



Joining the Board of Flo's The Place in the Park

Deadline for Applications Sunday 14th July 2024

May 2024

Thank you for taking the time to consider joining as a board member, it is thanks to the dedication of our board that we are able to flourish and go over and above what is possible to provide vital services to our community.

Flo's - The Place in the Park, is a vibrant community hub in Florence Park, East Oxford, founded in 2018. With our nature nursery, café, refill shop and community projects at our heart, we are a place for people from all walks of life to work, eat, play, learn and connect with each other, reducing inequalities and supporting the environment.

More details of Flo's are available later in this document, and our [impact report](#) is available online. To find out more visit www.floxoxford.org.uk.

What we are looking for

Flo's is run by the Community Benefit Society *People Place and Participation Ltd (PPP)*. PPP is a Co-operative with members from the community; members vote on key decisions at our AGM. Alongside our dedicated staff team, our Board plays a vital role in the success of the organisation. The Café and Shop are governed by a wholly owned (by PPP) single member company - *Flo's Trading* with its own set of rules in accordance with company law.

We are now looking for a new Trustee who can contribute in a key area of expertise and bring specialist skills and knowledge to our Board:

Trustee with Nursery focus - with knowledge and experience of the Early Years and/or Forest School/ Outdoor Learning

By contributing your time and experience in this area you can help our team fulfil key organisational needs. As well as feeding in your specific expertise at Board meetings and subgroup meetings, you may also be asked to provide advice and/or undertake specific projects, for example assisting the manager with reviewing policies, advising on implementation or problem-solving in your area.

As a guide, we would expect an average board commitment to look like:

- Average of 1 formal meeting per month (including whole board meetings, sub-group meetings, ad-hoc meetings - usually held outside of working hours). Board meetings are held quarterly in person at Flo's on weekday evenings.
- 2-4 hrs per month providing support to Flo's operational teams (e.g. advice in your specialist area, reviewing documents, informing strategy, problem solving - arrangements by agreement / at your discretion)
- Attend our AGM (annually, weekends or weekday evening) and a Strategy Day (up to twice a year, usually during working hours)
- Attendance at some of Flo's key events / activities where possible - so you are engaged with Flo's 'on the ground'

You can read more about the role of trustee and the person specification in Appendix 1.

About you

We are looking for people who:

- Are interested in PPP Ltd.'s work and committed to our social mission and values.
- Are willing and able to give their time, experience, skills and enthusiasm to help run Flo's. This includes regular time commitments (outlined above)
- Have relevant background and experiences to bring different points of view to our discussions.
- Share our core values.

Expenses incurred in order to carry out trustee duties are paid on approval of invoice.

To find out more about our current board visit www.flosoxford.org.uk/meet-the-team

To find out more

We encourage you to get in touch with us in the first instance, to find out more about this role you can speak to our Chair, Sarah Borien - chair@flosoxford.org.uk.

To apply

Please send a copy of your CV and a covering letter to chair@flosoxford.org.uk by July 14th.

Please use your covering letter to demonstrate how your skills, qualities and experience meet the requirements, and how they have helped you achieve relevant, positive results, as this will give you the best possible chance of being shortlisted. Please also discuss any support you think you might

need.

We encourage applications from women; black, Asian and minority ethnic people; people who identify as having a disability; people from the LGBT+ community; people from working class backgrounds. If you face any barriers to applying please feel welcome to discuss these with us.

[Appendix 1 - Specific Role](#)

Nursery Trustee (Early Years Specialist and Chair of the Nursery Sub Group)

We are looking for a trustee with knowledge of Early Years provision and/or Forest School/Outdoor Learning. This is an exciting role, supporting the Board to oversee the development of our Early Years provision, and our role in supporting families and children who use Flo's as well as the wider community.

This role would suit someone with Early Years experience, interested in learning about how Early Years settings and community enterprises can be brought together. The aim of this role is to ensure that our OFSTED registered Early Years provision maintains the high quality of service and works within relevant legislation.

Responsibilities include

- Working with the nursery manager and communities manager to develop strategies for developing our work with the under 5s.
- Advising and supporting the nursery manager on all issues relating to nursery policy and practice
- Willingness to keep updated with Early Years policies and procedures.
- Attending the Nursery sub group and occasional ad hoc meetings on critical issues if they arise

[Appendix 2 - Our Values](#)

Hope and opportunity – leadership and learning that harness the energy of the community and inspire hope; resourcing and resourced by local enterprise, creating alternatives for working, eating, shopping, childcare, healthcare.

One team, many voices – Staff, managers, trustees, volunteers, members, consultants, tenants, community all contribute and shape what we do, how we do it and where we go next.

Wellbeing and nature – slowing down; enjoying the outdoors and all that the park has to offer; caring for the planet, environment and other living things in all that we do; fostering a sense of belonging, and rootedness to where we live and work.

Community engagement – welcoming all members of the community, regardless of age, culture, race, sexual orientation, health, social background or experience; strengthening community through embracing difference; generating new ways of working and organising.