



Action for Stammering Children is looking for Trustees!

Please read on ...

Action for Stammering Children (ASC) is looking to recruit two enthusiastic and suitably qualified people to join our Trustee Board – ideally one with a background in academic work in a field related to speech and language difficulties, and the other with experience in the policy world and/ or corporate sector. You might have a personal connection to stammering but this is not required. Your interest, enthusiasm and experience are the most important.

What is Action for Stammering Children?

Action for Stammering Children is the UK charity for children and young people who stammer, their families, and the communities who support them. We are a small charity, founded in 1989, but one that has big ambitions and punches considerably above its weight.

We're here to make sure that every child who stammers has the support, respect and confidence to live the life they want to lead.

We support and empower parents, caregivers and professionals; facilitate and champion research; and campaign for changes in policy and societal attitudes

What do we do?

1. Provide information, community and support

We provide resources, advice and guidance for children and young people who stammer, their families, and the professionals who support them.

2. Work to change policies and attitudes

We make sure the voices of children and young people who stammer are heard. We work with politicians and other decision makers to ensure the unique needs of children who stammer are reflected in public policy. But we know we can't stop there. That's why we campaign to challenge prejudices and misconceptions, seeking to change how society treats stammering and promote acceptance.



3. Champion research

We support and promote research into childhood stammering in order to build understanding and feed into our advocacy work, informing positive changes in policy and practice.

Our team

ASC currently has a staff team of four, headed up by CEO Dr Ria Bernard since 2022, and in addition we have a part-time book-keeper and often a couple of interns in the summer.

Our Board of Trustees has been chaired by Dame Jane Roberts since 2021 with Juliet Leach recently appointed as Vice-Chair. We are a professional and friendly bunch who would extend a warm welcome to new trustees. Our board includes two younger trustees who had previously been members of ASC's Youth Panel. The Youth Panel is made up of young people who themselves stammer and who inform our strategic direction as well as engage in projects of their own. Our Annual Report for 2024-25 is available on the Charity Commission website, in addition to Trustees' Reports for previous years.

We'd love to hear from potential interested applicants to explain more about what we do and who we are looking for.

In the first instance, please contact Jane Roberts at roberjane@gmail.com. Please then apply with a letter explaining your interest in the role, your CV and two references to my e-mail address.

Closing date: 15th May 2026

Interview date: 2nd June 2026

I look forward to hearing from you!

Dame Jane Roberts
Chair
Action for Stammering Children

Role description

ASC is governed by a board of trustees, comprising of:

- Chair
- Treasurer
- Company Secretary
- and up to a maximum of 15 trustees

Charity trustees are statutorily responsible under the charity's governing document for controlling the administration and management of the charity.

The role of the trustee board is to receive assets from donors, safeguard them and apply them to the charitable purposes of ASC. The trustee board must always act in the best interests of ASC, exercising the same standard of duty of care that a prudent person would apply if looking after the affairs of someone for whom they have responsibility. The trustee board must act as a group and not as individuals.

In addition to being a registered charity, ASC is a company limited by guarantee, and ASC's trustees are registered as directors at Companies House.

ASC takes good governance seriously and we have a regularly updated Code of Governance.

The duties of a trustee board member are to:

- ensure that ASC complies with its governing document, its Articles of Association, charity law, company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations;
- ensure that ASC pursues its objects (purposes) as defined in its governing document;
- ensure ASC applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its objects;
- provide oversight and strategic direction to the organisation, both supporting and constructively challenging the charity and its staff;
- hold the Chief Executive accountable for the operational management of the organisation and makes sure there are proper arrangements in place for their appointment, supervision, support, appraisal, remuneration and, if necessary, dismissal;
- work collegially and courteously with fellow trustees, staff, partners and external stakeholders.

In addition to the above, each trustee should use any specific skills, knowledge or experience they have to help the board of trustees reach sound decisions.

Trustees are expected to read the Charity Commission's Guide CC3, The Essential Trustee, and to have knowledge of the Charity Governance Code.

Trustees shall ensure that they understand these responsibilities and discharge them effectively and with integrity, acting to high ethical standards and avoiding conflicts of interest.

Person specification

Candidates should be able to demonstrate the following skills:

- Strategic level experience in the private/ public or non-for-profit sector
- Connection to or interest in stammering
- A commitment to the values and objectives of ASC
- An understanding or a willingness to learn about the principles and rules which govern UK charities

And ideally:

- Academic experience in a field related to speech and language difficulties
- Experience in the policy world and/ or the corporate sector.

The board would welcome applications from people from a wide diversity of backgrounds from all parts of the UK.