



Trustee

(Chair, Quality & Patient Safety Committee)

Candidate information pack

May 2025

About us

We are the UK's leading charity for children with brain injury and neurodisability. We deliver rehabilitation, education and community services through skilled teams who work with children and young people, and their families.

Every year 40,000 children in the UK are left with a brain injury as a result of an accident or illness – they may no longer be able to walk, talk, stand, sit, or feed themselves – sometimes all of these abilities.

At The Children's Trust, we aim to help rebuild as many of their skills as possible, as well as their self-esteem. A child's confidence is central to that relearning.

We help children do this through play, exploration, laughter and having fun; things that are often absent when a child has limited mobility or has had a challenging time. By combining music, singing, arts and crafts, day trips and other activities, with therapy, healthcare and education, children do not focus on what they cannot do, they just do it and have fun.

Our services are provided through:

Rehabilitation

- Our Rehabilitation service provides individually tailored, multidisciplinary rehabilitation programmes at our national specialist centre for children who have experienced a brain injury.

The Children's Trust School

- The Children's Trust School provides education for children with complex needs, alongside multiple barriers to learning. The school also offers an early years programme.

Community Rehabilitation Service

- Our Community Rehabilitation Service offers digital resources, national virtual advice and consultation, as well as community rehabilitation and outpatient packages, for children with acquired brain injury.



Our impact in numbers

Overall reach

472

children reached

61

children, on average, at our Tadworth site per day, across both our school and rehabilitation services

95%

of families would recommend us to their friends, family, and other parents if they needed similar care or treatment



Rehabilitation

85

children and young people received intensive rehabilitation at our national specialist centre following a brain injury

220

goals were set by children and their families using the Goal Attainment Scale (GAS).

85%

of the goals were achieved 'as expected' or above with 22% of goals 'much better' than expected and 24% of goals 'a little better' than expected



The Children's Trust School

43

children and young people attended our school

21

parents and children attended our parent-child group, Taddies

85%

of the goals were achieved 'as expected' or above at the end of the academic year



Community Rehabilitation Services

74,572

unique visitors accessed support and information

328

children and young people were supported by the Community Rehabilitation team in 2023/24.

206

children and young people were supported with follow up support and advice

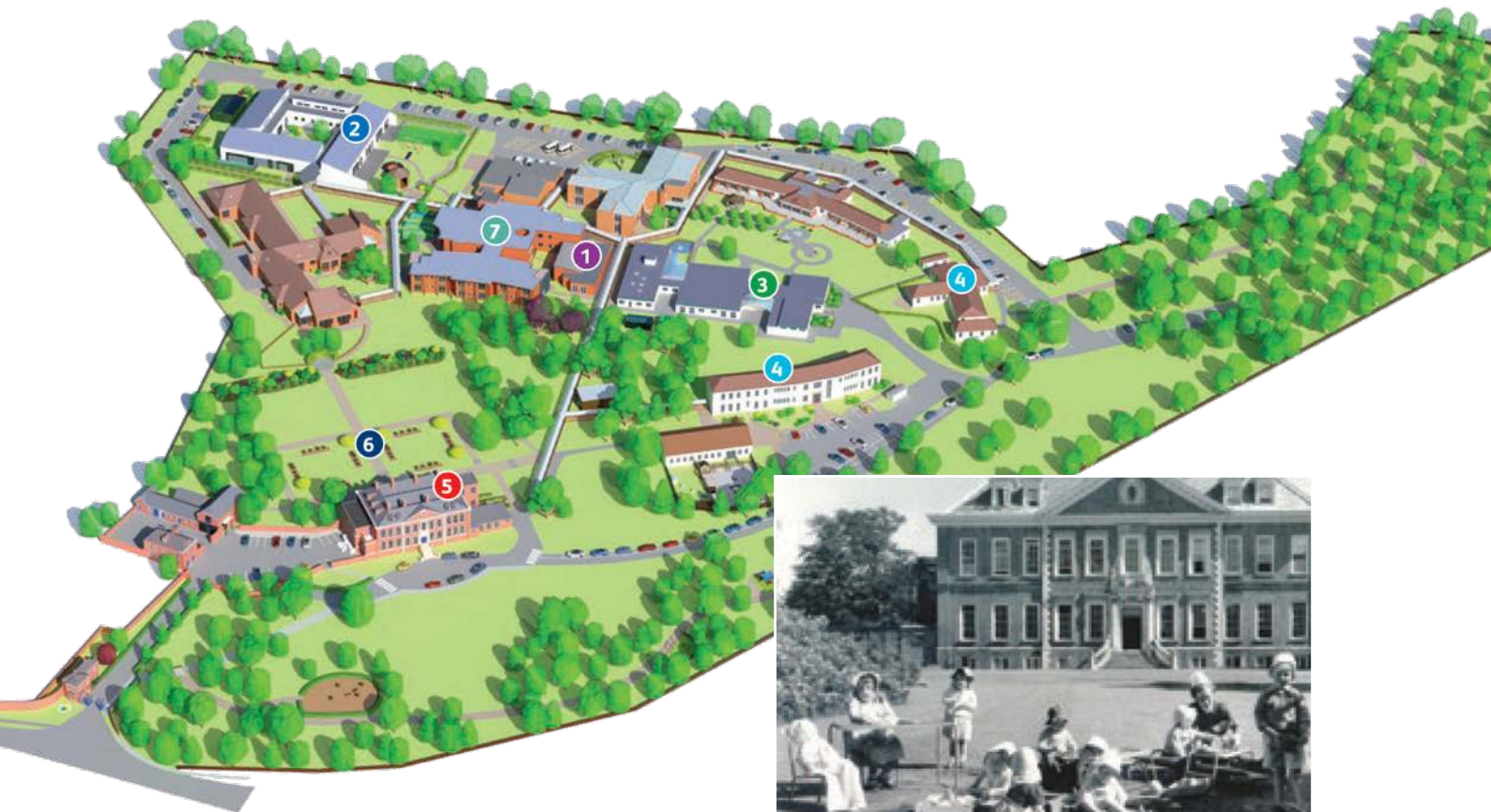


About the site

Tadworth Court, a country mansion, has been here since the 17th century. Caring for children on site began in 1927 when Peter Reid left a legacy of £20,000 to create a country branch of Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital (inset). In 1984 The Children's Trust became proud custodians. Today it's home to our specialist rehabilitation service for children with acquired brain injury.

We are trusted and recognised as the country's leading centre of excellence. Our team of experts care for some of the most vulnerable children with brain injury, neurodisability and complex needs from across the UK. Over the years, our amazing supporters have helped us create specialist, purpose-built facilities all on one historic site.

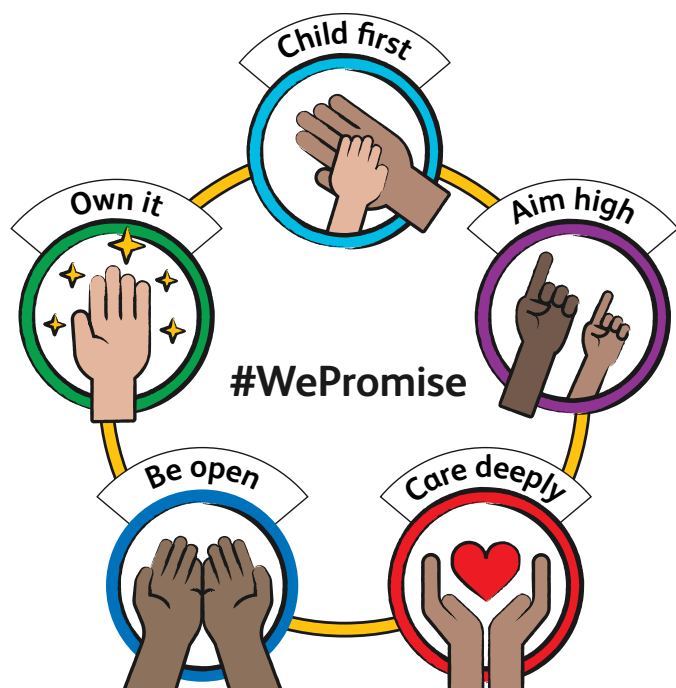
Site map



Key

1. **Hydrotherapy pool** – for rehabilitation, physical development and well-being.
2. **New Cheyne Centre** – our therapy centre, funded through legacy donations. A variety of sessions take place here including physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, psychological support, music therapy and play therapy. It houses a gymnasium for physiotherapy sessions, an occupational therapy kitchen, a sensory room, a music room, a soft play facility as well as school classrooms.
3. **The Children's Trust School** – for children with complex health and medical needs, alongside multiple barriers to learning.
4. **Family accommodation** – we have a range of options for parents and carers to stay on-site.
5. **Mansion** – including reception, offices, canteen and meeting rooms.
6. **Rose garden** – heritage garden set out in original 17th century style.
7. **Residential houses** – we have 8 residential homes located across our site for children visiting us for neurorehabilitation and for residential pupils from The Children's Trust School. Our residential houses provide a home from home atmosphere.

Our culture and values



Our Promises capture our strengths and aspirations. They guide the way we act, interact and come together to achieve our goals.

The journey we took to reach our Promises was an important one. A highly collaborative and iterative process that has seen each word shaped by our people – our volunteers, employees, partners, trustees and suppliers, internally and externally.

Perhaps most importantly, at the core of this process are the children, young people and their families.

This journey has given us a critical opportunity to give children and young people a voice. As a result, our Promises have been genuinely enriched by them.

That's because how we work and carry out our role is as important as what we do, and that's why as part of The Children's Trust, we all need to live by our five Promises.

Our promises

Child first

- To put children and young people first, seeking their views and sharing decision-making with them.
- To contribute to our community, making it warm, positive and fun.
- To connect meaningfully with children and young people, enriching their lives.

Aim high

- To be curious and courageous, exploring new ideas.
- Think big, finding ways to add value and improve what we do.
- To focus on quality, act responsibly and use evidence to support our choice.

Care deeply

- To be friendly and show genuine compassion.
- To connect and collaborate effectively inside and outside of our charity.
- To recognise and encourage each other, taking time to celebrate successes.

Be open

- To speak up confidently and look for solutions.
- To listen to others, sharing and receiving feedback in a positive way.
- To invite different views, respecting everyone's roles and contributions.

Own it

- To take responsibility, owning what we do and delivering on our promises.
- To set ourselves high standards and use our expertise across the charity.
- To grow from mistakes, taking every opportunity to develop and improve.

Role description

Trustees of The Children's Trust play a critical role in the leadership of our charity, ensuring that it achieves its objects to the benefit of children, young people and their families.

With the Trustee Chair of our Quality & Patient Safety Committee approaching the end of her term, we are looking to appoint a new trustee with board-level experience as a clinical leader and with expertise in clinical governance. Our clear preference would be for a candidate from a senior nursing background, but we are open to discussion with clinicians with experience relevant to the work of The Children's Trust.

This is an exciting time to join the Trustee Board as The Children's Trust develops and operationalises a new strategy to ensure it continues to thrive into the future, fulfilling its duties and responsibilities to its beneficiaries.

Our most important objective is to appoint trustees who are motivated and excited by the charity's work and ambition and who display a strong affinity with the needs and experiences of its beneficiaries.

We are particularly looking for someone with a senior nursing background with board or near board-level experience who would be suitable to take on the role of Chair of our Quality & Patient Safety Committee. Given the nature of TCT's services, we have a clear preference for someone from a senior nursing background, ideally in paediatrics, with expertise in clinical governance.

We would consider making more than one appointment if appropriate. The charity has been reviewing its strategy over the past year, and our new strategy will have, at its heart, our role as a provider of clinical services, working increasingly closely as part of wider local, regional and national healthcare systems. Providing safe and effective care for all children and young people at The Children's Trust is and will continue to be our number one priority. We continue to further strengthen our clinical governance systems and processes in line with national policy.

We would like to hear from you, if you have significant clinical leadership experience and have a track record of achievement in driving the clinical governance and quality agenda for children and young people.



Key responsibilities

As a trustee and full board member, you will be responsible for:

- Ensuring The Children's Trust (TCT) is carrying out its purpose for public benefit, maximising its reach and impact;
- Ensuring compliance with TCT's governing document, charity law and all other relevant regulations;
- Ensuring the board acts in the charity's best interests, exercising reasonable care and skill in its decision-making, managing TCT's resources responsibly and avoiding exposing the charity's assets or beneficiaries or reputation to undue risk;
- Contributing to the strategic development and planning process, including providing commercial acumen, insight into the external market and wider sector, or bringing experience of strategy development at similar organisations;
- Ensuring the organisational culture and values, governance arrangements, management and operational structures are fit for purpose, helping TCT achieve its strategic aims and objectives and minimise risk;
- Reviewing and approving budgets and business plans to ensure alignment with strategic objectives;
- Supporting the board to fulfil the full range of its statutory and oversight responsibilities. This includes oversight of operational and financial performance, risk management, governance (corporate, clinical and educational), quality and regulatory compliance and in providing assurance on these matters to the board;
- Coaching and mentoring senior leadership or providing subject matter expertise on specific topics/ challenges;
- Participating and contributing to the activities of any working party groups the board or its committees may set up from time to time to lead specific projects and initiatives;
- Supporting fundraising events and initiatives including through personal networks;
- Ensuring the organisation has robust safeguarding arrangements in place.



Person specification

Specific skills and experience

Essential

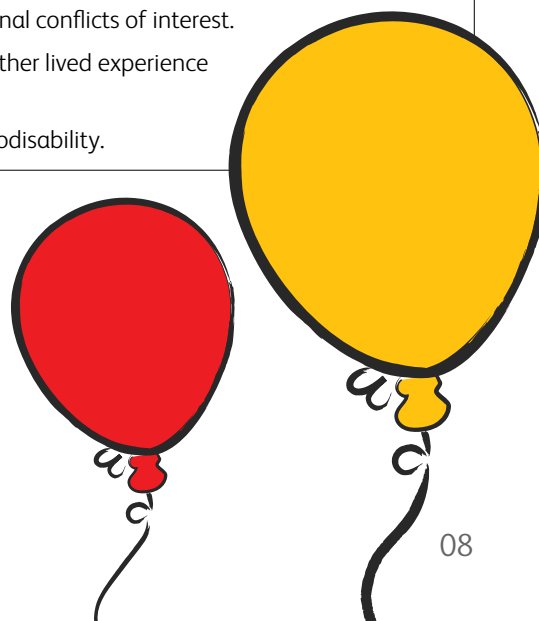
- A senior/chief nurse operating at or near board level with experience of leading on patient safety, clinical governance, safeguarding and quality agendas.

Desirable

- Effective committee-chairing skills and experience.
- Familiar with clinical governance frameworks and best practice, and their application in a range of circumstances.
- Strong grasp of current patient safety principles, such as Freedom to Speak up, models for continuous improvement, complaints procedures, PSIRF.
- Familiarity with regulatory requirements, including Care Quality Commission requirements for children and young people.
- Significant safeguarding leadership experience, and familiar with current legislation.
- Knowledge and experience of paediatrics, in particular within specialist children's services.
- Current registration with relevant professional body, preferably in a child health discipline.
- Ability to contextualise own skills and experience to differing situations.
- Ability to influence transformation and clinical strategy development.
- Demonstrable knowledge and understanding of the impact of brain injury on the whole family.
- Experience in the oversight of patient and family experience initiatives.

General personal attributes

- Understanding of the responsibilities of charity trustees.
- A well-developed, continuous improvement mindset.
- An effective communicator who can express ideas clearly and concisely, listen actively to other views and engage stakeholders in a positive future vision.
- Able to build relationships with key stakeholders.
- Able to absorb sometimes complex information and rationalise appropriately.
- Able to think laterally and independently in order to arrive at proportionate and pragmatic solutions.
- Able to commit sufficient time to help drive the charity forward through a period of change.
- High standards of ethical behaviour and avoidance of any personal conflicts of interest.
- A clear commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion through either lived experience or allyship towards under-represented communities.
- Lived experience or proximate exposure to brain injury and neurodisability.



How to apply

The closing date for applications is **20 July 2025**.

Applications should include:

- A covering letter explaining why the appointment interests you, how you meet the appointment criteria and what you specifically would bring to the post.
- A Curriculum Vitae (CV) with education and professional qualifications and full employment history. Please include telephone contact numbers and email addresses. The CV should include names and contact details of referees to cover the last six years (in line with NHSE guidance). References will not be taken without your permission.
- A completed **Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form** and **Fit and Proper Person Monitoring Form**. Please note that the information you provide will be treated as confidential, and is for monitoring purposes only. It will not form part of the application process.

All applications should be sent to: applications@hunter-healthcare.com. All applications will be acknowledged.

Our recruitment partners are Hunter Healthcare. For an informal conversation about this important role, please contact **Rhiannon Smith** or **Jackson Wilson** by email: jwilson@hunter-healthcare.com or by phone: **07432 414998**.

KEY DATES:

Application Deadline	20 July 2025
Longlisting	24 July 2025
Shortlisting	8 or 15 August 2025
Interview	w/c 8 or 15 September 2025





The Children's Trust

Tadworth Court

Tadworth

Surrey KT20 5RU

Company registered in England & Wales no. 1757875

Registered charity no. 288018L

t: 01737 365 000

w: www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk

e: enquiries@thechildrenstrust.org.uk

X @childrens_trust



Floor 2, Berkshire House
168-173 High Holborn, London WC1V 7AA

T: 020 7935 4570
E: enquiries@hunter-healthcare.com