

## Home-Start Trustees say:

*"I have found being a Trustee deeply satisfying. It involves helping to strengthen families, the most important factor in the development of a young child."*

*Jean Carrick, Chair Home-Start Havant*

*"Home-Start is an organisation that makes you feel valued and allows you to discover skills you didn't know you had"*

*Kate, Trustee Home-Start Telford and Wrekin*

*"There are a whole range of none specific skills that are hugely valuable. Nearly anyone with any experience will have something to offer. I have met a wide range of people that I would otherwise not have met. It has provided me with a whole range of experience and richness I wouldn't have got if I hadn't done this."*

*Neil Spurrier, Trustee Home-Start Richmond*

*"I'm visually impaired, so I concentrate on disability issues. It's been a massive learning curve for me because I haven't done 'management' sort of things. But you take on what you can deal with. It's given me the confidence that I can contribute"*

*Marcia Holder, Trustee Home-Start Wellingborough*

## Still interested? Take the next step to joining Home-Start Havant as a Trustee:

If you would like to know more please contact Wendy via the details below to arrange an informal chat or to receive more information.

### Home-Start Havant

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we're  
asking

Home  
START

Support and friendship  
for families

Home-Start Havant

Volunteer to become a  
Home-Start Trustee and  
help parents build better  
lives for their children in  
your community



## What is Home-Start?

Home-Start UK is the leading family support charity which has been going for over 33 years and there are now local Home-Start schemes in over 330 communities across the country. Home-Start Havant was established in 1983.

**Home-Start** believes that parents are the key when it comes to providing a secure and happy environment for children. It's just that sometimes they need a bit of help. A network of more than 12,000 trained home-visiting volunteers supports thousands of parents who are struggling to cope, perhaps with post-natal illness, disability, bereavement, multiple births, the illness of a parent or child or social isolation. Our volunteers visit families in their own homes giving practical and emotional support.

**What we also need is another kind of volunteer** – men and women who can help guide and govern our local scheme so that scheme staff and home-visiting volunteers can get on with the job of supporting families.

## What does a Board of Trustees do?

The Board of Trustees is responsible for:

- the scheme's vision
- leading strategic direction and good governance
- securing and managing finance
- compliance with legal and regulatory requirements
- the performance and quality of the scheme
- ensuring the scheme operates within the national agreement.
- the scheme's property
- the promotion of Home-Start
- employing staff

Its job is to ensure that the resources in the charity are used effectively to further the objectives of Home-Start and for the purpose for which they were given.

## What kind of people are Home-Start Trustees?

Our Trustees come from all walks of life, bringing their experience and individual skills to their local schemes.

The kind of skills that are in demand are:

- business skills
- personnel management
- finance
- fundraising
- information technology
- communications

But you don't need special qualifications to be a special Trustee. The following are just as important to us:

- common sense
- an ability to work as part of a team
- an understanding of the pressures facing parents today
- a genuine interest in supporting parents in your community
- and above all – time.

## How much of my time will it take?

Around eight hours a month.

If you take on additional commitments, as a Chair or Treasurer, you will probably increase the amount of time you spend on behalf of the scheme – but you will be supported all the way with induction and training; by the scheme staff and other Trustees, and with ongoing training. Home-Start UK, exists to provide information, support and guidance to individual Home-Start schemes.

## What will I get out of it?

Knowing that you are helping parents and children and making a real difference to your community. In many cases, being a Trustee can enhance skills and knowledge, build confidence and provide opportunities for personal development.