

Name Steve Beharall
Role Non-Executive Director/Trustee



Steve is Head of Newcastle United Foundation, which is Newcastle United Football Club's official charity. His role mainly focuses on leading the Foundation's strategy and its senior management team. Steve also work closely with the football club and the Foundation's stakeholders.

Why did you become a non-executive director/trustee with NEAT?

I was born in the east end of Newcastle and have always worked in and around Newcastle. I'm passionate about the east end and helping children reach their potential. I want children to be physically and mentally prepared for life and being on the trust board enables me to contribute to achieving that.

What do you enjoy about being a non-executive director/trustee?

Having been a director since the trust was formed in 2017, I know the discussions and debates we have actually make a change to schools and communities. NEAT does make a difference and knowing I played a small part in that, helping where I can, gives me a sense of pride.

How does the trust board work together as a team?

The board has a very respectful approach to problem-solving. We listen, understand and are respectful of each other's views. The board has been put together really well as each member has different skills, knowledge and experience but everyone is passionate about making a difference. There are no hidden agendas that stop progress - we are all there to do what's best for young people in the trust.

What do you feel that you contribute as a non-executive director to the trust and its schools?

My focus is on young people. I am consistent in my approach and the decisions I make are always about doing what's best for our young people. I always have an open and balanced view.

What makes NEAT a great place to be a non-executive director?

I see NEAT as an employer of choice, it's an enjoyable and fun place to work. The people involved in NEAT really care about the communities they serve and about each other. There are some really good people who are doing their best to do great things for young people. There are no egos or sense of entitlement. As a board, we try to help schools to grow and support children and staff to do a good job.

Why would you encourage someone to become a director or governor with NEAT?

The trust is still relatively new with a lot of potential to grow. It feels like we're at the beginning of something important, particularly since St Hild's in Hartlepool joined our group of schools in Newcastle in 2021. You don't need anything to be a director other than being committed, passionate about young people and generous with your time. As a director you can give something back and feel like you're contributing to something positive.