

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jaspal Pachu becomes new Chair of the Sheila Coates Foundation

We're delighted to announce the appointment of Jaspal Pachu as Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Sheila Coates Foundation. The appointment of Jaspal marks an exciting new stage in our mission to advance the education and mental health of autistic young people in England.

Jaspal is a partner at international law firm CMS, where he specialises in supporting organisations through periods of growth, change, governance development and long-term strategic planning.

In his role as Chair, Jaspal is committed to improving educational opportunities and outcomes for autistic young people and helping ensure Sheila Coates continues to deliver lasting impact for future generations:

"I am delighted to take on the role of Chair and to support Sheila Coates Foundation at such an exciting stage in its journey. I very much look forward to working alongside our dedicated staff and trustees as we build on SCF's strong foundations, sharing the impact of our work with schools, colleges and educators. I am proud to take over the mantle from Anne Duffy, and it is genuinely uplifting to be part of something where the impact on young people is real and immediate."

Jaspal Pachu, Chair, Sheila Coates Foundation

Jaspal has extensive experience advising businesses, investors, founders, charities and trustees on governance, leadership, employee ownership and sustainable growth. Jaspal's impressive career demonstrates a commitment to inclusion and opportunity, together with the strategic and governance skills that he will bring to the charity.

He was attracted to the Sheila Coates Foundation by its focus on practical, evidence-based interventions that improve educational outcomes for autistic young people and its commitment to achieving measurable long-term impact. Jaspal joins the Foundation at a significant moment in its development, as it prepares to steward a major endowment and expand its impact through evidence-based grant-making.

"I'm delighted by the appointment of Jaspal Pachu as Sheila Coates Foundation Chair of the Board. He joins us at a crucial point in our development as we prepare for a new endowment, and to share the initial outcomes of our two year partnership with the University of Birmingham Autism Centre for Education Research. Jaspal's impressive career achievements demonstrate his deep commitment to inclusion, and the strategic skills that he will bring to the charity. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Anne Duffy for her leadership of the Board since 2019. She has been a constant source of stability, wisdom and energy as SCF has grown, and leaves the charity in excellent shape for our next chapter."

Stephen McShane, CEO, Sheila Coates Foundation

Jaspal's tenure begins immediately, and we are all looking forward to working with him as we progress plans for a positive future for Sheila Coates and everyone we work with.

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