

Board Safeguarding Trustee

Join us as a Safeguarding Trustee

The Pony Club are seeking to appoint a trustee who is passionate about creating safe, inclusive and positive environments where everyone can feel respected, supported and who will share our commitment to ensuring that safeguarding leadership is central to our 2026-2030 strategy, Centenary Programme and focused delivery programme through to 2029.

Whilst all Board members have responsibility for safeguarding and The Pony Club's Board currently has a nominated Safeguarding Champion, we are seeking an individual with significant relevant experience who will take on this critically important role for the Pony Club with drive and ambition, underpinned and guided by our values: care, connection, curiosity and community. This role involves providing strategic safeguarding oversight and assurance to the Board, supporting and challenging The Pony Club to achieve and maintain the highest standards for safeguarding.

Who We're Looking For

We are looking for someone who has significant governance and safeguarding expertise and experience that is relevant to both The Pony Club and this role within the context of the world's largest youth charity for children and young people interested in horses, ponies and riding. We are looking for someone who will bring energy and commitment to the role, and who will broaden the diversity of thinking on our board. You must share our commitment to safeguarding, protecting and promoting positive outcomes for all stakeholders, which extends to all members and adults who may be additionally vulnerable or at risk.

We'd especially love to hear from you if you bring:

- **A value-driven mindset** - You believe safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and understand its central importance across all areas of governance and practice.
- **Experience working with and/or supporting young people** - In any setting: education, youth work, social care, sport, community, or lived experience.
- **Strategic thinking** - You can see the bigger picture and ask thoughtful questions. Previous experience of charity governance and leadership is welcomed.
- **Commitment to inclusion** - You champion equity and challenge barriers to inclusion and participation. You bring a collaborative, respectful, supportive approach and willingness to contribute beyond board meetings. We welcome applicants from all backgrounds and are keen to diversify our board as part of our drive to create a more inclusive organisation and experience at every level of the Pony Club.
- **Courage and curiosity** - You're willing to work as part of a team and to actively engage with staff, volunteers and members, listen and learn, challenge, reflect, and help others do the same. You demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly, respectfully and pragmatically

Board meetings are a mix of online and in-person meetings, and we anticipate that this will be at least a monthly commitment. We are however seeking someone who is willing to roll up

their sleeves and has the capacity to be involved in safeguarding committee and steering group work. The successful candidate will therefore be someone who has capacity to commit additional time between board meetings to help guide the executive team in the delivery of our goals and to lead the Pony Club in creating a safe, inclusive and positive environment for all our members.

We are driving an ambitious process of change and transformation with safeguarding as its foundation. You will work closely with our Head of Safeguarding and the Safeguarding Steering Group, and Chair the proposed new Safeguarding and Integrity Committee, acting as a strong and consistent link with board and the senior management team to ensure that statutory safeguarding duties are fulfilled, providing support and challenge relating to safeguarding practice and culture.

The Role

This is a volunteer role. As our Safeguarding Trustee, you will support and drive sustainable cultural change across The Pony Club, ensuring that safeguarding is fully integrated into everything we do, delivered within agreed timescales, and underpinned by clear accountability, learning and continuous improvement.

The Safeguarding Trustee will:

- Support The Pony Club's vision of excellence in safeguarding, where the voices of children are central to identifying strategic priorities and improvements which are effectively embedded into organisational governance, practice and culture.
- Contribute to the development and delivery of The Pony Club's Centenary Strategy
- Support strong charity governance, including strategic communications, engagement and safeguarding
- Provide informed challenge and practical advice to the Board and Senior Management Team
- Assist in maintaining the confidence of members, the British Equestrian Federation, partner organisations, Sport and Charity sector regulatory bodies and stakeholders
- Bring innovation and ambition to the Board
- Fulfil the legal duties of a charity trustee and contribute fully to Board decision-making
- Chair The Pony Club's Safeguarding and Integrity Committee within our new safeguarding framework

Your Responsibilities

- **Safeguarding oversight** - Provide strategic leadership on safeguarding, ensuring our policies, culture, and practice reflect sector best standards. You must be committed to continuously expanding your understanding and awareness of current and developing safeguarding requirements and keep such matters at the forefront of Board discussions.
- **Culture building** - Promote a safe, inclusive, and empowering environment for young people, staff, and volunteers. Promote the importance of developing a culture

of listening to children, young people and adults at risk within and through TPC's policies, procedures, guidance and services

- **Risk governance** - Support the Board to identify, understand, and mitigate safeguarding risks across programmes, activities, events, and partnerships.
- **Accountability** - Ensure safeguarding is embedded in strategic decisions, resourcing, and organisational performance.
- **Support, check & challenge** - Offer support, provide feedback and actively consult and engage with the Head of Safeguarding, the British Equestrian Federation's safeguarding team, the Safeguarding Steering Group and The Pony Club's Senior Management Team, acting as a critical friend.

What You'll Gain

- The opportunity to shape the future of an organisation that seeks to place safeguarding at its heart
- A meaningful role influencing culture, strategy, and long-term impact
- Collaboration with passionate, value-driven trustees, staff and volunteers

How to Apply

Please email your CV and a supporting statement to governance@pcuk.org by Mon 16th November 2026, to include:

- Why you want to join our board
- The values that guide your work
- All relevant safeguarding, leadership and governance experience and expertise you bring