



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Safer Recruitment Policy

This policy has been developed to embed safer recruitment practices and procedures at Holy Family Catholic Primary School and to support the creation of a safer culture by reinforcing the safeguarding and well-being of children and young people in our care.

This policy complies with the DfE 'Guidance for safer working practice for those working with children and young people in education settings.' (October 2015) and 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (September 2018) documents and 'Dealing with allegations of abuse against teachers and other staff' – DfE 2012.

This policy reinforces the conduct outlined in the schools' whistle blowing policy which all staff are expected to adhere to.

All successful candidates for paid or volunteer employment will be made aware of these documents. This policy is an essential element in creating and maintaining a safe and supportive environment for all pupils, staff and others within the schools communities and aims to ensure both safe and fair recruitment and selection of all staff and volunteers by:

- attracting the best possible candidates/volunteers to vacancies
- deterring prospective candidates/volunteers who are unsuitable from applying for vacancies
- identifying and rejecting those candidates/volunteers who are unsuitable to work with children and young people Holy Family Catholic Primary School

At Holy Family Catholic Primary School, we are committed to using disciplinary procedures that deal effectively with those adults who fail to comply with the schools' safeguarding and child protection procedures and practices. As an employer we are under a duty to refer any allegation of abuse against a member of staff to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) within one working day of the allegation being made. A referral will be made if a teacher or member of staff (including volunteers) have:

- behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child
- possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child
- behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates he or she would pose a risk of harm if they work regularly or closely with children
- conducted an act which is deemed inappropriate and may impact on the schools' reputation or confidence in staff's ability to safely work with children.

As an employer we are under a duty to refer to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), any member of staff who, following disciplinary proceedings, is dismissed because of misconduct towards a pupil and we may refer any concerns we have before the completion of this process. The Headteacher will check for updated relevant information about staff every 3 years.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governing Body of the school will:

- ensure the school has effective policies and procedures in place for the safe and fair recruitment and selection of staff and volunteers in accordance with Department for Education guidance and legal requirements
- monitor the school's compliance with them

The Headteacher will:

- ensure that the schools operate safe and fair recruitment and selection procedures which are regularly reviewed and up-dated to reflect any changes to legislation and statutory guidance
- ensure that all appropriate checks have been carried out on staff and volunteers in the schools
- monitor any contractor and agency compliance with this document
- promote the safety and well being of children and young people at every stage of this process

INVITING APPLICATIONS

All advertisements for posts of regulated activity, paid or unpaid, will include the following statement; **'The school(s) and governors are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Each successful applicant will be subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check along with other relevant employment checks.'**

All applicants will receive a pack containing the following when applying for a post:

- A statement of the school's commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of the pupils
- Job description and person specification
- The school's Safeguarding Policy
- The school's Safer Recruitment Policy
- The selection procedure for the post
- A CES application form prospective applicants must be completed in full, and returned signed with the application form. Incomplete application forms will be returned to the applicant where the deadline for completed forms has not passed.

Candidates submitting an application form completed on line will be asked to sign the form if called for interview. A curriculum vitae **will not be accepted** in place of a completed application form.

IDENTIFICATION OF THE RECRUITMENT PANEL

Good practice ensures that at least one member of the Selection and Recruitment Panel will have successfully completed training in 'Safer Recruitment'. The Headteacher has completed this training.

SHORT LISTING AND REFERENCES

Candidates will be short listed against the person specification for the post. Two references, one of which must be from the applicant's current/most recent employer, will be taken up before the selection stage so that any discrepancies may be probed during this stage of the procedure. References will be sought directly from the referee, and where necessary, will be contacted to clarify any anomalies or discrepancies. Detailed written records will be kept of such exchanges. Where necessary, previous employers who have not been named as referees may be contacted in order to clarify any such anomalies or discrepancies. Detailed written records will be kept of such exchanges.

Referees will be asked specific questions about the following:

- The candidate's suitability to work with children and young people
- Any disciplinary warnings or proceedings, including time-expired warnings or proceedings, relating to the safeguarding and welfare of children and young people
- The candidate's suitability for the post

All appointments are subject to satisfactory references, vetting procedures, disqualification by association and DBS clearance.

INVITATION TO INTERVIEW

Candidates called to interview will receive:

- A letter confirming the interview and any other selection techniques
- Details of the interview day
- Details of identification required
- Further copy of the person specification
- Details of any tasks to be undertaken as part of the interview process
- The opportunity to discuss the process prior to the interview

THE SELECTION PROCESS

Selection techniques will be determined by the nature and duties of the post but all vacancies will require an interview of short-listed candidates. Interviews will always be face-to-face.

Candidates will be required to:

- Explain any gaps in employment
- Explain satisfactorily any anomalies or discrepancies in the information available to the panel
- Declare any information that is likely to appear on the DBS disclosure or disqualification by association
- Demonstrate their ability to safeguard and protect the welfare of children and young people.

EMPLOYMENT CHECKS

An offer of appointment will be conditional and all successful candidates will be required to:

- Provide proof of identity
- Complete an enhanced DBS application and receive satisfactory clearance
- Declare any disqualification by association
- Provide proof of professional status
- Provide actual certificates of qualifications
- Complete a confidential health questionnaire
- Provide proof of eligibility to live and work in the UK

All checks will be:

- Confirmed in writing
- Documented and retained on the personnel file
- Recorded on the school's Single Central Record
- Followed up if they are unsatisfactory or if there are any discrepancies in the information received.

Employment will commence subject to all checks and procedures being satisfactorily completed.

INDUCTION

All staff and volunteers who are new to the school will receive information on the school's safeguarding policy, procedures, DfE 'Guidance for safer working practice for those working with children and young people in education settings.' (October 2015) and 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (September 2018) document as part of their induction.

All staff are asked to sign a declaration that they have received, read, understood and agree to adhere to the documentation they have received.

All successful candidates will undergo a period of monitoring and will:

- Meet regularly with their induction tutor and/or
- Meet regularly with their line manager
- Attend any appropriate training

SUPPLY STAFF

Holy family Catholic Primary School will only use those agencies which operate a Safer Recruitment Policy and supply written confirmation that all relevant checks have been satisfactorily completed. Any information disclosed as part of the DBS check will be treated confidentially. Holy Primary Catholic Primary School will carry out identity checks when the individual arrives at school.

PERIPATETIC STAFF and SPORTS COACHES

Holy Family Catholic Primary School will require that all necessary checks and DBS requirements have been satisfactorily completed for peripatetic staff.

This policy has been approved by the Staffing and Finance Committee and ratified by the Full Governing Bodies at their meetings on 8/3/17 and 22/3/17.

This policy will be reviewed in February 2018

Signed _____ (Chair of Governors) Mr. M. McDonald

Signed _____ (Headteacher) Mrs. C. Roberts