

Board Member (multiple positions available)

Happy Brain Education is a not-for-profit organisation which provides educational services to young people. We believe that meaningful learning opportunities can transform the lives of young people and empower them to achieve their potential. Education will enable us to tap into the potential and power within every person and facilitate positive change in the world.

Our Values:



Excellence: We demand excellence of ourselves and others. Commitment to learning, pushing boundaries.



Compassion: We demonstrate integrity, and express care and compassion within our team and beyond.



Empowerment: We empower our students through nurturing their creativity, innovation and ethical leadership.

Role Overview:

Happy Brain Education (HBE) is a grassroots not-for-profit organisation supporting educational access and equity for young people. As the organisation enters its next phase of growth and sustainability, we are seeking additional Board Members to strengthen specific capability areas identified through a recent Board Skills Matrix.

The Board is supported by a Chief Executive and staff team and is primarily strategic in its role, with responsibility for governance, oversight, and long-term sustainability. Board members attend approximately 12 board meetings per year (mostly online) and may also participate in working sessions relating to finance, funding, or compliance.

Core Responsibility (All Board Members)

- Demonstrate a strong commitment to HBE's mission, values, and communities served
- Provide governance oversight in line with ACNC and ASIC requirements
- Contribute to strategic planning and long-term sustainability
- Review and question financial and operational information presented to the Board
- Support the Chief Executive through appropriate oversight and accountability
- Act in the best interests of the organisation at all times

Priority Skills & Experience Sought:

(Applicants do not need to meet all criteria. We are intentionally recruiting for complementary skill sets.)

1. Legal Expertise (Preferred for One Position)

We are seeking one Board Member with a legal background, preferably with experience in:

- Charity, not-for-profit, or corporate law
- Governance, compliance, and risk oversight
- Advising boards or senior leadership on legal duties and obligations

This role will strengthen the Board's capability in:

- Legal compliance and reporting
- Risk management
- Supporting sound governance as HBE grows



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2. Finance Expertise (Start-up / Social Enterprise Context)

We are seeking Board Members with strong, hands-on financial experience, particularly in:

- Managing organisational or business budgets
- Understanding and monitoring cashflow and financial runway
- Reading, interpreting, and questioning P&L and financial reports
- Providing financial oversight in small organisations, start-ups, or social enterprises

Experience in mission-led, early-stage, or growth organisations is highly valued.

3. Scaling Organisations & Social Enterprises

We are also seeking Board Members who have experience:

- Scaling organisations or programs sustainably
- Growing revenue while maintaining mission integrity
- Navigating the challenges of growth in small teams with limited resources
- Supporting leadership through periods of organisational change

Experience in education, social impact, or social enterprise settings is an advantage but not essential.

Desirable Experience

- Fundraising, grants, or government funding exposure
- Experience in education, youth, or community-based organisations
- Lived experience or strong connection to communities experiencing educational disadvantage

Reports to Chair of the Board

Commitment 3 years

Salary

Voluntary

Recruitment will be ongoing until 23/01/2025. For expression of interest, please email your resume and cover letter detailing how your demonstrated experience, skills and knowledge would suit the position to board@happybrain.org.au.

