

## Trustee Recruitment Pack

March 2021



## **Dyslexia Sparks – supporting dyslexic individuals to fulfil their potential**

Would you like to make a difference to the lives of dyslexic children and adults in Hull and East Yorkshire?

Dyslexia Sparks is Hull and East Yorkshire's only registered charity for dyslexia. We are recruiting for Trustees who share our vision for a world where dyslexic individuals are recognised and celebrated for the unique talents and strengths that they have to offer.

Dyslexia Sparks' mission is to support dyslexic individuals of all ages to unleash their inner spark and reach their full potential. Our professional services include diagnostic dyslexia assessments, specialist tuition and free advice and guidance. We work with individuals, organisations and schools across the region; delivering specialist services and training. We support the families of dyslexic individuals too with free parent/carer support groups and training events. Our awareness-raising work promotes understanding and positivity around dyslexia.

As the only charity for dyslexia and associated specific learning difficulties (SPLDs) in the region, it is critical – now more than ever before – that we continue our vital work.

### **That's where you come in.**

We are looking for committed and skilled Trustees to complement our experienced, specialist team.

### **The role**

As a Trustee, you'll play a pivotal role in ensuring the continuing success of an organisation that has been helping dyslexic individuals to thrive since 2016.

You'll be a great ambassador for our charity – committed to supporting Dyslexia Sparks in achieving our mission and vision. Providing governance, mentorship and strategic input,

you'll strengthen our ability to support a wider range and higher number of families in the future.

This is an exciting opportunity to become part of a well-established organisation that delivers a unique, specialist and whole-person approach which makes a real difference to the lives of its beneficiaries.

### Time Commitment

- Three to four board meetings per year. Meetings typically run from 6 to 8pm.
- One development day per year.
- It would be desirable for Trustees to have the availability to attend other events and provide ad-hoc support as required.

Term: minimum of one year from election.

### About You

We are interested in hearing from individuals with a variety of skills and experience. Primarily, you will share our commitment to making a difference.

We would welcome expressions of interest from individuals with skills in a range of areas which may include – but are not exclusive/limited to – the following

- **Partnership development** – outreach to potential partners, scoping joint projects
- **Legal and governance** – experience of charity or voluntary sector law and governance
- **Fundraising** – strategy, techniques and implementation, networking, grants, trusts, collaborative bids
- **Mental health** – clinical, management, lived experience, assessment and evaluation

Although it would be welcomed, previous Trustee experience is not necessary. Enthusiasm for and knowledge of our cause is. Our Trustees demonstrate a strong commitment to the charity sector and the work we do at Dyslexia Sparks to support individuals with dyslexia and related SPLDs.

### Person Specification

- Business acumen with the confidence and experience to ask meaningful, constructive and challenging questions about Dyslexia Sparks' business activities and services.
- Proven organisational management experience at a senior level.
- Experience of setting targets, monitoring and evaluating performance and achieving results in either the commercial, public and/or charity sectors.
- Ability to work at a strategic level, think creatively and criticise constructively.
- Ability to probe facts, challenge assumptions and identify the advantages and disadvantages of proposals.
- Ability to work as a member of team.
- Understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of charity trusteeship.
- Knowledge of SPLDs including dyslexia and how it can affect individuals
- Depending on experience, a willingness to undertake training in relation to Trusteeship.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, with the ability to communicate effectively with a diverse range of people and build rapport with beneficiaries.
- Ability to maintain a high level of confidentiality and discretion at all times.
- Strong personal qualities including integrity, honesty, patience and a strong commitment to our cause.
- A willingness to devote the necessary time and effort to Trusteeship.

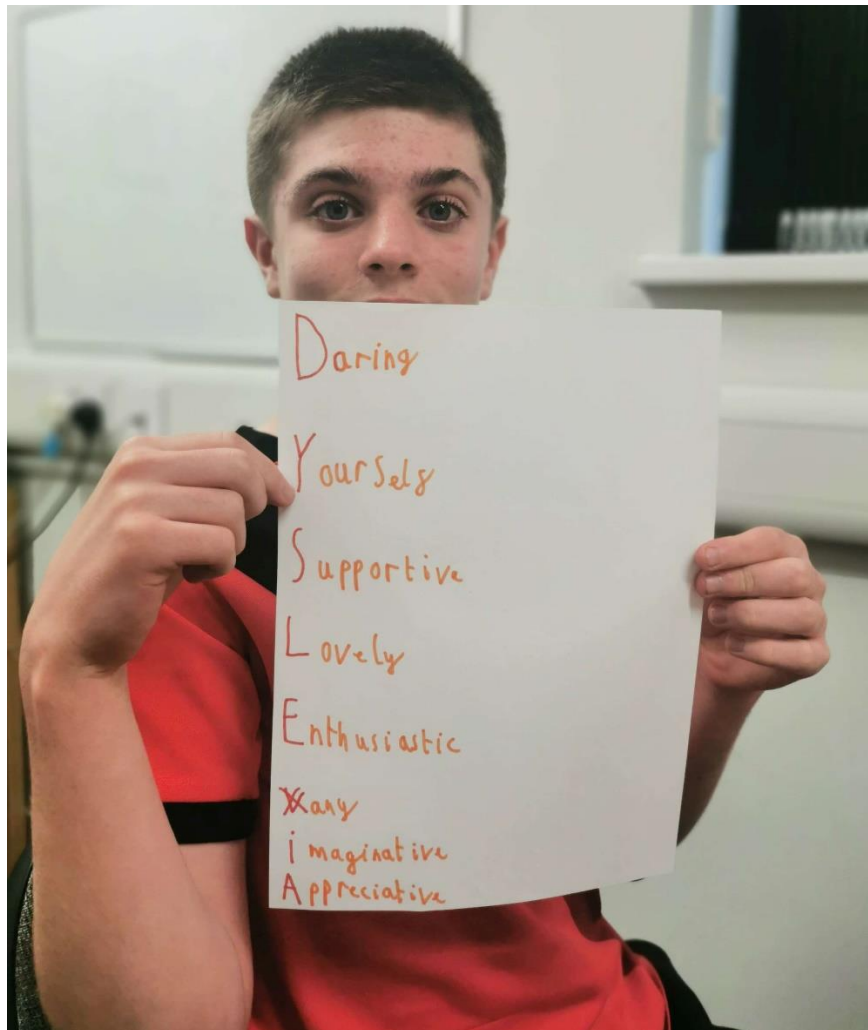
### How to Apply

Applications should be made via email to our Founding Director, Jane Craig, at [Jane.Craig@dyslexia-sparks.org.uk](mailto:Jane.Craig@dyslexia-sparks.org.uk) in the first instance.

Please provide your CV, along with a covering letter stating why you wish to work for the organisation, how your skills would add value to the board and any other information you feel is relevant.

Dyslexia Sparks is an equal opportunities employer and values diversity. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all learners and expect all staff to share this commitment.

Successful applicants will be required to undertake appropriate recruitment and safeguarding checks, including DBS, as well as providing proof of the right to work in the UK.



**#FindYourSpark**