and the role you are applying for.
- ◆ A supporting document. Please submit a PDF document (maximum 2 sides of A4) outlining why you are applying for this role, and your fit for the role based on the essential criteria set out in the person specification and role description. Please label this 'Supporting information' and your name.

Applications should be sent to [jobs@y-e.org.uk](mailto:jobs@y-e.org.uk)

**Applications for our Trustee roles will be reviewed on a rolling basis, ending on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2026.**

## Further Reading

The Young Enterprise [Annual Report & Accounts for the year ending July 2025](#)

The Young Enterprise [Transforming Futures Strategy](#)