

Safer Recruitment Policy 2021



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Related Documents

Safeguarding and Child Protection, GDPR, Staff Code of Conduct

Reviewed: September 2021 **Ratified by FGB:** September 2021 **Next Review:** September 2023

1. Introduction

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and we believe we have a duty to ensure safe recruitment of school personnel and volunteer helpers to this school.

We wish to appoint the most suitable person for each vacant position regardless of age or perceived age, marital status, sex, racial or ethnic background, religion or belief, sexual orientation or disability. Also, we will take no account of an applicant's membership or non membership of a trade union.

We intend to deter prospective applicants and to identify and reject applicants who are unsuitable to work with children. Existing employees, employees on fixed or temporary contracts will be invited to apply.

We believe our recruitment and selection process is systematic, efficient, effective and equal. All applicants must declare spent and unspent convictions, cautions and bind-overs, including those regarded as spent and have an Enhanced Criminal Records Disclosure as all posts are exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

We wish to work closely with the School Council and to hear their views and opinions as we acknowledge and support Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child that children should be encouraged to form and to express their views.

We as a school community have a commitment to promote equality. Therefore, an equality impact assessment has been undertaken and we believe this policy is in line with the Equality Act 2010.

2. Aims

- To ensure the practice of safe recruitment of school personnel and volunteer helpers.
- To ensure that a fair and legal recruitment procedure is in place.
- To work with other schools to share good practice in order to improve this policy.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

3.1 Role of the Governing Body

The Governing Body has:

- the responsibility of ensuring that the safe recruitment process complies with Department for Education guidance and legal requirements
- delegated certain powers and responsibilities to the Headteacher to oversee compliance with Department for Education guidance and legal requirements;
- delegated powers and responsibilities to the Headteacher to ensure all school personnel and visitors to the school are aware of and comply with this policy;
- responsibility for ensuring that the school complies with all equalities legislation;
- nominated a designated Equalities governor to ensure that appropriate action will be taken to deal with all prejudice related incidents or incidents which are a breach of this policy;
- responsibility for ensuring funding is in place to support this policy;
- responsibility for ensuring this policy and all policies are maintained and updated regularly;
- responsibility for ensuring all policies are made available to parents;
- the responsibility of involving the School Council in the development, approval, implementation and review of this policy;
- nominated a link governor to visit the school regularly, to liaise with the Headteacher and the coordinator and to report back to the Governing Body;
- responsibility for the effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy

3.2 Role of the Headteacher

The Headteacher will:

- promote the safeguarding and welfare of children;
- ensure the school operates safe recruitment procedures;
- organise safe recruitment training for school personnel involved in recruitment;
- all appointment panels to include one person who has successfully passed safe recruitment training;
- ensure all appropriate pre-employment checks are completed on school personnel and volunteer helpers;
- ensure contractors and agencies comply with this policy;
- undertake appointments of school personnel and volunteer helpers other than appointments to the leadership group;
- ensure all school personnel, pupils and parents are aware of and comply with this policy;
- provide leadership and vision in respect of equality;
- provide guidance, support and training to all staff;
- monitor the effectiveness of this policy;

- annually report to the Governing Body on the success and development of this policy

4. Safer Recruitment Procedure

When a post becomes vacant or is created then the following procedure takes place:

Job and Person Specification

- For every vacancy a job and person specification will be written and approved by the Governing Body.

Job advertisement

- All posts will be advertised internally and externally in order to attract a wide field of candidates as possible.
- The vacancy will be advertised in some of the following ways:
 - internally
 - Using the Wiltshire Bulletin
 - local press
 - national press such as TES
 - other teacher publications
- All advertisements for posts will highlight the school's commitment to safeguarding children and young people and state clearly that all post holders are subject to a satisfactory enhanced DBS disclosure.
- We welcome any member/s of the present staff to apply.

School and Job Information Pack

- All interested applicants will be provided with an application form, job description and person specification.
- All applications will be acknowledged within two weeks.

Short Listing and References

- Short listing will be undertaken by the appropriate sub-committee.
- All applications will be looked at.
- Applicants will be short listed for the post if they suit the job description and person specification.
- Immediately after short listing references will be sent for those candidates short listed.

- All referees will be asked if the candidate is suitable to work with children, has any disciplinary procedures relating to the safety and welfare of children, or any details of allegations/concerns/bad behaviour relating to the safety and welfare of children.
- All references will be checked for consistent information.
- The candidate will be asked to clarify any highlighted discrepancies.
- The clerk to the governors will inform those shortlisted immediately after the short listing process has taken place. Unsuccessful applicants will also be informed.
- Shortlisted candidates will be sent:
 - detailed documentation of the interview process
 - directions to the place of interview
- Shortlisted candidates will be asked if they have a disability within the meaning of the Equality Act 2010 and if they require any particular adjustments to accommodate their particular needs.
- Also, they will be informed if they will have to undertake skill tests as part of the interview.
- All unsuccessful applicants will be notified shortly after the short listing has taken place and any documentation provided returned to them if appropriate.

The Interview

- On the day of the interview all candidates will need to provide proof of identity, proof of their qualifications and proof of eligibility to live and work in the UK.
- The interview will consist of an activity, informal meetings with members of the GB and pupils, and a professional interview.
- All candidates will be assessed for their suitability to the post and their capability to safeguard and protect the welfare of children and young people.

Job Offer

- The appropriate sub-committee will interview those shortlisted and will identify a suitable candidate.
- A job offer will be made subject to the following Pre - Employment Checks for the Successful Candidate.

Pre - Employment Checks for the Successful Candidate

Before taking up the post the following checks will be undertaken on the successful candidate:

- References (2)
- Proof of identity
- Provision of a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) disclosure (with a Barred List check)
- Medical fitness from Occupational Health
- Proof of qualifications
- Proof of a right to work in the UK

An appointment will not be confirmed until receipt of all of the above.

Terms and Conditions of Employment

The successful candidate will be sent:

- a letter offering them the job
- a statement of the terms and conditions of employment

The successful candidate will sign and return a form accepting the job and its conditions.

5. Internal Promotions

If the successful candidate is a present member of staff then they will be sent:

- a letter confirming the variation to his or her terms and conditions
- details of the planned induction programme
- the start date
- the name of the designated member of the SMT who will act as a mentor during the probationary period

6. Induction

The induction programme for all newly appointed school personnel will include all school policies dealing with the safeguarding of children and young people and they will receive copies of the DCSF guidance on Safe Working Practice.

Probationary Period

- All new employees will be subject to a satisfactory probationary period during which their progress will be monitored by their mentor.
- Probation interviews will take place in their first and second term after which a recommendation will be discussed to establish whether the employment should be confirmed, extended or terminated.

7. Single Central Record

We will keep a single central record of recruitment and record checks of:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ all teaching staff ▪ support staff ▪ supply teachers ▪ volunteer parent helpers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ governors ▪ tutors ▪ After school club leaders
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8. Raising awareness of this policy

We will raise awareness of this policy via:

- The school prospectus
- the school website
- reports such as the annual report to parents and Headteacher reports to the Governing Body

9. Training

We ensure all school personnel have equal chances of training, career development and promotion.

Periodic training will be organised for all school personnel so that they are kept up to date with new information and guide lines concerning equal opportunities.

10. Equality impact assessment

Under the Equality Act 2010 we have a duty not to discriminate against people on the basis of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

This policy has been equality impact assessed and we believe that it is in line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil and it helps to promote equality at this school.

11. Monitoring effectiveness

The practical application of this policy will be reviewed annually or when the need arises by the coordinator, the Headteacher and the nominated governor.

A statement of the policy's effectiveness and the necessary recommendations for improvement will be presented to the Governing Body for further discussion and endorsement. (See Policy Evaluation)

Initial Equality Impact Assessment

Please complete an initial equality impact assessment once this policy has been customised to suit your purposes.

Policy Title	The aim(s) of this policy	Existing policy (✓)	New/Proposed Policy (✓)
			✓

This policy affects or is likely to affect the following members of the school community (✓)	Pupils	School Personnel	Parents/carers	Governors	School Volunteers	School Visitors

Question	Equality Groups																							
Does or could this policy have a negative impact on any of the following?	Age			Disability			Gender			Gender identity			Pregnancy or maternity			Race			Religion or belief			Sex orientation		
	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS
		✓			✓			✓			✓			✓			✓			✓			✓	
Does or could this policy help promote equality for any of the following?	Age			Disability			Gender			Gender identity			Pregnancy or maternity			Race			Religion or belief			Sex orientation		
	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS
	✓			✓			✓			✓			✓			✓			✓			✓		
Does data collected from the equality groups have a positive impact on this policy?	Age			Disability			Gender			Gender identity			Pregnancy or maternity			Race			Religion or belief			Sex orientation		
	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS	Y	N	NS
	✓			✓			✓			✓			✓			✓			✓			✓		

Conclusion	We have come to the conclusion that after undertaking an initial equality impact assessment that a full assessment
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Preliminary EIA completed by	Date	Preliminary EIA approved by	D