

Moss Hall Play Centre



Trustee Recruitment 2026

*Could you help shape the future of a place that
support working families and where children love
to play?*

Moss Hall Play Centre

Thank you for considering becoming a trustee of Moss Hall Playcentre. We are an independently run Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) providing after-school and holiday childcare at and in close co-operation with Moss Hall Schools Federation. We are Ofsted registered, not-for-profit and governed by a volunteer Board of Trustees, regulated by the Charity Commission.

A place built around play



Our ethos is simple: all children (both younger and older) need time, space and freedom to play. Play is at the heart of all our provision - both in our term time after school centre and in our holiday provision. The following principles underpin our offer design, our staff training and style of interaction with children and our resource acquisition and provision:

- **Child-Led Play:** Children choose freely and direct their own play activities and direction, with playworkers facilitating and supporting their choices, ensuring children's safety at all times.
- **Unstructured Play:** Our centre offers a range of materials and opportunities for children to explore, create, and engage in imaginative play without a predefined structure.
- **Risk-Taking:** Children are encouraged to take calculated risks and learn to manage them, fostering self-esteem and resilience.
- **Safe and Accessible:** Our centre is organised and staffed with safety in mind, providing a secure environment for children to play.
- **Inclusive Play:** Our centre strives to be inclusive, welcoming all children, regardless of their abilities or backgrounds.
- **Staffed by Skilled Playworkers:** The centre is staffed by skilled playworkers who support children's play, provide guidance, and ensure safety - supporting with friendship issues as needed.
- **Focus on the Play Process:** Playworkers prioritise the play process itself, rather than specific outcomes, allowing children to lead their own play experiences.

Our purpose and impact

Our aim is to provide *high quality, reliable and affordable holiday childcare with child-led free play at its heart.*

Our charitable objectives are to provide facilities for the daily care, recreation and education of children after school hours, and to advance the education and training of people providing that care and recreation.

We provide

- Up to 140 places for after school care daily from Reception to Year 6.
- 50 full or half day holiday scheme places available for all in Barnet.
- Ongoing training and development for our experienced and specialised staff team of 15 Playworker including our Play manager and deputy, Early Years lead and Safeguarding lead.

Why families value us?



“Our children absolutely love Playcentre and we know they’re so well cared for.” — Parent

“My son ... always skips out each evening.”- Parent

“Playcentre is like a home from home for my children.” - Louise, Parent.

In these days of where many children are overscheduled and available time after school is spent undertaking the next challenge or goal, the playcentre offers something slower, different and really valued by the children. They welcome the autonomy to choose and

pursue their play exploration and intentions. When asked what they enjoy about the centre, children say:

“I enjoy the food, crafts and that you get to go outside” – Phoebe, 8yrs old

“I enjoy the people, the paper and Lego”. – Louie, 9 yrs old

“You can play inside or outside. And the footballs!” - Eyal, 8 yrs old.

Looking ahead

We want to build on our strengths, including marketing our unique ethos more widely, building our partnership with the Moss Hall Federation and strengthening our governance processes. We are looking for trustees who care deeply about the value of children's play, personal development and well-being and who can bring curiosity, good judgement and a willingness to contribute to the future of the charity.

Could you be one of our trustees?



You do not need previous trustee experience. We are looking for people who can commit to the role, learn about charity governance and regulation, make sound decisions, work collaboratively, offer an independent perspective and challenge constructively. Good communication, judgement and integrity are important. Trustees come on board for 4 years at a time and are expected to undertake induction training and ongoing specialised development through their time as a trustee.

What the role involves

Trustees meet 6 times a year for two-hour, in-person/ hybrid meetings each year at Moss Hall School Federation. Between meetings, trustees read papers, policies and complete agreed actions (around 3 hours per month). Trustees should be willing to undertake relevant training and in time take one of the leadership roles (Chair, secretary, treasurer, Safeguarding lead). All trustees complete an Ofsted Enhanced DBS check prior to formally taking up a trustee role. References are requested and take up including a background check. Reasonable expenses can be provided.

Why should I become charity trustee – what's in it for me?

Being a Trustee is an opportunity to **develop valuable skills and broaden your knowledge** in areas such as governance, leadership, finance, safeguarding and strategic decision-making. You'll gain experience of working collaboratively at board level, while contributing your own expertise and perspective. Just as importantly, being a Trustee is a chance to **give something back to your local community** and make a meaningful contribution to a charity that makes a real difference to children and families. It's rewarding, purposeful and a great way to meet and work with like-minded people.

We'd love to hear from you

If you have an interest in children's play, development, inclusion, education, community—or simply want to contribute your skills to a charity that makes a real difference to children and families—we would be delighted to hear from you.

HOW TO APPLY and what happens then.

1. Have an informal call with the Chair of Trustees.
2. Complete the trustee application form, including a short paragraph about your interest, motivation to become a trustee with us and the skills or experience you would bring.
3. Following this, 2 references are taken.
4. All this information is presented to the board who will make a decision whether to invite you to observe a trustee meeting and potentially welcome you as a trustee.

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