

# The Auriga Academy Trust

## Safer Recruitment & Selection

### Policy and Procedure

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Please note that all Trust policies are reviewed regularly. Should you have any queries regards this policy, note an omission or wish to propose an amendment, please email [hr@aurigaacademytrust.org.uk](mailto:hr@aurigaacademytrust.org.uk).

## 1. Introduction

This policy and procedure has been produced in line with the 'Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education' document which came into force on 01 January 2007 and the 'Keeping Children Safe in Education – Statutory Guidance for Schools and Colleges' document.

This policy refers to and is designed to give effect to the relevant provisions of the following legislation, regulations and guidance (as updated and amended from time to time):

### Legislation:

- The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (Amendment) Order 2013 and 2020
- Education Act 2002
- Childcare Act 2006
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Immigration Asylum & Nationality Act 2006
- Education & Skills Act 2008
- Equality Act 2010 (promoting equal opportunities and eliminating discrimination)
- Data Protection Act 2018.

### Regulations:

- The School Staffing (England) Regulations 2009
- Childcare (Disqualification) and Childcare (Early Years Provision Free of Charge) (Extended Entitlement) (Amendment) Regulations 2018
- UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR).

### Guidance:

- Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006 [prevailing version]
- DfE Staffing and Employment: Advice for Schools (2021) [prevailing version]
- Part 7 of the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document (Contractual Framework for Teachers) [prevailing version]
- Part 3 of Keeping Children Safe in Education - Statutory Guidance [prevailing version]
- Safer Working Practice for those working with Children and Young People in Education Settings (2022) [prevailing version]
- DBS Code of Practice. [prevailing version]
- Home Office Code of Practice on Preventing Illegal Working [prevailing version]

References in this policy to a child, children, or young people, are references to persons who are under 18 years of age.

## 2. Scope

The policy applies to the recruitment and selection of teaching staff including Headteachers, Head of Schools, Deputy and Assistant Headteachers and support staff within the Trust.

The policy also covers checks the schools within the Trust will undertake when using agency staff and volunteers.

The recognised trade unions have been consulted.

## 3. Policy Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure (i) equality of opportunity in employment and (ii) safeguarding and promotion of the welfare of all children and young people by creating a culture of safer recruitment. This is achieved by:

- Implementing robust safer recruitment practices
- Identifying and deterring or rejecting applicants who are unsuitable to work with children and young people
- Responding to concerns about the suitability of applicants during the recruitment process
- Responding to concerns about the suitability of staff and volunteers once they have commenced employment
- Ensuring all new staff and volunteers participate in an induction programme which includes child protection

- Ensuring the recruitment of all staff is conducted in a fair, consistent, effective and lawful manner and in compliance with relevant legislation.

Those responsible for each stage of the recruitment process must demonstrate a professional approach by offering all applicants (whether internal or external) a fair and open competition, by complying with equalities and employment legislation and by having in mind, at all times, the concept of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.

In line with the Department for Education (DfE) guidance, the paragraph below will be included in all advertisements, recruitment websites, candidate information packs, job descriptions and person specifications:

***'The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment. The successful applicant will be required to undertake an Enhanced DBS Check with a check of the DBS Barred List'***

For competency frameworks and induction training materials, the following paragraph will be included:

***'The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment'***

#### **4. Safer Recruitment Training**

Safer recruitment training was commissioned by the DfE in response to recommendation 16 of the Bichard Inquiry Report (published in June 2004).

Safer recruitment training provides valuable information on a safer school culture, and advice and guidance to strengthen safeguards against employing individuals in schools who are deemed to be a risk to children and young people. The training will help schools to ensure that they have effective recruitment and selection processes in place.

It is a statutory requirement for at least one member of a selection/interview panel to have completed the appropriate safer recruitment training prior to the start of the recruitment process. The training will cover, as a minimum, the content of Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance. who apply, will be included for shortlisting.

#### **5. The Recruitment Process – volunteers / work placements / work experience**

The Trust supports volunteers working in schools as it provides additional support to our pupils. Volunteering positions are advertised on MyNewTerm through the school website. These positions are listed as open throughout the academic year. All applications must be submitted through MyNewTerm and schools are encouraged to redirect requests to their school website or ask them to email Trust HR (hr@aurigaacademytrust.org.uk).

The Trust also support requests for work placements from students or recent graduates who wish to gain experience in a professional setting relevant to their degree. Requests for a work placement / experience must be submitted through MyNewTerm and schools are encouraged to redirect requests to their school website or ask them to email Trust HR (hr@aurigaacademytrust.org.uk).

Schools will also support requests for work experience to external pupils who express an interest in supporting pupils at a particular school site. An application is not required through MyNewTerm, however a copy of the agreement signed by a member of senior leadership (this is usually provided by the sending school) must be sent to Trust HR (hr@aurigaacademytrust.org.uk).

HR will forward any volunteer, work placement / experience application to the Headteacher for review. If the individual is deemed suitable a tour of the school should be offered, and a member of Senior Leadership MUST meet with the individual to understand

- What support they can provide
- What areas they want to be involved in
- What days and times they would like to work.

If the individual is deemed suitable, the [Volunteer appointment form](#) must be completed. On receipt of the completed form Trust HR will contact the individual to undertake their DBS check / ID verification and obtain references. 2 professional references should be obtained, however, one professional and one personal will be accepted if a risk assessment is in place. The risk assessment must be completed by Trust HR and signed by the Headteacher.

Trust HR will maintain a file for each volunteer / work placement / work experience with all relevant documents saved (application form, appointment form, 2 references, RTW and ID check, SCR record on Every HR, signed returned documents).

Having completed the safeguarding checks Trust HR will send a welcome pack including policies and procedures to be signed prior to the individuals first day. Trust HR will inform the school when all checks have been cleared and the volunteer / work placement / work experience can start.

## **6. The Recruitment Process – permanent positions**

### **6.1 Structured recruitment process**

Adopting a structured recruitment process will:

- Minimise the risk of appointing someone unsuitable
- Ensure the capabilities and conduct of new staff
- Enable the school to 'track' the process and ensure all relevant steps are taken
- Ensure written records of procedures are available for future reference if required
- Ensure consistency in process.

### **6.2 Defining the need to recruit**

When an employee leaves employment, it is important to spend time reviewing their post and to consider whether there is really a need for a 'like for like' replacement or whether other alternatives could be available. Therefore, when a vacancy occurs, consideration will be given to the following key questions:

- What is the purpose of the post?
- Whether the post is still required?
- Whether the post has remained the same or have changing work patterns, organisation or technology, resulted in changes to the role?
- Whether the tasks could be carried out differently e.g. could any additional duties, responsibilities or hours be advertised internally to offer advancement or increased hours to existing staff?
- Whether job-sharing is appropriate?
- Whether any review of the role affects the salary?
- Whether sufficient funding is available for the post?
- Whether agreement is required from the Trust Board to any changes or whether the post can be advertised?
- Whether the new post should be permanent or temporary?

### **6.3 Job Description and Person Specification**

If, having considered the factors in paragraph 5.2 above, the decision is to recruit, the next step is to:

- write a job description or person specification if it is a new role, or
- review the existing job description and person specification if it is an existing role and ensure that they accurately reflect the requirements of the job.

**Job Description:** The job description is a list of the responsibilities and tasks to be undertaken by the post holder. It is an effective way of communicating expectations about standards to employees and to school management to help ensure effective performance in the role. The job description also assists in writing the person specification by identifying the key attributes required to do the job.

Job descriptions for support staff should be evaluated by Trust HR. If any disparity is identified, Trust HR will consult with independent HR consultants to address the issue. This provides protection against any future claims of equal pay and ensures fairness and consistency across the Trust workforce.

If changes are made to an existing job description, it is recommended that the revised job description be re-evaluated to ensure that the grade properly reflects the responsibilities of the post.

When deciding on job descriptions for teachers, Part 7 of the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document (Contractual Framework for Teachers), which defines the professional responsibilities of teachers including Headteachers, Deputy and Assistant Headteachers, must be considered.

For safeguarding purposes, in addition to the list of responsibilities and tasks to be undertaken, the job description will include the post holder's responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young people who they will be responsible for or come into contact with.

Please contact Trust HR ([hr@aurigaacademytrust.org.uk](mailto:hr@aurigaacademytrust.org.uk)) for a job description template.

**Person Specification:** The person specification is essential to the recruitment process as it defines the type of person being sought. It describes the essential and desirable skills, knowledge, qualifications, specific criteria and competencies required to undertake the duties as referred to in the job description and will state how these will be tested and assessed during the selection process. It must also refer to the competencies required for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young people.

A badly defined person specification risks the recruitment of someone unsuitable for the post which can be costly in terms of management time and money and may not meet the commitment to safeguarding the welfare of children and young people.

The person specification will be used to:

- Inform the advertisement
- Assess applications to shortlist for interview
- Plan interview questions and identify suitable selection tests

Please contact Trust HR ([hr@aurigaacademytrust.org.uk](mailto:hr@aurigaacademytrust.org.uk)) for a person specification description template.

#### **6.4 Application form**

All applicants are required to register on the Trust's recruitment platform (MyNewTerm). Trust HR will not accept copies of CVs in place of an application form.

Trust HR will use its recruitment platform (MyNewTerm) to help obtain a common set of core data from all applicants in a consistent format. This will assist with the process of shortlisting and interviews.

All applications will have a section on Equality and Diversity Monitoring.

Unless stated elsewhere within the information pack, the application will include (where the role involves engaging in regulated activity) a statement that it is an offence to apply for the role if the applicant is barred from engaging in regulated activity relevant to children.

#### **6.5 Other documents**

All other information/guidance for applicants that will form part of the recruitment pack will be available on the Trust's recruitment platform (MyNewTerm) and will clearly set out the role's responsibility for the safeguarding and welfare of children and young people. This includes providing a link on the recruitment portal to the Trust's Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy and practice on employing ex-offenders (or will refer to a link on the school / Trust website).

#### **6.6 Advertising the vacancy**

To help decide on the most effective recruitment method, consideration will be given to the nature of the post, the circumstances of the individual school / the Trust at the time, the type of person required and budgetary implications. All vacancies will be advertised if the school/Trust wishes to make a permanent appointment. For temporary appointments, the school may advertise the vacancy internally initially.

The advert will include the following information:

- The name and address of the employer, including the location of the role
- The job title
- Details of the job
- Whether the job is Full-Time or Part-Time (and if part-time, the number of hours to be worked)
- Whether the role is Permanent, Fixed-Term, Temporary, or Casual

- If the role is Term Time Only, state the number of working weeks
- The salary (this should be pro-rata to the hours and weeks to be worked)
- A short description of what the school is like to work for
- How applicants can request details about the post
- The closing date
- The interview date, if known.

All advertisements will contain the statement on the safeguarding and welfare of children (as set out in **Section 3** of this Policy) and that the successful applicant will need to undertake an Enhanced DBS check (including a Barred List check) if the post has been identified as working in a "Regulated Activity" (see **Appendix 5** section 2 for the definition of a Regulated Activity as set out in the Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance). Where relevant, include the safeguarding responsibilities of the post.

The advert will also include details of whether the post is exempt from [The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1924 \(Exceptions\) Order 1975](#) as amended in [2013](#), [2020](#).

The advertisement will reflect the vision of the school / Trust and the type of applicant the school / Trust is seeking to attract for the role; it will provide applicants with a succinct summary of the role, as well as information about the school / Trust as an employer.

Advertising campaigns will be pre-planned to ensure maximum effectiveness. This includes ensuring there is sufficient time allotted to shortlist applicants and conduct interviews. A good way to plan a recruitment campaign is to use a timeline, detailing all the key dates, such as the closing date and time, the shortlisting date, and the interview date(s).

When advertising for teaching roles, schools may wish to consider Teacher and Headteacher resignation dates to ensure their advert reaches the right audience at the right time.

Advertising over school holidays can also be a good way to reach a wider audience, as many applicants are likely to have more time (particularly if they are currently employed in a school) to complete their applications. It is advisable however, that advertisements never close in the middle of a school break period. This is to ensure applicants are not left without a response to their submitted applications.

All applicants are encouraged to visit a school setting prior to commencing employment. Consideration will be given at this stage as to whether a visit is offered to applicants prior to making their application or to shortlisted candidates only. If applicants can visit the school prior to making an application this will be mentioned in the job advert together with details of how applicants can arrange such a visit. If potential applicants wish to view the school prior to making an application, it is necessary to decide a policy that either all requests to visit are met or that no visits will be allowed. It is important that all applicants are afforded the same opportunities.

### **6.7 Information pack for applicants**

The information provided to applicants on the recruitment portal will include at a minimum the following:

- Application Form
- Equality and Diversity Monitoring Form
- Job Description and Person Specification which will include Information setting out the extent of the relationship/contact with children and the degree of responsibility for children that the post holder will have in the position to be filled.
- A reference to the Trust's/school's overarching safeguarding policy and where this can be accessed on the school website
- Any other relevant material to attract applicants (e.g. letter from Head / CEO, school prospectus)
- Data Privacy Notice or a link to where this can be accessed on the school website.
- Link to the school's website.

### **6.8 Talent Pool**

The Trust will retain a 'talent pool' on MyNewTerm. The talent pool will comprise of those individuals who have registered an interest in working within the Trust. The Trust reserves the right to approach those registered on the Talent Pool if they meet the personal specification or skills criteria for any vacancy. Talent pool candidates

## 7. The Selection Process

### 7.1 Shortlisting applicants

All applications will be treated confidentially and only circulated to those individuals involved in the recruitment process e.g. selection/interview panel.

At least two people will carry out the shortlisting. Ideally, to ensure consistency, the shortlisting panel will be the same as the interview panel which may contain more members than the shortlisting panel. Therefore, it is important to ensure their availability when setting out the recruitment process timelines. At least one member of the panel must have completed the appropriate safer recruitment training which will, as a minimum, cover the content of Keeping Children Safe in Education Guidance. Consideration will also be given to ensure that panel members reflect the diverse nature of the school community and have a clear understanding of the Trust and school's commitment to equality and inclusion in the recruitment process.

The selection panel will go through the applications received in response to the advertisement and select applicants who most closely meet the selection criteria set out in the person specification and notify Trust HR who they wish to invite to the interview stage of the selection process. Only the information provided on the application form and any supporting statement will be used for selecting applicants.

Prior knowledge of applicants will not be a factor in the selection process. Where an applicant is known personally to a member of the selection panel, this must be declared before shortlisting takes place. It may then be necessary to change the panel to ensure there is no conflict of interest and that equal opportunities principles are adhered to.

The KCSIE Guidance 2023 Paragraph 221 introduced a new consideration when detailing the process around shortlisted candidates. Trust HR as part of the pre-employment checks will carry out an online/internet search as part of their due diligence on the shortlisted candidates. This will be conducted by Trust HR using the Safeguarding Online Search template.

Using the MyNewTerm platform any incomplete external applications will not be accepted. Any anomalies, discrepancies or gaps in employment ideally should have been identified and addressed prior to the shortlisting stage. However, where this has not been possible, and the candidate has been shortlisted, then these will be noted and addressed at the interview stage. In addition, the reasons for a history of repeated changes of employment without any clear career or salary progression, or a mid-career move from a permanent post to supply teaching or temporary work, will be explored and verified prior to shortlisting but again, where this has not been possible, as above, it will be explored at the interview stage.

Any **current staff** wishing to apply for a post advertised using MyNewTerm, must register on MyNewTerm. Any internal vacancy open to internal candidates only, advertised by email from Trust HR, can be applied for by submitting an expression of interest by email to Trust HR. The expression of interest must address all points of the personal specification.

Agency staff / apprentices who have worked with the school are encouraged to apply for advertised vacant positions. Agency staff / apprentices will be required to submit an application for a post using MyNewTerm. Where an individual is specifically recruited on a temporary to permanent basis, an interview is still required to meet the criteria of this policy. This interview should be conducted by 2 members of staff at a minimum, one of whom is the line manager and one panel member must have undertaken safer recruitment training.

Shortlisted candidates will be asked to complete a self-declaration of their criminal record or declare any information that would make them unsuitable to work with children. The purpose of a self-declaration is to give candidates the opportunity to share relevant information and allow this to be openly discussed and considered at interview before the DBS certificate is received.

Where there is disagreement between the selection panel on the suitability of an applicant, this will be openly discussed, and consensus reached if possible. If not, the panel can take a vote as to whether to shortlist the candidate for interview. A representative from Trust HR or the Trust's HR Consultant (Schools HR Co-operative) can be asked to be present to provide advice, subject to prior agreement.

A shortlisting form will be used to score the applications and record decisions, this will be supplied by Trust HR. Weighting will be given to whether a selection criteria is 'desired' or 'essential'. Applicants will be compared



with consistency against the person specification criteria which can be evidenced from their application. Reasons for not shortlisting an applicant will be recorded to demonstrate how criteria was not met and that discrimination has not taken place. A consolidated and agreed record of the panel's reasons for selecting or rejecting applicants must be kept on file by Trust HR.

## 7.2 Pre-interview visits

It is recommended, as good practice, for the candidates selected for interview to be given an opportunity to visit the school. This needs to be arranged by mutual agreement with the school. Ideally, candidates will be offered an individual tour of the school rather than being asked to visit as a group. The visit is not part of the selection process but will help candidates assess whether they would wish to take up the post, if offered.

## 7.3 Interviews

The candidates shortlisted for interview will be sent confirmation in writing by Trust HR giving adequate notice of the interview date. The interview date will be specified on the job advertisement.

The invite letter will include:

- Date, time and place of the interview.
- Format and duration of the interview and whether any assessments will be involved and what equipment will be made available for the assessment.
- Documents the candidates should bring with them e.g. proof of qualifications, identification, DBS certificates.

The interview panel will meet prior to the interview to agree/confirm:

- Layout of the room
- A suitable holding space before candidates are called for interview
- Arrangements for escorting candidates to and from the interview room
- Ensuring arrangements are in place for any documents (qualifications, identification etc.) to be verified.
- Who will chair the interview
- What questions will be asked, in what order and by whom and weighting to be attached to each criteria. Questions should clearly relate to criteria in the person specification.
- The panel will agree areas which need to be explored with each candidate based on the information provided in their application
- Any other selection technique(s) to be used to assess experience and competencies identified e.g. presentation, tests etc (see **Appendix 4**) and how they will be weighted
- Ensuring arrangements are in place if the candidate is to undertake a presentation/test e.g. appropriate equipment is available and set-up appropriately
- The timeframe for making a decision
- The arrangements for notifying the candidates of the outcome of the interview
- Who will offer feedback if a candidate requests this and how will this be given (see **paragraph 7.4** of this Policy).

The panel will avoid asking any questions about the candidate's health prior to making a job offer as the Equality Act 2010 prohibits this unless such questions are necessary to:

- find out whether a candidate can participate in an assessment to test their suitability for the role
- establish whether there is a duty to make reasonable adjustments to enable a candidate to take part in the recruitment process
- establish whether the candidate will be able to carry out functions that are intrinsic to the job concerned
- establish if the candidate has a disability which may impact on their ability to carry out any aspect of the role where this is an occupational requirement.

The explanatory notes to the Equality Act 2010 give the example of an applicant who discloses a speech impairment and asks for the adjustment of more time being allowed for the interview. The explanatory notes also give the example of an applicant who applies for a job in a warehouse that requires manual lifting and handling of heavy items. As manual handling is a function which is intrinsic to the job, the employer may ask the applicant questions about their health to establish whether they are able to do the job (with reasonable adjustments for a disabled applicant, if required). The interview panel would not be permitted to ask the candidate other health questions until they are offered the job.

On the day of the interview, it is recommended that the panel meets well in advance of the first interview to confirm the necessary arrangements. In addition to the above this may also include:

- Layout of the room
- Arrangements for escorting applicants to and from the interview room
- Ensuring arrangements are in place if the applicant is to undertake a presentation/test e.g. appropriate equipment is available and set-up appropriately.
- Ensuring arrangements are in place for any documents (Identification, qualifications etc.) to be checked and photocopied

At the interview, the chair of the panel will:

- Welcome the candidate and introduce the panel
- Explain the format of the interview and its duration
- Give a brief outline of the school and the job role.

Following this, the panel will put their questions to the candidate. It is advisable to start off with an open and easy question that will help the candidate to relax and feel at ease e.g. to tell you briefly about their career so far or why they have applied for this job and to your school. See **Appendix 2** for the type of questions recommended at interviews.

During the interview, in addition to assessing and evaluating the candidate's suitability for the post, the panel, where appropriate, will also explore:

- The candidate's attitude toward children and young people
- The candidate's motivation to work with children and young people
- The candidate's ability to form and maintain professional boundaries and professional integrity
- The candidate's ability to establish and maintain appropriate relationships and personal boundaries with children and young people
- The candidate's ability to take action to protect children
- The candidate's emotional resilience in working with challenging behaviours and attitudes to the use of authority and maintaining discipline
- The candidate's ability to support the school's agenda for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people
- Any gaps in the candidate's employment history with a view to gaining a complete picture of their past employment history where this has not already been addressed prior to shortlisting
- Any concerns or discrepancies arising from the information provided by the candidate where this has not already been addressed prior to shortlisting
- Any disclosures made by the candidate or if the candidate wishes to disclose anything considering the requirement for an enhanced DBS check (with a check of the Barred List) and Childcare Disqualification Requirement check.

See **Appendix 3** for additional guidance on matters to be aware of during the interview.

The panel members must take notes to assist in making evidenced judgements to support how they have scored each candidate, to assist with feedback should it be requested and in particular if there is a challenge by an unsuccessful candidate. Under the data protection provisions, candidates can request copies of notes taken at the interview relating to their own application. The notes for all the candidates may also be subject to disclosure (albeit in an anonymised format) if legal proceedings are commenced with respect to the recruitment process.

At the end of the interview, the panel will:

- Give candidates the opportunity to ask any questions they may have
- Explain what will happen next including the timing of the decision or next stage if there is a second interview
- Thank candidates for attending the interview.

When all candidates have been interviewed, the panel will discuss each candidate in relation to the person specification, the application form, and the interview performance and any selection test they may have undertaken. The panel will ensure they are objective and fair in selecting the most suitable candidate for the job. This will be through the scoring and weighting of the assessments carried out on each candidate.

All papers will be sent to Trust HR at the end of the interview process.

#### 7.4 Notifying unsuccessful candidates/providing feedback

It is important to advise candidates who have been unsuccessful as promptly and courteously as possible.

It is good practice to provide feedback where requested. Constructive feedback informs candidates of their strengths and development needs and enables them to learn from the process. It should encourage skills/experience/technique gaps to be addressed and assist candidates with any future applications for employment.

Feedback must be factual and objective and explain where the candidate did or did not meet the requirements in the person specification and the key points which influenced the final decision not to appoint them.

Feedback should be given by a member of the interview panel and can be given by telephone discussion, in writing or (for internal candidates), in person at a meeting. Trust HR are not in a position to represent the panel as they are not part of the selection process.

Where the panel is of the opinion that a candidate would be better suited to an alternative vacant position, Trust HR must be informed. Trust HR will contact the candidate and forward a copy of the job description if they are interested. The candidate will still require an interview in order to assess whether they are suitable for the new post. This interview should be conducted by 2 members of staff at a minimum, one of whom is the line manager, and one panel member must have undertaken safer recruitment training.

### 8. Conditional Offer of Employment (Pre-employment Checks)

Using the [Appointment Form](#) the selection panel will inform Trust HR of their decision to appoint within 1 working day. A verbal offer can be made by the selection panel, however this must NOT include any salary details. Trust HR will issue a formal conditional offer letter within 1 working day of receiving the appointment Form.

Any offer of employment made to a successful candidate, including one who has lived or worked abroad, must be conditional upon satisfactory completion of the following pre-employment checks and references (see **Appendix 5** for further guidance on pre-employment checks):

- **Reference Checks:** Receipt of at least two satisfactory professional references
- **ID Checks:** Verification of the candidate's identity
- **Medical Health Checks:** Verification of the candidate's mental and physical fitness to carry out their work responsibilities
- **Qualification Checks:** Verification of any qualifications required for the post (if not verified at the interview)
- **Right to Work in the UK Checks:** Verification of the candidate's right to work in the UK
- **DBS Checks:** A satisfactory Enhanced DBS Check; with a Barred List check for those who will be engaging in regulated activity
- **Barred List Checks:** A separate Barred List check if the candidate will start work in regulated activity before the DBS certificate is available where all other checks have been completed
- **Professional Status Checks:** Verification of professional status where required e.g. Registration with the Teaching Agency, QTS status (unless properly exempted)
- **Statutory Induction Periods:** For teaching posts, verification of successful completion of statutory induction period (applies to those who obtained QTS after 07 May 1999)
- **(For Applicants who have lived or worked outside the UK, make any further checks the school considers appropriate). For teachers, Teacher Sanctions or Restrictions Checks:** This would include a check for information about any teacher sanction or restriction that a European Economic Area (EEA) professional regulating authority has imposed. Other checks can include overseas criminal records checks if applicable
- **Teacher Prohibition Order Checks:** For posts required to undertake "teaching work" (as defined in **Appendix 5**), check to establish that the candidate is not subject to a prohibition order or interim prohibition order issued by the Secretary of State, or any sanction or restriction imposed (that remains current) by the General Teaching Council for England before its abolition in March 2012
- **Section 128 Direction Checks:** Independent schools, including academies and free schools, must check that a candidate taking up a management position, is not subject to a [Section 128](#) direction made by the Secretary of State
- **Disqualification Checks:** Check that the candidate is not disqualified from working with children who have not attained the age of 8, under the Childcare Act 2006 and The Childcare (Disqualification) and Childcare (Early Years Provision Free of Charge) (Extended Entitlement) (Amendment) Regulations 2018.

All checks will be:

- Confirmed in writing and recorded on EveryHR as completed
- Documented and retained on the personnel file in an appropriate format
- Recorded and held centrally in the form of a Single Central Record of checks as required by the Keeping Children Safe in Education Guidance (see **Section 9** of this Policy) and
- Followed up where they are unsatisfactory or where there are discrepancies in the information provided.

## **9. Single Central Record of Pre-employment Checks**

The School Staffing (England) Regulations 2009 require that schools must maintain a Single Central Record (SCR) of the preemployment checks which have been undertaken. This is documented and maintained on Every HR.

The SCR must cover all staff, including teacher trainees on salaried routes, agency and third-party supply staff, who work at the school; and the members and trustees of the Trust.

The checks, as set out below, is the minimum information that must be recorded on the SCR in respect of staff members (including teacher trainees on salaried routes). The record must indicate whether the following checks have been carried out or certificates obtained, and the date on which each check was completed/certificate obtained:

- An identity check
- Qualifications check
- Right to work in the UK check
- An enhanced DBS check
- Barred list check
- Further checks on candidates who have lived or worked outside the UK; this would include recording checks for the European Economic Area (EEA) teacher sanctions and restrictions
- Teacher Prohibition Order check
- Section 128 check for management positions including Governing Boards (independent schools including academies and free schools).

For supply staff, school administrators are responsible for creating and updating the agency worker's SCR record including their full name, date of birth, role within the school, start date, date of written confirmation received and DBS certificate information. In line with best practise, vetting document supplied by the agency must be attached to each record.

Whilst there is no statutory duty to include details of any other checks undertaken on the SCR, schools are free to record any other information they deem relevant. For example, checks for childcare disqualification, volunteers, governors and safeguarding and safer recruitment training dates.

Schools may also wish to record the name of the person who carried out each check.

The Trust maintains the SCR on [Every HR](#) detailing checks carried out in each school within the Trust. Whilst there is no requirement for the Trust to maintain an individual record for each school, the information will be recorded in such a way that allows for details for each school to be provided separately, and without delay, to those entitled to inspect that information, including Ofsted inspectors.

## **10. Keeping Records**

### **10.1 Data Protection**

Under the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) personal data may only be kept (in a form that permits identification of the individual) for no longer than is necessary for the purpose for which it was processed.

### **10.2 Unsuccessful applications**

Copies of all job applications and notes relating to shortlisting and interview decisions will be retained for six months to account for the possibility of a legal challenge from an unsuccessful candidate. These documents must not be destroyed until the case is resolved. They must be held in compliance with the UK GDPR.

### 10.3 Successful applications

The application form and the interview/assessment notes should be filed in the employee's personnel file when appointed.

### 10.4 Pre-employment checks

Copies of the documents used to verify the successful candidate's identity, right to work in the UK and required qualifications will be kept on the personnel file and in compliance with the UK GDPR.

DBS Certificates are sent direct to the candidate and made available to the Trust HR team through the service provider (Crinkle). Certificate information (date of disclosure, type of disclosure, unique number issued by the DBS, name of subject, position in question and the recruitment decision taken) must be recorded. The Trust / schools are not required to keep copies of DBS Certificates to fulfil the duty of maintaining the Single Central Record (SCR). The certificate information will be sufficient to enter onto the SCR.

In the event of a notification from Crinkle the candidate must show the original DBS certificate to Trust HR or their line manager before they take up post or as soon as practicable thereafter. The line manager is required to email Trust HR to confirm that they have seen the certificate and note any issues and whether this impacts the suitability of the candidate. A copy of the certificate should not be made or retained by the school.

## 11. Post-appointment Induction

### 11.1 Purpose of induction

An induction programme should be in place for all new members of staff and specifically tailored to their needs. The purpose of an induction is to:

- Provide training and information about the school's policies and procedures
- Support new members of staff in a way that is appropriate for the role for which they have been engaged
- Confirm the conduct expected of staff within the school
- Provide opportunities for the new member of staff to discuss any issues or concerns about their role and responsibilities
- Enable the new staff member's line manager or mentor to recognise any concerns or issues about their ability or suitability at the outset and address them immediately. For support staff, these issues will be identified and addressed during the probationary period.

### 11.2 What to include in an induction programme

The content and nature of the induction process will vary according to the role and previous experience of the new member of staff, but as far as safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is concerned, the induction programme will include information about:

- Policies and procedures in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people e.g. child protection, anti-bullying, anti-racism, physical intervention or restraint, personal care, internet safety and acceptable use and any local child protection and safeguarding procedures including Guidance for Safer Working Practice for those working with Children and Young People in Education Settings. All staff will have sight of this guidance. Schools are advised to consider asking staff to sign a declaration confirming that they have read and understood the guidance.
- Safe practice and the standards of conduct and behaviour expected of staff and pupils in the establishment.
- Other relevant personnel procedures e.g. code of conduct, disciplinary, grievance, capability, sickness absence/attendance, whistleblowing, dealing with allegations or concerns raised against teachers and other staff etc.

The induction programme will also include attendance at child protection training appropriate to the person's role.

## 12. Maintaining a Safer Culture

The need for a continued awareness of safeguarding issues is crucial. It is important that all staff in the school have appropriate training and induction so that they understand their roles and responsibilities and are confident about carrying them out. It is also important that staff, pupils and parents feel confident that they can raise issues/concerns about the safety and welfare of children and young people, and that they will be listened to and taken seriously. This can be achieved by maintaining an ethos of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and protecting staff which is supported by:

- A clear written statement of the standards of behaviour and the boundaries of appropriate behaviour expected of staff and pupils that is understood and endorsed by all
- Appropriate induction and training
- Regular briefing and discussion of relevant issues
- Provision of relevant material from the framework for PSHE in the curriculum
- A clear reporting system if a pupil, member of staff or another person has concerns about the safety of children and young people.

### **13. Monitoring of the Recruitment Process**

Regular monitoring and evaluation of the recruitment process will be carried out to assess its effectiveness and the impact on recruitment and retention, equality and diversity and to allow for future recruitment practices to be better informed.

## Appendix 1: The Recruitment Process Overview

**Advertising:** Recruiting Manager instructs HR using the [Recruitment Request Form](#) and provides an updated Job Description and Person Specification  
*This includes number of vacancies, site and proposed start date, advert closing date, shortlisting and interview dates, panel members and proposed payscale(s).*

HR publishes the advert and monitors applications

After the closing date, HR reviews applications for Right to Work and qualifications

**Shortlisting:** HR invites the Recruitment Panel to MyNewTerm to shortlist anonymised applications using the shortlisting grid (provided by Trust HR)

Shortlisting completed by the Recruitment panel and Trust HR notified

Trust HR invites selected applicants and informs unsuccessful candidates

**Interview Arrangements:** Trust HR organises the interview day and updates the Recruitment panel

Following the interviews the panel notifies Trust HR of any successful candidates using the [Appointment details](#) Form

Trust HR completes onboarding process

## Appendix 2: Types of Questions Recommended for Interview

**1. Warm Up questions** - allow the candidate to relax and to feel confident before the more serious questions, e.g. did you have a good journey? Do not score these questions.

**2. Open questions** - allow the candidate to expand on experiences, e.g. tell us briefly about your career to date? Tell us about your experience and main achievements as a manager? Give us an example of when you have managed budgets? There needs to be clarity and consistency as to how these questions will be scored.

**3. Probing questions** - provide a follow up to an open question, to assess the candidate on the selection criteria, e.g. when, where, how, why, what? "Why do you think that happened?" or "What do you think caused that?"

**4. Summarising & reflecting questions** - confirm your understanding of the candidate's responses where appropriate. Summaries on progress will help to ensure that both parties cover the points they wish to and understand what has so far been covered. It also helps to keep the discussion relevant and to the point.

**5. Neutral questions** – for equalities purposes neutral questions about ability to fulfil job requirements. For example, "The job requires you to work a rota of two evenings off two evenings on. Are you able to fulfil this requirement?" Rather than "I see you have two children, who will look after them?" It should be noted that to ask questions about childcare arrangements to both men and women could still be seen as potentially discriminatory to female candidates.

Questions to be avoided:

**1. Closed Questions** - These only allow for a "yes" or "no". e.g. "Do you enjoy your present job?" but should be expanded upon with probing questions.

**2. Leading Questions** - These suggest the answer that you want to hear e.g. "I am sure you agree that managing staff can be frustrating and difficult at times?" but can at times be useful to open up topics you are keen to explore.

**3. Multiple Questions** - These tend to confuse and complicate issues that are probably best kept separate. For example, "Do you think that we are making progress, if so where do you think we are succeeding, and if not what do you think we should be doing about it?"

Also avoid asking questions about the following:

- Marital status/ occupation of spouse
- Financial status • Number of children, family intentions or childcare arrangements
- Ethnic or national background (except where a specific requirement of the post)
- Trade union activities (not to be confused with a candidate joining a Union)
- Political beliefs
- Religious beliefs
- Health related questions unless it is to establish whether the applicant will be able to carry out a function that is intrinsic to the job



## **Appendix 3: Additional Guidance on Managing Interviews in the Context of Safeguarding**

### **1. Introduction**

Effective interviewing is a skill that needs to be developed through training. It is a requirement that at least one member of the recruiting panel has attended the Safer Recruitment training.

Your aim should be to ensure the interview is fair and to reach an agreed view on the candidate.

No personal feelings or assumptions should inform the interview or any decisions that are made afterwards.

The following courses are available on Every HR, please contact HR for enrolment.

#### **Safer Recruitment in Education**

*Safer Recruitment in Education has been developed to introduce you to safeguarding during the recruitment process in schools and trusts, enabling you to make sound employment decisions and ensure that children and young people in your school or trust are safeguarded from harm. This course is appropriate for anyone that works as part of the recruitment process or manages training and development of employees and volunteers. The course is split into sections of content which will teach you about the principles of safer recruitment, the recruitment process, vetting processes and checks, and continuous safeguarding.*

#### **Effective Recruitment**

*This course is designed for anybody involved in a recruitment interview across all industry sectors and offers information on how to conduct an effective recruitment interview, as well covering how to attract high quality candidates to the interview in the first place.*

#### **Unconscious Bias for Managers**

*The Unconscious Bias Training for Managers course has been created for managers and leaders to identify, challenge, and reduce bias in the workplace, so they can cultivate fairer, more diverse, and open organisations. Learn about your responsibilities as a leader and learn how to not let unconscious biases impact your decisions. It also contains a handy section dedicated to the entire hiring process and how to avoid unconscious bias when hiring.*

### **2. Things to avoid at interviews**

The success of a safer recruitment process is dependent on the Trust's recognition and consequent rejection of potentially unsuitable applicants before or at the interview.

Any approach that undermines this process (either by failing to focus on behaviour and attitudes or by failing to reject applicants who are unsuitable) is potentially supporting abuse. The recruitment process should guard against the most common errors. These include:

- Focusing solely on academic qualifications/practical skills. This approach will fail to identify unsuitable behaviours.
- Appointing the 'best of a bad lot' (though this may be difficult to avoid when the field of applicants is poor) – remember that you do not have to appoint if you consider that none of the candidates are suitable.
- Appointing 'because there is no one else'.
- Talking rather than listening – talking too much about the job and not questioning the candidate could result in recruiting someone who does not fit the role.
- Using instinct – liking the candidate immediately and not questioning and listening effectively, this could prove costly if the interviewer's instinct is wrong.
- Failing to study the application form and job description and person specification; this may result in an under or over qualified employee. One may create performance problems and the other may leave within a short time.
- Keeping a closed mind; having an image of exactly the qualities required and not considering any other qualities may result in missing someone special who might enhance the team.
- Missing vital information; staying so rigidly to the questions and failing to probe or even notice any passing comment the candidate may make could result in failing to find what the candidate is really like.
- Not allowing the candidate to ask questions; the type of questions a candidate asks indicates the criteria they want from the job.

- Not putting all the information relating to the candidate together; comparing the assessment forms, interview answers, test results, etc. This is more reliable than using only part of the information available.
- Accepting a short and un-detailed answer and moving on; probe and ask further questions if required.
- Avoid asking questions about a candidate's health as The Equality Act forbids employers from asking job applicants health related questions, unless it is for the specified reasons stated under the Act.

### **3. Identifying concerns at interview**

Interviewing panels ought to be concerned where the candidate demonstrates:

- Attitudes which attribute adult experience and knowledge to children, especially sexual knowledge or behaviour.
- Disproportionate amount of extra-curricular time spent in activities involving children.
- Personal life/work imbalance, including lack of adult relationships/leisure pursuits.
- Attitudes which appear to underestimate the incidence and impact of sexual abuse.
- An inability to recognise or respect boundaries around physical contact.
- An inability to appreciate or describe the appropriate boundaries of a professional relationship with children or to distinguish between appropriate and inappropriate behaviour.

Some of these features may have entirely satisfactory explanations. Others, or combinations of these features may raise concerns. However, not everyone whose responses arouse concern will be a potential abuser. Poorly articulated, hesitant or contradictory responses at interview may cause concern, but such responses may be signs of embarrassment, caution or interview nerves. For example, someone who has never worked with children might find it difficult to think of examples of appropriate and inappropriate behaviour or have the vocabulary to discuss the matter freely. To explore and assess an interviewee's stance on these sensitive issues in the time available during an interview is a challenge and it is important that the subject is dealt with carefully.

## **Appendix 4: Selection Tools in Addition to the Interview**

### **Presentation**

Candidates are asked to make a brief presentation on a given topic within a time limit. Details clearly need to be given to candidates in advance. It is helpful to choose a topic which has direct relevance to the organisation or a management issue pertinent to the job in question. It is customary to make an overhead projector, flipcharts and pens available to candidates, if required.

It is usual to follow up the candidates' presentations with questions from all or some members of the appointment panel. These questions are usually formulated whilst listening to the content of the candidates' presentation. Candidates should not be asked the same questions since the content of their presentation will differ.

### **Carousel**

A way of involving Trustees, Governors and staff (both teaching and support) in the process is to set up short, timed mini-interview panels on particular topics such as:

- Management/staffing issues
- Community involvement including parents
- Curriculum management

Candidates move from one panel to the next. When the round is complete, the panels meet to discuss their findings.

The questions relating to the particular topics are drawn up and agreed by the appointment panel prior to the interview day. Each candidate is asked the same question.

### **Candidate Observation**

Candidates are given a task to perform which involves team work with other candidates. The panel observes their proceedings and ask questions afterwards. The observers need to be skilled practitioners and in practice this system is rarely used.

### **Psychometric Testing**

Psychometric testing requires expert help from trainer practitioners. There is concern at the accuracy or risk of potential discrimination in such tests.

### **Exercises or Tests**

These could include:

- A timed word processing/typing exercise to test for speed and accuracy.
- An in-tray exercise to test for the allocation of priorities and how those priorities were justified.
- A finance exercise to check skills required.

All these techniques require planning and organisation. It is important to ensure that all candidates are treated equally. Areas under focus should relate to the selection criteria. The panel should prepare questions in advance and have some idea of the points they would expect the candidate to cover in their replies.

### **Involving Pupils**

Involving pupils in the recruitment and selection process in some way, or observing shortlisted candidates' interaction with pupils is common, and recognised as good practice. There are different ways of doing this. For example, candidates for teaching posts might be asked to teach a lesson; shortlisted candidates might be shown around by pupils and a Governor or senior member of staff, and/or meet with pupils and staff.

## **Appendix 5: Pre-employment Checks**

The below guidance is extracted from the Trust's HR Consultant's (Schools HR) model policy and reflects current recommended practice.

Any offer of appointment made to a successful candidate, including one who has lived or worked abroad, must be conditional on satisfactory completion of the necessary pre-employment checks:

### **1. References**

The offer of employment will be subject to receipt of at least two satisfactory references. The school should always ask for written information about previous employment history and check that the information is not contradictory or incomplete.

The purpose of seeking references is to allow employers to obtain factual information to support appointment decisions.

#### **When to seek references:**

The Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance document states that schools and academy trusts should obtain references prior to interview, because this allows any concerns raised to be explored further with the referee and taken up with the candidate at interview.

The above guidance was clearly written with only teachers in mind who must inform their school if they need to take a day off to attend an interview at another school. This would similarly be the case for other term-time only staff member who works within a school. However, applicants applying for non-teaching posts may not come from another school, where the norm is not to inform their employer that they are applying for another job until they had at least provisionally secured that job. The risks to them could include being deprived of training or promotion or pay rises once the employer becomes aware of the fact they are seeking alternative employment. Therefore, requesting references for these applicants prior to interview has the potential to reduce the number of suitable applicants willing to apply for the post through fear of being treated less favourably by their current employer if they are unsuccessful in being offered the position.

Additional issues with reviewing references prior to interview are:

- That the panel is then provided with the referee's perspective of a candidate before they have had the opportunity to make their own judgement. A busy Headteacher who is rushed for time might provide a basic reference for an outstanding candidate whereas another Headteacher might provide an overly favourable reference for a mediocre candidate because they are keen to let them go for.
- Where the recruitment timeline is short, not all references may have been received in time to review before shortlisting or before the interview process begins.

Schools should consider the above information when deciding when to request references and whether references should only be requested for teachers prior to shortlisting and/or interview.

When requesting references, The Trust / schools should:

- Provide a copy of the job description and person specification for the post;
- Not accept open references e.g. to whom it may concern;
- Not rely on applicants to obtain their own reference;
- Ensure at least one reference is from the candidate's current employer and has been completed by a senior person with appropriate authority (if the referee is a school, the reference should be confirmed by the Headteacher/Principal as accurate in respect to disciplinary investigations and relevant capability concerns\*);
- Obtain verification of the individual's most recent relevant period of employment where the applicant is not currently employed;
- Secure a reference from the relevant employer from the last time the applicant worked with children (if not currently working with children). If the applicant has never worked with children, then ensure a reference from their current employer;
- Establish the reason for the candidate leaving their current or most recent post;
- Ensure electronic references originate from a legitimate source;
- Always verify any information with the person who provided the reference (see Scrutiny of References below);

- Contact referees to clarify content where information is vague or insufficient information is provided (see Scrutiny of References below);
- Compare the information on the application form with that in the reference and take up any discrepancies with the candidate (see Scrutiny of References below);
- Consider the suitability of the alternative referee(s) for candidates with no previous employment history or only one previous employer;
- Ensure receipt of at least two satisfactory references;
- For teaching and leadership appointments, ensure references are requested from the Headteacher if the candidate is currently working in a school. If the appointment is for a Headteacher, the reference must be requested from the Chair of Governors. For all other appointments, references must be either from the candidate's line manager or another person more senior to them within the organisation with authority from the organisation to provide a reference. A work colleague will not be a suitable referee.

### **Scrutiny of references:**

Either the recruitment panel or its delegation have the responsibility for scrutinising references. This will include checking that the information is complete and consistent with information already provided by the candidate, either in their application form or during the interview stage. (The shortlisting panel may be a delegation of members from the full recruitment panel and if references are reviewed at the shortlisting stage, this review must be fed back to the full recruitment panel).

Where there is doubt about the appropriateness of a referee, a designate of the recruitment panel must seek further information from the candidate to clarify any doubt. The designate may also seek advice from their HR Advisor.

### **Medical information:**

Under the Equality Act 2010 it is unlawful for employers to ask job applicants health related questions before an offer of employment is made unless it is for specified reasons stated under the Act.

To avoid any claims from unsuccessful candidates for not being selected on health grounds, medical information should only be viewed after an offer of employment is made. This can be problematic when references are requested and reviewed prior to the final selection of an applicant, as references sometimes contain information relating to the applicant's absence record and medical conditions that might have affected their employment. If references are requested and reviewed prior to shortlisting or final selection, it is recommended that someone independent of the recruitment panel scrutinises them to remove any reference to medical conditions or absenteeism that might relate to a medical condition before the panel view them.

### **Capability procedures:**

In accordance with the School Staffing Regulations and the DfE Staffing and Employment: Advice for Schools document, as part of the appointment process for Headteachers and teachers, the Governing Board should, in a reference, ask previous employers for details about whether the individual has been subject to capability procedures in the previous two years. For maintained schools, the Governing Board must respond in writing to confirm whether that individual has been the subject of capability procedures within that period and, if so, the details of the concerns which gave rise to this, along with the duration of the proceedings and their outcome. This may impact on the appointment.

The above provisions do not apply to academies established prior to April 2013. However, it is a requirement that they are included in new funding agreements from April 2013. Academies can ask for relevant information about a teacher's capability as part of their appointment processes.

### **Safeguarding allegations:**

Schools should ensure the information provided in references confirms whether the referee is satisfied with the applicant's suitability to work with children and provide the facts (not opinions) of any substantiated safeguarding concerns/allegations that meet the harm threshold but should not include information about safeguarding concerns/allegations which are unsubstantiated, unfounded, false, or malicious. A recruitment panel should seek HR advice if they are in receipt of references which include information relating to safeguarding allegations.

When a school requests references before an offer of employment is made, they must ensure that pre-employment references are received for all shortlisted candidates.

## 2. ID Checks

Identification checking guidelines can be found on the [GOV.UK website](#). ID checks should be made against all names by which the candidate is or has been known.

## 3. Medical Health Checks

Anyone appointed to a post involving regular contact with children or young people must be mentally and physically fit. It is a statutory responsibility for employers to satisfy themselves that candidates have the appropriate level of mental and physical fitness prior to confirming an offer of employment.

Assessing a person's ability to carry out the duties of a job can be an important selection tool. Pre-employment medical checks should be seen as a way of:

- Screening candidates in – not screening them out
- Identifying any risks to the prospective employee, colleagues or clients
- Identifying any support needed by the prospective employee to do the job effectively
- Identifying any disability issues and the requirement for reasonable adjustments
- Identifying any potential attendance problems
- Providing a baseline of health for future reference.

Schools should ensure that their pre-employment health questionnaires are designed to capture specific features of the job e.g. driving for work, working at heights, manual handling, food handling etc. so that their occupational health service can take account of these factors in their assessment.

Where driving for work is a feature of the job, schools must also ensure that the candidate meets the DVLA requirements (e.g. holds a valid driving license for the correct category of vehicle, check for any restrictions that may be indicated. Categories of vehicles and restriction codes can be found on the [GOV.UK website](#)). It is recommended that the prospective employee is not allowed to drive for work until they have been declared fit by occupational health as part of their pre-employment health check.

## 4. Qualification Checks

Candidates must be required to provide proof of their qualifications by producing documentation at the interview (relevant certificates or a letter of confirmation from the awarding body/institution). Where the candidate is unable to provide the original documentation, they must provide a properly certified copy.

## 5. Right to Work in the UK

Schools must ensure that any prospective employee has the right to work in the UK. If a school fails to carry out the necessary checks or if the checks are not properly carried out which results in the school employing a person who does not have the right to work in the UK, the school can, depending on the circumstances, face a [civil penalty \(fine\)](#) ([Home Office Code of Practice on Preventing Illegal Working – February 2024](#)), for each illegal worker. Additionally, if the school knowingly employs a person who does not have the right to work in the UK, it may face a criminal prosecution.

For advice and guidance on matters to be aware of when carrying out this check, including the type of documents that may be accepted for this check, please refer to the [GOV.UK website](#) and also to the employer guidance on the [GOV.UK website](#).

For information about the sponsor licence and sponsoring migrant workers please refer to the [GOV.UK website](#).

## 6. The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (Amendment) Order 2013 also referred to as the Exceptions Order 1975 (2013 and 2020)

Under The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 as amended applicants applying to work with vulnerable groups were required to declare all spent and unspent convictions. The amendments to this legislation now provide that certain spent convictions and cautions are 'protected' and are not subject to disclosure to employers, and will therefore not appear on a DBS Certificate, and cannot be considered when making decisions about a person's employment.

An **adult conviction** (over the age of 18 at the time of the offence) will be removed from a DBS Certificate if:

- 11 years have elapsed since the date of conviction; and
- It is the person's only offence, and

- It did not result in a custodial sentence

Even then, it will only be removed if it does not appear on the [list of offences](#) which will never be removed from a DBS Certificate. If a person has more than one offence, then details of all their convictions will always be included.

An **adult caution** will be removed after 6 years have elapsed since the date of the caution and if it does not appear on the list of offences relevant to safeguarding.

For those under the age of 18 at the time of the offence:

The same rules apply as for **adult convictions**, except that the elapsed time period is 5.5 years.

The same rules apply as for **adult cautions**, except that the elapsed time period is 2 years.

Employers can only ask applicants to provide details of convictions and cautions that the employer is legally entitled to know. If an employer takes into account a conviction or caution that is not disclosed on the DBS Certificate they will be acting unlawfully under the legislation.

Only shortlisted candidates should be asked to complete a self-declaration form of their criminal record or information which might make them unsuitable to work with children. This information should not be requested in the application form to decide who should be shortlisted. A self-declaration is subject to the Ministry of Justice guidance on the disclosure of criminal records.

The purpose of a self-declaration is to give candidates the opportunity to share relevant information and allow this to be discussed and considered at interview before the DBS certificate is received. Revealed disclosures may require the school to undertake a risk assessment process if appropriate, see **Appendices 6 and 7** for templates.

Candidates should be asked to sign a declaration confirming the information they have provided is true. Where there is an electronic signature, the shortlisted candidate should physically sign the hard-copy of the declaration form at the point of interview.

The Ministry of Justice and DBS advise that employers use the following statement and question:

**“The amendments to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (2013 and 2020) provides that when applying for certain jobs and activities, certain convictions and cautions are considered ‘protected’. This means that they do not need to be disclosed to employers, and if they are disclosed, employers cannot take them into account. Guidance about whether a conviction or caution should be disclosed can be found on the Ministry of Justice website.”**

**“Do you have any convictions or cautions (excluding youth cautions, reprimands, or warnings) that are not ‘protected’ as defined by the Ministry of Justice?”**

## **7. Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Check and Regulated Activity**

For persons employed to work in ‘regulated activity’ an enhanced DBS check, which includes a Barred List check, will be required.

A person will be engaging in regulated activity in the following circumstances:

### Category A

- Teaching, training, instructing, caring for or supervising children if the person is unsupervised or
- Providing advice or guidance on physical, emotional, or educational well-being or
- Driving a vehicle only for children.

### Category B

- Work undertaken for schools and colleges (known as specified places) which provides an opportunity for contact with children but not including work undertaken by supervised volunteers.

### Category C

- Work which involves relevant personal care which includes helping a child with eating and drinking for reasons of illness or disability or in connection with toileting, washing, bathing and dressing for reasons of age, illness or disability or
- Work which involves health care provided by or provided under the supervision of a health care professional; health care means care for children provided by, or under the direction or supervision of a regulated health care professional.

Work undertaken in either Category A and/or Category B above is regulated activity if:

- It is carried out frequently by the same person or
- The person carrying out the activity does so at any time on more than three days in any period of 30 days or
- For the purposes of the work referred to in Category A above (apart from driving a vehicle only for children), it is also satisfied if it is done at any time between 2am and 6am and it gives the person the opportunity to have face to face contact with children.

Work undertaken in Category C is deemed to be regulated activity regardless of frequency or whether the person is supervised or not.

In schools, for most appointments, an Enhanced DBS check, which includes a check of the Barred List, will be required as most staff will be engaging in regulated activity.

For all other staff who have an opportunity for regular contact with children but who are not engaging in regulated activity, an Enhanced DBS check, which does not include a barred list check, will be appropriate.

With effect from 17 June 2013 the DBS stopped issuing a copy of the DBS Certificate to registered bodies. Consequently, registered bodies are unable to notify the school of the results of a DBS check. Instead, schools need to ask the candidate for sight of their DBS Certificate. Candidates should be made aware of this at the time they are asked to complete a DBS application and they should further be made aware of the consequences if they fail to produce the certificate at the relevant time.

Schools can track progress of the DBS application and will therefore know when the status is complete. If the candidate fails to provide their DBS Certificate to the school within seven (7) days of the completion date, they should be reminded to bring their DBS Certificate to the school and informed about the implications of failing to do so. Schools should seek immediate advice from Schools HR where the individual fails to provide their DBS Certificate.

Schools need to be aware that candidates can now dispute the information which may appear on their DBS Certificate before it is seen by their current or prospective employers. Where this is the case, there may be a delay in the candidate providing the school with their DBS Certificate.

Further information about the DBS is available on the [GOV.UK website](https://www.gov.uk).

Where a school or college allows an individual to start work in regulated activity before the DBS certificate is available, then they must carry out a risk assessment and ensure that the individual is appropriately supervised and that all other checks, including a separate Barred List check, have been completed (see **Appendix 6** for a Risk Assessment template)..

The candidate's offer of employment will remain subject to a satisfactory DBS check until such time when the school has had sight of their DBS Certificate and it is satisfactory to the school.

If the DBS Certificate reveals information that a candidate has not disclosed during the selection process, advice should be sought from Schools HR immediately. If any conviction information appearing on the DBS Certificate is different from the information supplied by the candidate, they should be asked for an explanation (it may be that the candidate has forgotten or incorrectly remembered information on convictions they have because they occurred a long time ago or the candidate was young when the offences occurred). Where there is a disclosure present, the school (dependent upon the information which is revealed), in deciding whether to proceed with the appointment, must carry out a risk assessment to make a judgment on whether the candidate poses a risk to or is otherwise considered unsuitable to work with children and young people – see **Appendix 7** for a Risk Assessment Form template to cover this scenario. If a judgement is reached that the candidate deliberately



falsified the information supplied on the job application, this can be taken into account when considering whether the job offer should be withdrawn.

For further guidance, refer to the flowchart in Part 3 of the prevailing Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) statutory guidance.

## **8. Professional Status Check**

Verification of professional status where required, to ensure applicants have achieved the required teaching standards, e.g. Registration with the Teaching Agency, QTS status (unless properly exempted).

## **9. (For Applicants who have lived or worked outside the UK) Teacher Sanctions or Restrictions**

Individuals who have lived or worked outside the UK must undergo the same checks as all other staff in schools or colleges. In addition, schools must make any further checks they consider appropriate so that any relevant events that occurred outside the UK can be considered.

These further checks should include a check for information about any teacher sanction or restriction that an EEA professional regulating authority has imposed (on or after 18 January 2016). Although restrictions imposed by another EEA regulating authority do not prevent a person from taking up teaching positions in England, schools and colleges should consider the circumstances that led to the sanction or restriction being imposed when considering a candidate's suitability for employment. With effect from 01 January 2021 professional regulators in the EEA will no longer share information about sanctions imposed on EEA teachers with the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA) and the TRA will no longer maintain a list which includes this information.

A letter of professional standing from the professional regulating authority in the country in which the applicant has worked can be asked for. Advice about the relevant regulatory or professional body, can be obtained from the UK National Information Centre for the recognition and evaluation of international qualifications and skills (UK ENIC).

The checks can also include an overseas criminal records check. The Home Office has published guidance on [criminal records checks for overseas applicants](#).

There is no requirement to carry out checks for events that may have occurred outside the UK if, during a period which ended not more than three months before the person's appointment, the applicant has worked:

In a school in England in a post:

- Which brought the person regularly into contact with children or young people; or
- To which the person was appointed on or after 12<sup>th</sup> May 2006 and which did not bring the person regularly into contact with children or young people; or
- In an institution within the further education sector in England, or in a 16-19 Academy, in a post which involved the provision of education which brought the person regularly into contact with children or young people.

## **10. Secretary of State - Teacher Prohibition Orders (Section 141B Education Act 2002)**

Section 141B of the Education Act 2002 provides the Secretary of State with a power to investigate, where an allegation is referred to the Secretary of State, that a person may be guilty of unacceptable professional conduct or conduct which brings the profession into disrepute or has been convicted of a relevant criminal offence. Section 141B (2) of the Education Act 2002 provides that where the Secretary of State finds on investigation that there is a case to answer, the Secretary of State must decide whether to make a prohibition order in respect of that person.

The School Staffing (England) Regulations 2009 require that schools:

- Must check that any person appointed to carry out "teaching work" is not a person who is subject to a prohibition order or interim prohibition order. Teaching work is defined by the Teachers' Disciplinary (England) Regulations 2012 as: "*planning and preparing lessons and courses for pupils; delivering lessons to pupils; assessing the development, progress and attainment of pupils and reporting on the development, progress and attainment of pupils. These activities are not teaching work, if the person carrying out the activity does so [other than for the purposes of induction] subject to the direction and supervision of a qualified teacher or other person nominated by the Headteacher to provide such direction and supervision.*"

- Must record in the Single Central Record whether a check has been made that the person is not subject to a prohibition order or interim prohibition order.
- Must obtain confirmation from any supply agency whether a check was made to establish that the person is not subject to a prohibition order or interim prohibition order.

Information on factors relating to decisions leading to the prohibition from the teaching profession is available on the [GOV.UK website](https://www.gov.uk).

Schools can check the list of persons who have been prohibited from teaching via the Department for Education's (DfE's) [Teacher Services system](#). This is a free service available for schools and can be accessed through the [DfE Sign-in portal](#).

### **11. Secretary of State - Section 128 Direction (Section 128 Education And Skills Act 2008)**

A section 128 direction prohibits or restricts a person from taking part in the management of an independent school, including academies and free schools. A person who is prohibited is unable to participate in any management of an independent school such as:

- A management position in an independent school, academy or free school as an employee
- A trustee of an academy or free school trust, a governor or member of a proprietor body for an independent school; or
- A governor on any governing board in an independent school, academy or free school that retains or has been delegated any management responsibilities.

**A section 128 direction also prohibits a person from holding or continuing to hold office as a governor of a maintained school.**

With effect from 01 September 2016, independent schools, including academies and free schools, should check that a person taking up a management position as described above is not subject to a section 128 direction made by the Secretary of State. Individuals taking part in 'management' may include individuals who are members of proprietor bodies (including governors if the governing board is the proprietor body for the school), and such staff positions as follows: headteacher, any teaching positions on the senior leadership team, and any teaching positions which carry a department headship. Whether other individuals such as teachers with additional responsibilities could be prohibited from 'taking part in management' depends on the facts of each case.

With effect from 01 September 2018 maintained schools should check that a person to be appointed as Governor to their Governing Board is not subject to a section 128 direction made by the Secretary of State.

A check for a section 128 direction can be carried out using the [Teacher Services system](#). Where the person will be engaging in regulated activity, a DBS barred list check will also identify any section 128 direction. It is important when submitting applications for a DBS check with a check of the barred list, that you include on the DBS application form, within (box 61 – Position applied for) 'Child Workforce Management of Independent School'. This allows DBS to confirm if a section 128 direction has been made.

Please refer to the Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance for further information.

### **12. Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006 and The Childcare (Disqualification) and Childcare (Early Years Provision Free of Charge) (Extended Entitlement) (Amendment) Regulations 2018**

Schools are prohibited from employing a person who is disqualified under the Regulations from working with children who have not attained the age of 8.

Further information on the staff and settings covered by these Regulations and how schools can prevent knowingly employing a person who is disqualified is available in the DfE's updated guidance: [Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006 \(2018\)](#).

Please also refer to the Schools HR model guidance Childcare Disqualification Checks, available on the [Schools HR Co-operative website](#), on checks required under these Regulations.

### **13. Checks on Agency and Third-Party Staff**

Schools and colleges must obtain written confirmation from any agency, or third-party organisation they use, that the organisation has carried out the same checks as the school or college would otherwise on any individual who will be working at the school or college in respect of the enhanced DBS certificate. Schools and colleges must ensure that written notification confirms the certificate has been obtained by either the employment business or another such business. Where the certificate discloses any matter or information of concern, the school or college must obtain a copy of the certificate from the agency.

Where the position requires a Barred List check, this must be obtained by the agency or third-party prior to appointing that individual. The school must also check that the person presenting themselves for work is the same person on whom the checks have been made.

#### **14. Checks on Trainee/Student Teachers**

Where applicants for initial teacher training are salaried by the school or college, the school or college must ensure that all necessary checks are carried out. As trainee teachers are likely to be engaging in regulated activity, an enhanced DBS certificate (including barred list information) must be obtained.

Where trainee teachers are fee-funded it is the responsibility of the initial teacher training provider to carry out the necessary checks. Schools should obtain written confirmation from the provider that it has carried out all pre-appointment checks that the school or college would otherwise be required to perform, and that the trainee has been judged by the provider to be suitable to work with children. There is no requirement for the school to record details of fee-funded trainees on the Single Central Record.

#### **15. Checks on Volunteers**

Under no circumstances should a volunteer in respect of whom no checks have been obtained be left unsupervised or allowed to work in regulated activity.

Volunteers, who on an unsupervised basis, teach or look after children regularly, or provide personal care on a one-off basis in schools will be in regulated activity (as referred to in section 7 above). The school should obtain an enhanced DBS certificate (to include barred list information) for all volunteers who are new to working in regulated activity.

Schools and colleges may obtain an enhanced DBS certificate (not including barred list information), for volunteers who are not engaging in regulated activity, but have the opportunity to come into contact with children on a regular basis e.g. supervised volunteers (see [Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance](#)).

The school or college should undertake a risk assessment and use their professional judgement and experience when deciding whether to obtain an enhanced DBS certificate for any volunteer not engaging in regulated activity. In doing so they should consider:

- The nature of the work with children
- What the establishment knows about the volunteer, including formal or informal information offered by staff, parents and other volunteers
- Whether the volunteer has other employment or undertakes voluntary activities where referees can advise on suitability
- Whether the role is eligible for an enhanced a DBS check.

Details of the risk assessment should be recorded.

## Appendix 6: Risk Assessment Form - Commencing Employment without a DBS Check in Place

Name of Employee:		Position Appointed To:	
Person Completing This Form:		Their Position Title:	

Section One: Pre-Employment Checks			
Has a new DBS Application been submitted for this individual?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<i>This should be completed before this Risk Assessment is started.</i>
Does the individual have a previous DBS Clearance Certificate available?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<b><i>If Yes, please detail the date of the certificate and if it is clear of disclosures.</i></b>
If the individual is working in Regulated Activity, has an independent Barred List Check been requested and confirmed as clear?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<i>This can be completed via the <a href="#">DfE Sign-in portal</a>.</i>
At the time of application or subsequently has the individual made any voluntary disclosures?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<i>If Yes, these should be independently risk assessed and an explanation provided (please see Appendix 7).</i>
Does the individual require an Overseas Criminal Record Check to be completed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<i>Please refer to <b>Appendix 5</b> for more guidance.</i>
Has a Right to Work check been completed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<i>Please refer to <b>Appendix 5</b> for more guidance.</i>
Has the individual filled in an application form for the role, with any gaps or discrepancies being identified and explained in full?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<i>A candidate's full history should be explored in detail, and any gaps clearly explained. You should also probe into the reasons behind any multiple sudden moves in location.</i>
Has the individual left their previous employment, and was the reason for them leaving well established?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<b><i>Please provide the reason for leaving.</i></b>
If this role involves Teaching Work has a Secretary of State - Teacher Prohibition Order been completed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<i>This will only be applicable to candidates entering into teaching work. If N/A please do not complete this question.</i>

<p><b>If this role requires a Section 128 Direction Check has this been completed?</b></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b>	<p><i>This will only be applicable to some candidates in certain school types. If N/A please do not complete this question.</i></p>
<p><b>Does this post require a check relating to Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006, and has this been completed?</b></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b>	<p><i>This will only be applicable to some candidates working with certain phase types/age ranges. If N/A please do not complete this question.</i></p>
<p><b>Has a satisfactory pre-employment medical clearance be received?</b></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b>	<p><i>This can be done by your Occupational Health (OH) Provider.</i></p>
<p><b>Have the essential qualifications required for this role been verified? (such as confirmation of QTS or First Aid Certification)</b></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b>	<p><i>Qualifications required for the role should be kept on the personnel/CPD file and updated as required.</i></p>
<p><b>Have two satisfactory references been received back, one of which is from the previous or most recent employer?</b></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b>	<p><i>References should be requested at the time an offer of employment is made, verified, and placed on the personnel file.</i></p>
<p><b>Section Two: Control Measures &amp; Impact Assessment</b></p>			
<p><b>What level and type of access will this post holder have to children and young people if their employment were to commence?</b></p>	<p><b><i>Please detail here.</i></b></p>		
<p><b>What type of supervision can be put in place (if any) to ensure that this post holder does not have unsupervised access to children and young people?</b></p>	<p><b><i>Please detail here.</i></b></p>		
<p><b>Are there meaningful duties which this post holder can complete which do not require them to have access to children and young people?</b></p>	<p><b><i>Please detail here.</i></b></p>		
<p><b>What is the potential impact to the school and to normal service delivery if this post holder does not start work immediately?</b></p>	<p><b><i>Please detail here.</i></b></p>		

<p><b>If this post holder does not start work immediately, can their duties be reasonably carried out by another member of staff on an interim basis?</b></p>	<p><i>Please detail here.</i></p>
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**Section Three: Risk Assessment Decision**

<p><b>Following the completion of this risk assessment, what level of risk do you consider this individual to pose to the school, the pupils, the staff and the wider school community if they were to commence employment without a DBS clearance in place? (Please highlight the level of risk and then select <u>either one</u> of the below outcomes).</b></p>	<b>HIGH RISK</b>	<b>MEDIUM RISK</b>	<b>LOW RISK</b>
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<b>OUTCOME ONE:</b>	<p>Following the completion of this risk assessment, it is determined that the abovenamed individual may commence employment with the identified control measures detailed in place. They have been made aware of the safeguarding measures in place in this school. I undertake to personally review this situation and the status of their DBS check at intervals of no less than every two weeks. I have discussed with the individual that their employment continues to be subject to receipt of a satisfactory DBS check.</p>
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<b>OUTCOME TWO:</b>	<p>This individual will not start work until such time as the DBS check is completed and received by the school.</p>
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<b>Signed by person completing this form:</b>		<b>Date Completed:</b>	
<b>Date of risk assessment review:</b>			
<b>Signed by Employee:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Authorised by Headteacher:</b>		<b>Date of authorisation:</b>	

## **Appendix 7: Risk Assessment Form – When a Disclosure is Present on a DBS Certificate**

The completion of this risk assessment form is the responsibility of the appointing manager or line manager as appropriate. It must be authorised by the Headteacher before the individual can start work or continue working with children or their records. This completed risk assessment form must be placed on the individual's personnel file in a separate section / sealed envelope marked "confidential". It should be retained on file for the duration of the individual's employment.

This risk assessment document is broken down into three parts, as follows:

### **PART ONE – Applicant Declaration**

You should separate this part of the form and give it to the applicant to complete. You must only give it to the applicant once you have seen their DBS certificate and are aware that a disclosure is made on it. You MUST NOT give this part of the assessment to any applicant as part of the recruitment process.

### **PART TWO – Line Manager Checklist**

This part of the risk assessment should be completed by the individual's line manager, the recruitment manager or school business manager or the headteacher.

### **PART THREE – Assessment of Risks**

The final part of this document is for the headteacher to complete (if they have not already been completing the risk assessment) as they have the ultimate responsibility in school for safeguarding.

This risk assessment is designed to be used in conjunction with the Schools HR Co-operative's Model Safer Recruitment and Selection Policy. If you require any support or guidance around DBS checking, or risk assessments for disclosures then please contact a member of the HR Advice & Guidance Service before proceeding.

<b>PART ONE – Applicant Declaration</b>
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As part of your pre-employment checks, the school is aware of a disclosure on [DELETE AS APPROPRIATE] your DBS Certificate / Self Declaration Form completed post shortlisting and in line with best practice, we require you to take part in this risk assessment process. Please be aware that a disclosure will not necessarily bar you from working with the school, however it will depend on the nature of the position that you are applying for and your circumstances at the time of the incidents or offences. Please be aware that to withhold information or to give false information will be regarded as an attempt to falsify records which may lead to dismissal.

<b>Your Name:</b>	
<b>Job Title:</b>	

<b>DISCLOSURE 1 (Conviction, Warning, Reprimand, or Incident)</b>
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<b>Date Listed on DBS:</b>	
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Please describe what happened. It is useful to know who was involved, when it occurred, what occurred, where the incident or offence was committed and why it was committed. It is also necessary to explain how you, the applicant, now feel about the incident or offence.

<b>DISCLOSURE 2 (Conviction, Warning, Reprimand, or Incident)</b>
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<b>Date Listed on DBS:</b>	
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Please describe what happened. It is useful to know who was involved, when it occurred, what occurred, where the incident or offence was committed and why it was committed. It is also necessary to explain how you, the applicant, now feel about the incident or offence.

**If there are more than two disclosures present, please complete these using the template above on a separate piece of paper and securely attach (staple) them to this form.**

<b>YOUR DECLARATION:</b> I certify that the information I have provided on this document is true and complete. I understand that to knowingly make a false statement or omit information may result in my dismissal.
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<b>Your Signature:</b>		<b>Date Completed:</b>	
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**PART TWO – Line Manager Checklist**

This part of the risk assessment should be completed by the line manager of the individual, or the person responsible for carrying out the pre-employment checks.

<b>Candidate's Name:</b>			
<b>Job Applied For:</b>		<b>Job Reference:</b>	
<b>Application Date:</b>		<b>Interview Date:</b>	
<b>Proposed Start Date:</b>		<b>Date Today:</b>	

**Have the following pre-employment checks been completed (please tick)?**

A satisfactory Right to Work check.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
A full application form, which has been checked for any gaps in personal or employment history.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
At least 2 appropriate and satisfactory references.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Verification of the minimum qualification(s) required for the position.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
A pre-employment medical check	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
A prohibition from teaching check (if the applicant will undertake teaching work)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
A section 128 direction check (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
An overseas police check (where applicable). If the overseas check is still in progress, please note that here:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

**Applicant History (Part A)**

Did the applicant previously work for a school or education establishment?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If Yes, has a reference from that organisation been obtained and does it contain any information which is concerning? (please detail here)		

**Applicant History (Part B)**

At interview did the applicant cause any concerns with panel members in relation to their answers around safeguarding?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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If Yes, please detail that briefly here and ensure that the interview notes accurately reflect the candidate's answers.

<b>Name of the person completing this form:</b>	
<b>Your job role / title:</b>	

**PART THREE – Assessment of Risks**

**This part of the risk assessment should be completed by the Headteacher as the individual with ultimate responsibility for safeguarding.**

<b>Candidate's Name:</b>			
<b>Job Applied For:</b>		<b>Job Reference:</b>	
<b>Application Date:</b>		<b>Interview Date:</b>	
<b>Proposed Start Date:</b>		<b>Date Today:</b>	
<b>Is Part One Completed?</b>		<b>Is Part Two Completed?</b>	

**Part A – Risk Assessment Questions**

Did the applicant make the disclosure on their application form (post shortlisting) at the time of interview?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	COMMENTS:
Does the individual agree that the information on the DBS certificate is accurate?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	COMMENTS:
Were any (or all) of the disclosures related to a work setting?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	COMMENTS:

**Part B – Applicant Specific Questions**

What are the individual's thoughts / feelings about the disclosures now? (do they show remorse?)	COMMENTS:
Were there any mitigating circumstances surrounding the disclosures? (i.e. was the person homeless, receiving medical / therapeutic treatment, was there a traumatic life event or was the disclosure at the time when the applicant was	COMMENTS:

young – and if so, how many years have now passed)	
Has the applicant changed anything major about their life situation since the disclosures, or can they show any efforts they have taken to ensure they do not re-offend? (Have they received counselling for example, or do they attend a programme such as AA/GA/NA, or have they moved areas)	COMMENTS:
Do the disclosures form a pattern of any kind, or show a repeat motivation (such as theft to provide for themselves)?	COMMENTS:
<b>Part C – Assessing the Risk at Work</b>	
What, if any, involvement does this post have with the public, and does the disclosure have an impact on this?	COMMENTS:
<p>Does the nature of the disclosure cause a concern around any of the duties of this role?</p> <p>For example, if the disclosure is driving related, does the role require a clean licence. Or if the disclosure is finance related, does the role require management of school finances?</p>	COMMENTS:
Does the nature of the disclosure cause a concern around interaction with children and young people?	COMMENTS:
Can effective safeguards be put in place to remove any risk (such as not allowing the individual to work unsupervised)?	COMMENTS:
What supervision is already in place for this post holder, regardless of their disclosure?	COMMENTS:
<b>Part D – Judgement</b>	
Considering all the information contained within Part one, two and three of this risk assessments; what category do you place this individual (please circle):	

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LOW RISK</b></p> <p>No control measures are needed, the post holder may start work as normal.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MEDIUM RISK</b></p> <p>Control measures are required as detailed below.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HIGH RISK</b></p> <p>The risk to staff and pupils is deemed too high and we will not proceed/ we will terminate this employment.</p>
<p><b>Control Measures (Medium Risk Factor) which will be implemented (please include as much detail as possible, including when the control measures will be reviewed and monitored and who will have operational responsibility for this):</b></p>		

<b>Headteacher's Signature:</b>	
<b>Headteacher's Name:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	

**If the HIGH RISK factor has been allocated, please contact Trust HR. Trust HR will contact a member of The Schools HR Co-operative HR Advice & Guidance Service for further guidance on potentially terminating this employment.**