

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES RECRUITMENT PACK



MESSAGE FROM BRECK FOUNDATION

**Breck's story
has a global
resonance and
relevance, and
we are
determined to
generate as
wide-reaching
an impact with
it as possible.**

Thank you for your interest in becoming the Chair of Trustees for Breck Foundation. It is an incredibly exciting time to be joining us!

Since we began, we have reached more than 335,000 people in person or on video, including over 276,000 children and young people. And we don't want to stop here! As our new Chair, you would play a key part in steering the Foundation through its next chapter of expansion and sustainable growth.

In 2022 we launched a five-year strategy, and it has helped us scale up our impact, our reach and our influence beyond what we imagined. We are now preparing to launch a new growth strategy, and our incoming Chair will help shape and deliver it from day one.

The need for our work has never been clearer. Ofcom's latest research found that nearly three quarters of 11 to 17 year olds had seen harmful content online in the past month, and only 40% of parents believe the benefits of social media outweigh the risks.

The digital landscape keeps evolving, and unregulated online spaces continue to be exploited by predators, groomers and scammers seeking to cause harm. With the Online Safety Act now in force and a social media ban for under-16s on the horizon, children and families need honest, trusted education about staying safe online more than ever.

We are committed to making the internet a place where children can live, play and thrive in safety. If you are too, we would love to hear from you.

We are also committed to increasing the diversity of our Board, to help us reflect and further understand all the communities we aim to reach. We would particularly encourage applications from people from LGBTQAI+, Black, Asian or minority ethnic communities.

If you are interested in the role, then please do get in touch to discuss the opportunity further.



ERICA THORNTON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



RUPERT COLES
CHAIR OF TRUSTEES



LORIN LAFAVE GORDON
FOUNDER

ABOUT BRECK FOUNDATION

WE ARE HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE RECLAIM THE INTERNET

Breck Foundation is at the forefront of efforts to safeguard children and young people online.

Our organisation was founded in 2014 in response to the tragic loss of Breck Bednar, a 14-year-old boy who was groomed and murdered by an online predator. Our work aims to prevent this from ever happening again. Our work saves lives.

Since our founding we have reached more than 335,000 people in person or on video, including over 276,000 children and young people, alongside thousands of teachers, professionals, parents and carers.

Our talks and educational programmes fill a gap in the current UK curriculum that otherwise leaves children vulnerable to online grooming and exploitation.

We take a whole community approach. Through our Speaker Sessions, our RISE e2e whole-school early intervention programme, our Game Over live-filmed theatre project, and our Breck Ambassadors youth voice programme, we work with young people, teachers, school support staff, parents and the wider public to build a network of digital champions: adults and young people empowered to take effective action to protect the wellbeing and lives of children.

We do more than educate. We bring a unique and respected perspective to policymakers across all levels of government, to national inquiries and to technology companies, helping to shape digital policies and practices that put young people's safety first.

With 98% of young people now active internet users, current and future generations are growing up navigating new and evolving digital dangers. We are committed to making the internet a place where children can live, play and thrive in safety.

We are helping young people reclaim the internet.

WE HAVE
BRECK
FOUNDATION
SPEAKERS ALL
OVER THE UK

BRECK
BEDNAR



Honestly



Inclusivity



Pro-tech & gaming



Co-production



OUR VALUES

WHY NOW?

Our current Chair is stepping down after three years of dedicated service, having helped the Foundation strengthen its governance, grow its programmes and significantly extend its reach and influence.

The Foundation now stands at an exciting moment. We are preparing to launch a new growth strategy, and our incoming Chair will play a defining role in shaping and delivering it. With children's online safety higher on the public and political agenda than ever before, this is a rare opportunity to lead a charity whose work is urgent, distinctive and genuinely lifesaving.

THE ROLE OF CHAIR

As our Chair of Trustees, you will lead the overall governance of the charity, building on the gains made in recent years and guiding the Board and Chief Executive through the launch and delivery of our new growth strategy.

Day-to-day running of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive. Your role is to provide oversight and challenge through a close, constructive working relationship with the Chief Executive, in a way that maximises the contribution of trustees and staff alike and keeps everyone focused on achieving the charity's mission.

***THIS ROLE IS CRUCIAL TO OUR ABILITY TO
RISE TO THE CHALLENGES OF KEEPING
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SAFE ONLINE.***



WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

As our new Chair, you will bring:

- Senior leadership experience in the charity, public or private sector, ideally including board or committee experience.
- A strong understanding of charity governance and the duties of trustees, or a clear commitment to developing this quickly.
- Experience of leading organisations through strategic change or growth.
- The ability to chair meetings effectively, build consensus and bring out the best in a diverse board.
- An understanding of the financial and fundraising challenges facing charitable organisations.
- A genuine commitment to children and young people's safety and wellbeing, and to the Breck Foundation's mission.
- Availability to participate in quarterly Board meetings, relevant sub-committee meetings and regular one-to-ones with the Chief Executive



We welcome applications from people of all backgrounds and are committed to building a board that reflects the diversity of the communities we serve.

You do not need to have been a Chair before. If you bring the right skills, values and commitment, we would love to hear from you.

ROLE DESCRIPTION

SPECIFIC DUTIES

Ensure that the trustees' board functions effectively by:

- Identifying and adding the skills and experience required on the board.
- Seeking new trustees from diverse sources of experience, thought and culture.
- Establishing clear procedures for the re-election and retirement of trustees, and developing a succession plan.
- Maintaining an appropriate sub-committee structure.
- Chairing meetings efficiently through well-structured agendas and briefing papers, encouraging participation from all trustees.

Ensure that trustees understand their responsibilities by:

- Using trustee role descriptions.
- Arranging comprehensive trustee induction and training programmes.
- Ensuring the board reviews its collective performance, and trustees their individual contributions, annually.

Ensure that the charity plans strategically by:

- Working closely with the Chief Executive to ensure clarity about the charity's mission at all levels of the organisation.
- Leading the board's role in shaping, approving and monitoring the new growth strategy.
- Ensuring management effort is directed within a framework of clearly stated strategies and key tasks.



Ensure that the boundaries of management authority are clearly defined, in particular by:

- Agreeing with the Chief Executive a clear understanding of each other's roles.
- Ensuring a financial policy framework is in place within which management has freedom to run the charity's operations.
- Ensuring the Chief Executive is clear about the key performance indicators the trustees will use to monitor performance.
- Analysing the risks inherent in the charity's activities, including safeguarding, and ensuring appropriate trustee oversight.

Other responsibilities:

- Meet the Chief Executive regularly and appraise their performance annually.
- Be involved in the recruitment of senior staff and ensure they are properly remunerated.
- Act as an ambassador for the Foundation, promoting the charity publicly and representing it at events, including fundraising events

General Responsibilities of all Breck Foundation Trustees:

- Ensure the charity complies with its governing document, charity law and any other relevant legislation or regulations.
- Ensure the financial stability of the charity.
- Ensure the organisation applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its charitable objects.



MORE INFORMATION

Our financial year runs from 1 June to 31 May - [see our latest annual accounts](#)

Registered charity number: 1168384

Our Board meetings are held virtually and so you can be based in any part of the United Kingdom. The Chair will need to commit to 1 day per month for this role.

Please note that this is an unpaid role, but reasonable travel costs will be reimbursed. Most in-person Breck Foundation events are London based.

Please apply via Charity Jobs uploading your CV and Cover Letter: [APPLY](#)

Closing date: Tuesday 1st September at 10am

Video interview: w/c 7th September

USEFUL LINKS

- [Breck Foundation strategy](#)
- [Essential trustee guide](#)
- [Charity Governance Code](#)

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

