



Chetham's

Recruitment Pack 2025
Chair of the Feoffees

Welcome to Chetham's

Chetham's is home to the UK's largest specialist music school, the oldest public library in the English speaking world and a world-class concert venue, all in the heart of Manchester.

Upon the retirement of the current Chair, we seek to appoint a Chair of the Board of Trustees (called Feoffees) to Chetham's Hospital and Library, which was founded in 1653 as a charity school and public library.

The Chair of the Feoffees is a key role within Chetham's. We are looking for a special person to lead our team of Feoffees in valuing our heritage and securing our future.

This is an exciting opportunity to play a leading role in a unique educational and cultural institution with global renown. You will help define and monitor the charity's strategic direction, ensuring our efforts are aligned with our mission, vision and values.

Like many in the arts, education and heritage sectors, Chetham's faces financial challenges, but we are determined to remain as vital a part of Manchester and beyond for many more years to come.

Background to the Feoffees

'Chetham's Hospital School and Library' is a charity established in accordance with the will of Humphrey Chetham in 1651 to provide housing (known as a 'Hospital') and education to forty impoverished boys, and to found a public library.

Today, it is responsible for maintaining and improving the premises used by Chetham's School of Music, Chetham's Library and Stoller Hall. The charity is governed by the Feoffees, an incorporated body of up to 16 Trustees.



Chair of the Feoffees

Chetham's

The role

We are seeking to appoint, in a voluntary capacity, an individual with a background in strategic leadership and strong business and financial acumen to lead our non-executive board of Feoffees. Your background does not necessarily have to be in education, heritage, charities or the arts, but you must have a passion for all the benefits they can bring.

As Chair of the Feoffees, your role is to work alongside the School Governors, Library Committee and Senior Leadership. Your leadership of the Foundation will enable it to achieve its vision and strategic ambition, including the provision of facilities and buildings that are commensurate with a world-leading institution.

Our vision

To enrich lives, providing opportunities for people of all backgrounds to be inspired by heritage, music and learning.

About us

Chetham's School of Music

Chetham's is the largest specialist music school in the UK, an independent school and a charity. We are the only one in the North of England and every year, we welcome around 330 gifted students, aged between 8 and 18, from the UK and overseas.

We provide financial support to 90% of all students and a quarter do not pay any fees at all. This is possible thanks to funding from the UK Government's Music and Dance Scheme and the generous support of our donors.



About us

Stoller Hall

The Stoller Hall is a 482-seat auditorium and is the only small scale, acoustic chamber music venue in the North-West of England. This RIBA award-winning space was designed by Stephenson STUDIO and the outstanding acoustics conceived by ARUP.

Since opening in 2017, the venue has become a popular space for recitals, recordings and workshops and delivers an ambitious series of performances and conferencing events.



Chetham's School of Music and Stoller Hall share the RIBA award-winning New School Building. Beautifully detailed and containing over 150 practice, teaching and performance rooms, this building allows students to seamlessly transition between study and performance.



About us

Chetham's Library

Chetham's Library was founded in 1653 and is the oldest surviving public library in Britain. We've been open to members of the public ever since.

Our collection is one of national and international importance and spans over 250,000 books, prints, maps, photographs and manuscripts. Highlights include first editions of Isaac Newton's *Principia Mathematica* and John Milton's *Paradise Lost* as well as the desk where Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels famously worked on *The Communist Manifesto*.





Housed in a beautiful sandstone building dating from 1421, Chetham's Library has been in continuous use as a public library for over 350 years.

Chair of the Feoffees

Chetham's

<p>The Chair of the Feoffees will be required to:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide strategic leadership to the Feoffees in governing Chetham's Hospital School and Library• Liaise and consult with the Chair of School Governors on relevant matters relating to Chetham's School of Music• Monitor the work of Chetham's Library and the Library Committee• Monitor the work of executive officers appointed to fulfil the strategic vision for Chetham's School of Music, Chetham's Library and Stoller Hall• Chair three meetings a year to discuss the development of the premises	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be part of the recruitment process for Feoffees• Assist with fundraising and development efforts• Influence key stakeholders in Greater Manchester and further afield• Represent Chetham's at external meetings and events• Represent Chetham's to Government and more widely• Act as a principal ambassador for Chetham's, promoting and developing the reputation of the charity nationally and internationally.	<p>Expectations & commitment</p>	<p>The Chair of the Feoffees is a voluntary, non-executive position.</p> <p>The role is best suited to someone who can attend meetings in person, ordinarily scheduled on a weekday afternoon. The Chair will make time for scheduled and extraordinary meetings as required. Typically, this is equivalent to approximately 10 days per year.</p>	<p>The role is endlessly rewarding. You will guide the future of the largest specialist music school in the UK, steward the oldest building in Manchester and play a prominent role in the city's heritage, educational and cultural life.</p> <p>You will work with bright and passionate colleagues serving as Trustees and employees. Through attending concerts and special events, you will experience the difference that Chetham's makes to people locally, nationally and internationally.</p>
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Further information Chetham's

Structure, governance and management of the Charitable Foundation

The full name of this charitable foundation is *The Hospital and Library in Manchester founded by Humphrey Chetham, Esq. and Incorporated by King Charles II* (Registered Charity Number 526702).

The Foundation, including the Chetham's School of Music, is regulated by a Charity Commission Scheme dated 27 May 1952, and amended by a Scheme dated 22 October 1969.

Chetham's Hospital, Chetham's School of Music and Chetham's Library are separate charities but are registered under one Charity Number, following a Uniting Direction issued by the Charity Commission in 2004 for registration and accounting purposes.

The Trustees of the Hospital and Library charities, who are known as the Feoffees, are a Body Corporate, pursuant to Letters Patent of King Charles II, dated 10 November 1665.

Chetham's Hall Limited is a subsidiary undertaking that is a wholly owned subsidiary of Chetham's Hospital.

Chetham's Trading Limited is a subsidiary undertaking that is a wholly owned subsidiary of Chetham's School of Music.

Governing bodies

The Feoffees are the governing body of the Hospital and Library charities. The School Governing Body of Chetham's School of Music is the governing body of the school. The Library Committee acts as the management committee of the library charity and approval for that committee's recommendations is given by the Feoffees.

Further information Chetham's

Trustee/ Governors organisational management

The Feoffees are legally responsible for the overall management and control of Chetham's Hospital and of Chetham's Library.

The Feoffees meet formally at least twice a year (usually three). This Committee consists of Feoffees and senior management of Chetham's School of Music and Chetham's Library. The Investment Sub-Committee oversees the investment portfolio and works with the Investment Managers.

The day-to-day running of Chetham's School of Music and associated venues is delegated to the two Joint Principals.

The day-to-day running of Chetham's Hospital is delegated to the Joint Principals and Finance Director for financial and buildings matters.

The day-to-day running of Chetham's Library is delegated to the Library Committee and to the Librarian.

The School Governing Body is legally responsible for the overall management and control of Chetham's School of Music. The Governing Body meets formally at least three times a year.

There are three sub-committees of the Governing Body: the Resources Committee, the Safeguarding Committee, and the International Opportunities Committee. There is further Governor representation on the Health and Safety Committee.

The Boards of the two trading subsidiaries meet annually to review accounts and business plans.

Child protection and safeguarding children

As a post holder I recognise my responsibility to promote and safeguard the welfare of children and young people for whom I am responsible, or with whom I come into contact. I will adhere to and ensure compliance with Chetham's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and related documents (available at chethams.com) at all times.

If, in the course of carrying out the duties of the post, I become aware of any actual or potential risks to the safety or welfare of students at Chetham's, I have a duty to follow the reporting routes and to report any concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or to the Head.

Our Policy and Procedure is in line with national directives and must be adhered to by all staff. Chetham's is committed to the development of good practice and sound procedures. We will always endeavour to fulfil our duty to challenge or intervene in order to protect all students at Chetham's.

Concerns and referrals will be handled in a sensitive and professional manner that will support the needs of students and staff. Chetham's recognises the contribution it can make to protect and support students.

Chair of the Feoffees

How to apply

If this role is of interest to you,
please email HR@chethams.com
for an application form.

If you would like an informal
conversation about the role, you
can request this by email.

The closing date for applications is
Monday 28 April 2025.



Chetham's

Good luck with your application,
we look forward to hearing from you.

Chetham's School of Music
Chetham's Library

Long Millgate,
Manchester M3 1SB

Stoller Hall

Hunts Bank,
Manchester M3 1DA

chethams.com
Registered charity No. 526702