

INFORMATION PACK

BEYONDAUTISM CLERK TO THE BOARD

2021

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# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

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Thank you for your interest in BeyondAutism. The contribution of Trustees and Clerk to the Board is vital for us at an important time in the development of our charity. We are an ambitious charity with an exciting vision for our future development and you will join us at a time of substantial growth in a sector experiencing a high level of change.

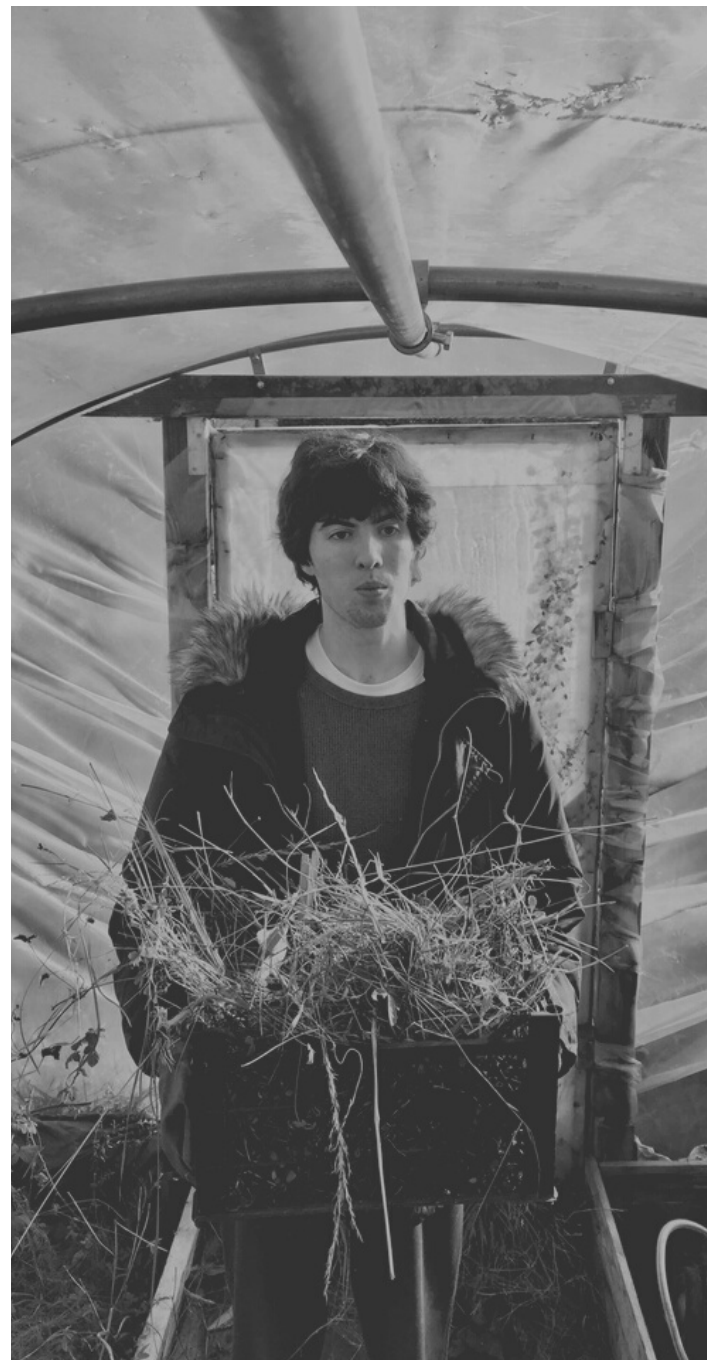
BeyondAutism empowers people and launches lives through positive educational experiences, training for the people who work with them and support for their families and carers. To this end, BeyondAutism has set up and runs:

- An Early Years' service providing support for families and children aged 15 months – 5 years
- BeyondAutism Schools, Independent Special Schools, offering transformative specialist education for children and young adults with autism aged 4-19
- A Post-19 provision which offers opportunities to young adults with autism, from the age of 19 up to 25 – preparing them for adulthood with a skill set that enables them to have choice and control;
- An Outreach and Training service for parents, carers, professionals and mainstream schools – delivering life-changing outcomes in education settings and at home, and a Research and Learning Hub set up to provide professionals and families with a way of engaging with clinical research in the field of autism and understanding the practical applications.

We have a strong, committed Senior Management Team, an established Governing Body and Post-19 Advisory Committee, and a breadth of professional expertise on the Board of Trustees.

I hope that you will consider this exciting opportunity to contribute to our future and to the lives of children and young adults with autism.

**Karen Sorab, OBE**  
Chair of Trustees



Post-19 student at Roots and Shoots



# AUTISM

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Autism affects how a person communicates and experiences the world. People with autism can experience difficulties with communication and/or sensory processing.

It affects each person differently and is therefore often described as a spectrum. This means that whilst all people with autism share certain difficulties, the extent of the difficulties will affect each person in different ways. Some people with autism may also have learning disabilities, mental health issues or other conditions; meaning people need different levels and types of support.

We believe that people with autism should have a life led by their own choice and control, through education, training for the professionals that work with them and support for their families.

Autism is lifelong. It is not an illness or disease so cannot be cured. Accessing the right support and guidance can help development and improve outcomes.

## Our Vision

Our vision is to ensure everyone with autism accesses an education which empowers a life full of choice, independence and opportunity.





# OUR VALUES



## What makes us different?

These values were developed with input from our Trustees, Governors, staff and parents. They sit at the core of everything we do and help to drive our strategy of Empowering People, Launching Lives.

### DEDICATED TO DELIVERING EXCELLENCE

By developing expertise, outstanding services and positive engagement, always seeking to go above and beyond expectations.

### COMMITTED TO APPLIED BEHAVIOUR ANALYSIS

By contributing to research and ensuring our staff continually develop and share best practice that ensure aspirational outcomes for people with autism are achieved.

### RESPECTFUL

By embracing diversity, showing integrity, acting with compassion and always treating people with dignity.

### PROUD TO CHALLENGE

By listening, changing thinking, shifting attitudes and educating.



BeyondAutism presenting at The Autism Show 2019



# OUR STORY

**2002**

Rainbow School moves into Tram House, a rented property on Garratt Lane.

**2011**

We re-brand the charity to **BeyondAutism** reflecting our ambition to go beyond the condition, exceed the limits and give families hope.

**2015**

Financing is successfully raised to purchase our **Tram House** site for redevelopment and our **£1.5m capital appeal** is launched.

**2017**

**Early Years' pilot** begins in May. In September, Rainbow School becomes two separate schools, **Park House School** and **Tram House School**. **Post-19** service becomes permanent with four learners accessing a hub at Yarrow in Hammersmith.

**2019**

In February we are awarded a grant of **£380k** from **The National Lottery Community Fund** to help fund our **Early Years' service** over the next 5 years. **Sixth Form** expand into **South Thames College** in June. In July the **charity office** moves to The Foundry, Vauxhall. **Post-19** opens a second hub in Wandsworth in November.

**2000**

Founded as The Rainbow Charity when a group of parents, led by Chair of Trustees, Karen Sorab, set up Rainbow School with 3 pupils in temporary accommodation in Wandsworth.

**2009/2010**

**£4.36m** raised in **donations** and **financing** to purchase and complete the Phase I redevelopment of our second school site opposite Spencer Park in Wandsworth

**2014**

Having **fundraised** over **£570k** Phase II works are completed at our Spencer Park site (now Park House School), equipping the school with a multipurpose hall, shower block and space for a library.

**2016**

Launch of our **5-year strategy: Empowering People, Launching Lives**. The foundations of our **Outreach and Training** service are established. In September we launch a **pilot** of our **Post-19** service at Yarrow in Shepherd's Bush.

**2018**

Newly redeveloped **Tram House School** opens in January. **Early Years' service** becomes a permanent provision in June. In September we hold our first **staff conference**. In December **Children in Need** award our **Early Years' service** a grant of **£109k** over 3 years.

**2020**

In September, we launched our new 5-year strategy.

BeyondAutism now employs over 220 staff. 100 families have accessed our **Early Years' service**. We have 99 pupils in our schools and 24 students accessing our **Post-19 service**.



The official opening of Rainbow School



The original Tram House building



Post-19 students

# OUR IMPACT

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It's an exciting time for us. Our services are going from strength to strength and we're reaching more children and young adults with autism, and their families, than ever.

We are proud of where we are today and look forward to empowering more people with autism for decades to come.



**220**  staff employed

**24** students accessing our Post-19 service

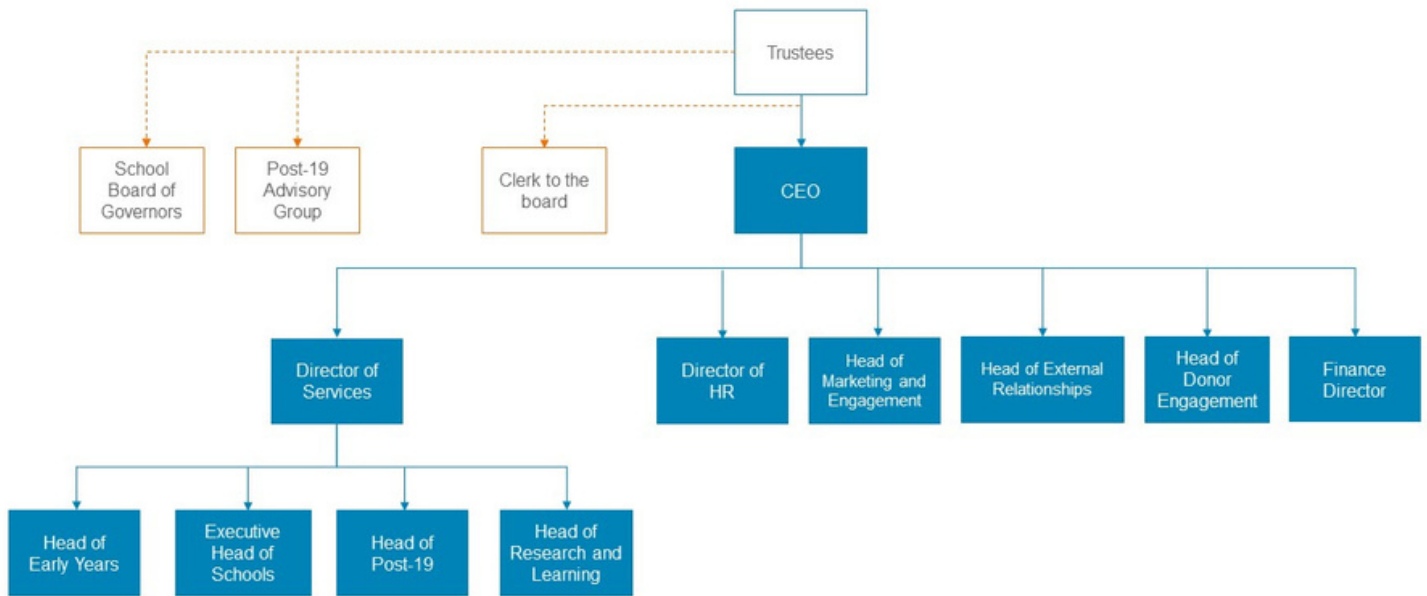
 **100** families have accessed our Early Years' service

**99** pupils in our schools

**200**  people have received training and support from our outreach team



# OUR GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



## Board of Trustees

BeyondAutism is governed by a Board of Trustees consisting of individuals who contribute a wide range of expertise and experience to the charity. The Board meet four times a year and are responsible for strategic development and ensuring the smooth running of the charity.

## Senior Management Team

The day to day running of the charity is delegated by the Board of Trustees to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), who is supported by the Senior Management Team in the delivery of our 5 year strategy.

## BeyondAutism School's Governing Body

The Governing Body is a sub-committee of the BeyondAutism Board and has responsibility for the governance of the schools, reporting to the Trustees.

## Post-19 Advisory Board

The Advisory Board exists as part of the governance of the Post-19 provision, monitoring quality and compliance in the pursuance of positive and aspirational outcomes for our learners.



Early Years' trip to Battersea Park

# CLERK TO THE BOARD

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We are keen to appoint a Clerk that will ensure the smooth and efficient running of meetings of the trustee board and any other committees to which he/she is appointed.

The Clerk is responsible for keeping the conscience of BeyondAutism, by way of ensuring that the trustees continue to take decisions and act in line with its governing document and comply with the relevant legislative and regulatory requirements to which the charity is subject. This will be achieved by working closely with the Chair of Trustees and the CEO.

The Board of Trustees share and promote the following qualities:

- A passionate enthusiasm for supporting the beneficiaries of BeyondAutism and the work the charity undertakes
- The capacity to understand and to empathise with the issues of concern for people with autism and those who care for them
- Adherence to the Good Governance: a code for the voluntary and community sector. An effective board will provide good governance and leadership by:
  1. Understanding their role
  2. Ensuring delivery of organisational purpose
  3. Working effectively both as individuals and as a team
  4. Exercising effective control
  5. Behaving with integrity; and
  6. Being open and accountable
- Upholding Nolan's seven principles of public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership

The Board of Trustees have three business meetings a year, a board away day and a strategy day with the Senior Management Team.



Tram House School pupil using the gym



Park House School pupil cooking



# HOW TO APPLY

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## To apply to become Clerk to the Board of BeyondAutism

Please contact the Chair by email [admin@beyondautism.org.uk](mailto:admin@beyondautism.org.uk) with:

- an up-to-date CV
- a cover letter detailing your expression of interest which outlines:
  - why you are interested in the role,
  - how you meet the requirements of the role and person specification

### Please note:

The Clerk to the Board must commit to attending:

	Board of Trustees	Schools' Governing Body	Post-19 Advisory Board	Total
Meetings per annum	4	3	3	10
Away day	1	1	1	3
Strategy day	1	0	0	1
Total meetings per annum	6	4	4	14

Meetings take place on weekdays between the hours of 9am and 5pm and are held at various locations across London.

**The closing date for applications is Monday 15th March 2021.**

**Shortlisted candidates will be invited to an interview and service visit\* in the week commencing 22nd March 2021.**

\*Covid-19 restrictions dependent

