




Yewstock School



Recruitment & Selection

(Including Safer Recruitment)

Policy

Date reviewed by FE&P	10.01.2022	Policy Type	DCC
Date adopted by FGB	31.01.2022	Review Cycle	2 Years
Date of next Review	09.01.2024	Signed by Chair of Governors	
			

Yewstock School Recruitment & Selection Policy – October 2018

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Employees are a school's most important resource. In serving the needs of its pupils, the school can only be as effective as the people it employs.
- 1.2 Successful and thorough recruitment and selection has a fundamental role to play in ensuring the people with the right combination of knowledge, competencies and personal attributes are appointed.
- 1.3 Under sections 175 and 157 of the Education Act 2002 and Keeping Children Safe in Education 2018, Governing Bodies in all school must ensure that their functions are carried out with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. It is vital that schools adopt recruitment and selection procedures that help deter, reject or identify people who might abuse children or are otherwise unsuited to work with them, in order to safeguard children.

2 Scope

- 2.1 This Procedure is recommended to Governing Bodies for adoption by all schools.
- 2.2 It is vital that measures described in this guidance are applied thoroughly whenever someone is recruited to work in a school. Those are not only people who regularly come into contact with children or are responsible for children, but who regularly work in a setting where nevertheless, they will be seen as safe and trustworthy because of their regular presence.
- 2.2 **The Local Authority will not accept liability for any actions, claims, costs or expenses arising out of a school's decision not to follow this recommended policy or procedure, where it is found that the school's Governing Body has been negligent or has acted in an unfair or discriminatory manner.**

3 The Policy

- 3.1 This policy and procedure has been designed to provide detailed guidance to schools to develop and maintain high standards of professional and effective recruitment practice.
- 3.2 The policy guides schools in planning, monitoring and carefully undertaking recruitment.
- 3.3 Yewstock School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in its recruitment practice and expects all school based employees and volunteers to share this commitment.
- 3.4 Good practice and equality of opportunity are integral to Yewstock School recruitment and selection processes. Recruitment and selection in Yewstock School shall be approached in a fair,

consistent, equitable, transparent and effective manner, with due regard for Equal Opportunities legislation.

3.5 In cases of redundancy and redeployment, alternative recruitment practices will apply.

4 Guiding Principles

4.1 Guiding Principles, which reflect good employment practice and appropriate employment legislation, are the minimum principles established by the county council, in consultation with Headteachers and the recognised Trade Unions and Professional Associations. These principles must be observed in recruitment and selection in schools.

4.2 These principles are highlighted as key steps in the following procedure summary.

4.3 These principles should be viewed as minimum “must dos” designed to assist schools in making sound, informed employment decisions. The standards ensure measures to safeguard children.

4.4 Schools may introduce further standards, providing they do not conflict with these essential requirements.

5 Responsibilities

5.1 The Headteacher and the Yewstock School Governing Body will be responsible for the management and implementation of this policy.

5.2 They will ensure that managers involved in recruitment and selection in Yewstock School are aware of their responsibilities within this policy.

5.3 The Governing Body will ensure that at least one person on an interview panel has received Safer Recruitment training in accordance with the School Staffing (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013.

Safer Recruitment and DBS Checks Procedure

We will record all information on the checks carried out in the school’s single central record (SCR) Copies of these checks, where appropriate, will be held in individuals’ personal files. We follow requirements and best practice in retaining copies of these checks, as set out below.

New staff

When appointing new staff, we will:

- Verify their identity

- Obtain (via the applicant) an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate, including barred list information for those who will be engaging in regulated activity (see definition below). We will not keep a copy of this for longer than 6 months.
- Obtain a separate barred list check if they will start work in regulated activity before the DBS certificate is available.
- Obtain Section 128 check for all Governors and staff holding financial responsibility at the school (LMT & Teachers).
- Verify their mental and physical fitness to carry out their work responsibilities
- Verify their right to work in the UK. We will keep a copy of this verification for the duration of the member of staff's employment and for 2 years afterwards.
- Verify their professional qualifications, as appropriate.
- Ensure they are not subject to a prohibition order if they are employed to be a teacher.
- Carry out further additional checks, as appropriate, on candidates who have lived or worked outside of the UK, including (where relevant) any teacher sanctions or restrictions imposed by a European Economic Area professional regulating authority, and criminal records checks or their equivalent.

We will ensure that appropriate checks are carried out to ensure that individuals are not disqualified under the 2018 Childcare Disqualification Regulations and Childcare Act 2006. Where we take a decision that an individual falls outside of the scope of these regulations and we do not carry out such checks, we will retain a record of our assessment on the individual's personnel file. This will include our evaluation of any risks and control measures put in place, and any advice sought.

We will ask for written information about previous employment history and check that information is not contradictory or incomplete.

We will seek references on all short-listed candidates, including internal candidates, before interview. We will scrutinise these and resolve any concerns before confirming appointments. The references requested will ask specific questions about the suitability of the applicant to work with children.

Regulated activity means a person who will be:

- Responsible, on a regular basis in a school or college, for teaching, training, instructing, caring for or supervising children; or

- Carrying out paid, or unsupervised unpaid, work regularly in a school or college where that work provides an opportunity for contact with children; or
- Engaging in intimate or personal care or overnight activity, even if this happens only once and regardless of whether they are supervised or not.

Existing Staff

If we have concerns about an existing member of staff's suitability to work with children, we will carry out all the relevant checks as if the individual was a new member of staff. We will also do this if an individual moves from a post that is not regulated activity to one that is.

We will refer to the DBS anyone who has harmed, or poses a risk of harm, to a child or vulnerable adult where:

- We believe the individual has engaged in [relevant conduct](#); or
- The individual has received a caution or conviction for a relevant offence, or there is reason to believe the individual has committed a listed relevant offence, under the [Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 \(Prescribed Criteria and Miscellaneous Provisions\) Regulations 2009](#); or
- The "harm test" is satisfied in respect of the individual (i.e. they may harm a child or vulnerable adult or put them at risk of harm); and
- The individual has been removed from working in regulated activity (paid or unpaid) or would have been removed if they had not left.

Agency and third-party staff

We will obtain written notification from any agency or third-party organisation that it has carried out the necessary safer recruitment checks that we would otherwise perform. We will also check that the person presenting themselves for work is the same person on whom the checks have been made.

Contractors

We will ensure that any contractor, or any employee of the contractor, who is to work at the school has had the appropriate level of DBS check (this includes contractors who are provided through a PFI or similar contract). This will be:

- An enhanced DBS check with barred list information for contractors engaging in regulated activity

- An enhanced DBS check, not including barred list information, for all other contractors who are not in regulated activity but whose work provides them with an opportunity for regular contact with children

We will obtain the DBS check for self-employed contractors.

We will not keep copies of such checks for longer than 6 months.

Contractors who have not had any checks will not be allowed to work unsupervised or engage in regulated activity under any circumstances.

We will check the identify of all contractors and their staff on arrival at the school.

For self-employed contractors such as music teachers or sports coaches, we will ensure that appropriate checks are carried out to ensure that individuals are not disqualified under the 2018 Childcare Disqualification Regulations and Childcare Act 2006. Where we decide that an individual falls outside of the scope of these qualifications and we do not carry out such checks, we will retain a record of our assessment. This will include our evaluation of any risks and control measures put in place, and any advice sought.

Trainee/Student Teachers

Where applicants for initial teacher training are salaried by us, we will ensure that all necessary checks are carried out.

Where trainee teachers are fee-funded, we will obtain written confirmation from the training provider that necessary checks have been carried out and that the trainee has been judged by the provider to be suitable to work with children.

In both cases, this includes checks to ensure that individuals are not disqualified under the 2018 Childcare Disqualification Regulations and Childcare Act 2006.

Volunteers

We will:

- Never leave an unchecked volunteer unsupervised or allow them to work in regulated activity
- Obtain an enhanced DBS check with barred list information for all volunteers who are new to working in regulated activity
- Carry out a risk assessment when deciding whether to seek an enhanced DBS check without barred list information for any volunteers not engaging in regulated activity. We will retain a record of this risk assessment.

- Ensure that appropriate checks are carried out to ensure that individuals are not disqualified under the 2018 Childcare Disqualification Regulations and Childcare Act 2006. Where we decide that an individual falls outside of the scope of these regulations and we do not carry out such checks, we will retain a record of our assessment. This will include our evaluation of any risks and control measures put in place, and any advice sought.

Governors

All governors will have an enhanced DBS check without barred list information.

They will have an enhanced DBS check with barred list information if working in regulated activity. All governors will also have a section 128 check (as a section 128 direction disqualifies an individual from being a maintained school governor).

Staff working in alternative provision settings

Where we place a pupil with an alternative provision provider, we obtain written confirmation from the provider that they have carried out the appropriate safeguarding checks on individuals working there that we would otherwise perform.

Adults who supervise pupils on work experience

When organising work experience, we will ensure that policies and procedures are in place to protect children from harm.

We will also consider whether it is necessary for barred list checks to be carried out on the individuals who supervise a pupil under 16 on work experience. This will depend on the specific circumstances of the work experience, including the nature of the supervision, the frequency of the activity being supervised, and whether the work is regulated activity.

Pupils staying with host families

Where the school makes arrangements for pupils to be provided with care and accommodation by a host family to which they are not related (for example, during a foreign exchange visit), we will request enhanced DBS checks with barred list information on those people.

Where the school is organising such hosting arrangements overseas and host families cannot be checked in the same way, we will work with our partner schools abroad to ensure that similar assurances are undertaken prior to the visit.

