

## **Role of Chair**

However informally or formally your PTA operates, its best practise to have the role of Chair filled. If your Chair leaves mid-year, or you're finding it difficult to recruit someone into the role, the job can be done by other committee members taking it turns to Chair your meetings.

## **Main purpose of the role**

The Chair directs your meetings, making sure everyone's views are heard and everyone is involved in the meeting. He or she should make sure all committee members are familiar with the association's constitution, and their role and responsibilities as a committee member and trustee (all committee members are automatically trustees of the association).

## **Duties and key responsibilities**

- Prepares for meetings (with the secretary)
- Invites committee members, parents and staff
- Suggests items for the agenda
- Identifies outstanding items from last meeting
- Prepares introductions for any new members attending
- Sets out ground rules for meetings and makes sure they are inclusive and efficient
- Delegates tasks to other members and volunteers, and checks they are completed
- Liaises with the school and requests a "wish list" for the committee to agree what to fund
- Ensures the committee fulfils its role
- Ensures any decisions made are clear, fit the objects of the constitution, and by agreement of the committee
- Can be a signatory of the PTA bank account (along with at least one other committee member)

## **Key skills**

- Confident and assertive – able to control meetings and call to order when necessary, making sure everyone has an opportunity to speak.
- Ability to remain impartial – make sure contributions are brief and ensure everyone's views are respected.
- Calm, friendly and approachable – as the main point of contact for the PTA for the school and parents the Chair must be inclusive and make sure everyone feels welcome.
- Organised and able to delegate – most PTA's have lots of activities going on and the Chair should make sure the workload is shared and tasks are completed as agreed.