



Head of Advocacy

Role summary

Start date: ASAP

Salary: £60,000 -£65,000

Hours: 40 hours per week

Contract: Permanent

Location: Central London – hybrid (minimum of three days in the office in London)

Annual leave: 25 days plus bank holidays

Pension: Employer contribution matched up to 5%

Reports to: Chief Executive Officer

Direct reports: Advocacy Officer

Application deadline: 24th July 2026

We are looking for a highly motivated proven team player to join our ambitious and fast-growing international charity with a mission to build a better world for babies where governments prioritise the 1,001 critical days as the foundation for a healthy society. The 1,001 critical days – from pregnancy to age two – is the time when the building blocks for lifelong emotional and physical wellbeing are laid down. We deliver our mission by funding what works, acting on evidence, and driving change through advocacy.

Role purpose

This is an exciting opportunity for an experienced international advocacy professional to lead our global engagement strategy as our inaugural Head of Advocacy. You will be joining us at a pivotal moment on our mission as we continue to develop and implement our international engagement strategy and launch a new Global Institute for the 1001 Critical Days. As our Head of Advocacy you will elevate our influence on the global stage. You will work with our senior team to drive international advocacy and engagement with policymakers, parliamentarians, international organisations, and strategic

partners. Your work will help us to position babies – and the 1,001 critical days – at the heart of global policy agendas.

You will be responsible for leading and coordinating the Foundation's relationships with leaders around the world. You will keep abreast of policy developments in our target international countries and lead our international advocacy efforts. Working closely with our Chief Executive Officer and Executive Chair, you will develop partnerships that extend our reach and deepen our impact. Through this work you will help us to bring the voice of babies to partners around the world.

You will join a close-knit team that punches above its weight, with real influence on policy affecting millions of babies worldwide.

If you're an experienced international engagement professional and exceptional mission-driven communicator, and looking for your next big challenge, we'd love to hear from you.

Job specification

Strategic leadership

- Lead the development and implementation of our international advocacy and engagement strategy.
- Assist with the launch of the Global Institute for the 1001 Critical Days.
- Communicate the Foundation's impact, learning, and thought leadership to international audiences.
- Line manage, develop and support the Advocacy Officer, setting clear objectives and creating a high-performing, collaborative team.

Policy and advocacy

- Lead our efforts to obtain 1,001 declaration signatures from parliamentarians and legislators worldwide, which calls for every baby to have the best start in life.
- Prepare written briefings, presentations, reports and material to aid us in influencing international policy agendas.
- Lead the creation of high-impact policy briefings, submissions, and thought leadership aligned with global priorities.

- Monitor and report on global policy developments relevant to our mission.

Global events

- Plan and promote international events.
- Identify and pursue opportunities for us to host, co-host or participate in high-profile global events.
- Coordinate international roundtables, delegations, or side-events at major events.

Strategic engagement and media

- Lead engagement with international bodies and build strategic alliances with international NGOs, foundations, networks, and thought leaders.
- Alongside our communications team, pitching for international media opportunities and developing relationships with journalists internationally.
- Alongside our Chief Executive Officer and Executive Chair, develop and maintain relationships with key parliamentarians, policymakers, diplomats, and global influencers.
- Assist with international grant-related coordination, reporting, and relationship management, where required.

Person specification

- Substantial practical experience in advocacy, campaigning or policy work; a relevant degree is desirable but not essential.
- The ability to think and plan strategically using great initiative and creativity.
- To be able to manage multiple competing demands with speed and accuracy according to the needs of the Foundation.
- Experience working on, knowledge of, and keen interest in, international policy.
- Experience of working with policy-makers and governments around the world.
- Experience working with or within multilateral institutions (e.g. UN, WHO, UNICEF).
- Strong track record of supporting and enabling strategic engagement and relationship-building across sectors and countries.
- Demonstrable line management experience.
- Excellent communication and presentation skills.
- Confidence engaging with senior stakeholders internationally.

- Commitment to embedding equality, diversity, and inclusion into all aspects of your work.
- Compassionate and able to work with cultural sensitivity and discretion.
- Willingness and ability to travel internationally, as required.
- Able to work well as part of a small and dynamic team.