

Ashleworth C of E Primary School



Safer Recruitment Policy

Approved by:	Resources Committee
Date:	11 November 2021
Next review due by:	November 2023

ASHLEWORTH CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

SAFER RECRUITMENT POLICY

Introduction

Staff and Governors of Ashleworth CE Primary School are committed to providing the best possible care and education to its pupils and to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. The school is also committed to providing a supportive and flexible working environment to all its members of staff. We recognise that in order to achieve these aims, it is of fundamental importance to attract, recruit and retain staff of the highest calibre who share this commitment.

Aims

The aims of this policy are as follows:-

- To ensure that the best possible staff are recruited on the basis of their merits, abilities and suitability for the position
- To ensure that all job applicants are considered equitably and consistently
- To ensure that no job applicant is treated unfairly on any grounds including race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, religion or religious beliefs, sex or sexual orientation, marital status, disability or age
- To ensure compliance with all relevant DFE recommendations and guidance including the recommendations of the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Board in the "Safeguarding Children Handbook" and to Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021
- To ensure that our school meets its commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people by carrying out all necessary pre-employment checks.

Recruitment and Selection Procedure:

- All job advertisements will clearly state that "This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and that all staff are expected to share this commitment."
- All applicants for employment will be required to complete a Gloucestershire application form containing questions that form a common set of core data. This will also include supply staff
- Incomplete application forms will not be accepted and will be returned to the applicant. Where the deadline for completed applications forms has not passed the applicant will be given the opportunity to complete and return their application; ensuring it is received by the deadline date
- A curriculum vitae will not be accepted in place of the completed application form
- All job advertised will require an enhanced DBS check
- All job descriptions state the main duties of the post and include the statement that "all adults employed by this school are responsible for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children s/he is responsible for, or comes into contact with"

- The information pack for candidates will include the application form, job description, the Child Protection/Safeguarding Policy and the Safer Recruitment Policy
- When short-listing, we will pay particular attention to unexplained gaps in employment, any discrepancies and repeated changes of employment
- Two references will be sought before interviews take place. These must be from a senior member of staff in the current school/organisation. Open references and testimonials provided by applicants will not be accepted. No candidate will be appointed until a verified reference is received and scrutinised. For successful candidates, written references will be verbally verified and documented. For internal candidates, 2 references will also be sought prior to interview.
- Electronic references will be verified to ensure that they originate from a legitimate source. These checks will be documented
- All interviews will be conducted by, at least, three people. The Headteacher will always form part of the panel. At least one member of the interview panel will have undertaken and passed Safer Recruitment Training
- All candidates will be asked to bring documents confirming professional qualifications and evidence of identity to interview
- We will always apply for an Enhanced DBS check in respect of all prospective staff members, governors and volunteers. Any offer of appointment made to the successful candidate, including one who has lived or worked abroad, must be conditional on satisfactory completion of the necessary pre-employment checks.
- Where there are serious concerns about an applicant's suitability to work with children, the facts will be reported to the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Board.
- All appointed staff will undergo an induction process which includes information and written statements of policies and procedures in relation to safeguarding and promoting welfare e.g. child protection, anti-bullying, behaviour, extremism and radicalisation safety and professional conduct
- For teaching posts, a check for disqualification and/or barring will be undertaken

Retention and Security of Disclosure Information:

- We will keep a single central record of DBS checks carried out on staff, governors and volunteers working with children. This will also include adults who are visiting to carry out specific tasks in school EG – Sports Coaches
- We will take photocopies of DBS forms and proof of identification. All information will be recorded on the Single Central Record. Any personal information will be kept securely locked away
- Staff will be expected to inform the Headteacher of any criminal offences or convictions whilst employed by the school. An annual declaration will be completed by ALL staff every September
- We will not retain disclosure information or any associated correspondence for longer than is necessary.
- We will ensure that any disclosure information is destroyed by suitably secure means such as shredding

- If an applicant is appointed, we will retain any relevant information provided on their application form (together with any attachments) on their personnel file. If the application is unsuccessful, all documentation relating to the application will normally be confidentially destroyed after 1 month, unless the applicant specifically requests the school to keep their details on file

This review was undertaken in November 2021

Approved by Governors.....

Signed (Chair of Governors).....

Next review – November 2023

In all aspects of life at Ashleworth CE Primary School, the safeguarding and well-being of our children is paramount. We expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.