

# Applecroft School



## Safer Recruitment Policy

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# Safer Recruitment Policy

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# Safer Recruitment Policy

## 1) Introduction:

### **School Vision**

'To create a positive and inspiring community that nurtures each individual and empowers leaders for life'.

### **School Mission Statement:**

'Nurturing Potential, Inspiring Minds, Changing Lives'

### **School Values:**

- Ambition and Leadership
- Kindness and Supportiveness
- Respect and Honesty
- Determination and Resilience

The safe recruitment of staff is the first step to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in education. Applecroft School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the pupils in its care and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Please note that the hyperlinks within this policy were correct at the time of publication.

## 2) Scope and Objectives

The scope of this policy is to set out the minimum requirements of a recruitment process that aims to:

- Attract the best possible applicants to vacancies on the basis of their merit, abilities and suitability
- Deter prospective applicants who are unsuitable for work with children or young people
- Identify and reject applicants who are unsuitable for work with children and young people.

The objectives of this policy are as follows:

- To ensure that all applicants are considered equally and consistently
- To ensure that no applicant is treated unfairly on any grounds and specifically any protected characteristics as outlined in the Equality Act 2010
- To ensure compliance with all relevant legislation, recommendations and guidance including the statutory guidance published by the Department for Education (DfE), [Keeping children safe in education](#) (KCSIE), the Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales (the Prevent Duty Guidance) and any guidance or code of practice published by the Disclosure and Barring Services (DBS)
- To ensure that the school meets its commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people by carrying out all necessary pre-employment checks.

## 3) Roles and Responsibilities

### 3.1 Governing Board

- To ensure the school has effective policies and procedures in place for the recruitment of staff and volunteers in accordance with the DfE guidance and legal requirements;

- To monitor compliance with the above policies.

## **1.2 Headteacher/Finance & Business Manager/SLT**

- To ensure the school operates safe recruitment practices and makes sure appropriate checks are carried out on all staff and volunteers;
- To monitor contractor and agency compliance with this document;
- To promote the safeguarding of children and young people at every stage of the recruitment process.

We have put the following steps in place during our recruitment and selection process to ensure we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children

## **4) Recruitment and Selection Process**

### **4.1 Recruitment Panels**

In accordance with KCSIE, the school ensures that at least one member of any interview panel has undertaken Safer Recruitment training and has kept this training up to date.

### **4.2 Adverts and Recruitment Packs**

When advertising roles, we will make clear:

- Our school's commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children
- That safeguarding checks will be undertaken
- The safeguarding requirements and responsibilities of the role, such as the extent to which the role will involve contact with children
- Whether or not the role is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and the amendments to the Exceptions Order 1975, 2013 and 2020. If the role is exempt, certain spent convictions and cautions are 'protected', so they do not need to be disclosed, and if they are disclosed, we cannot take them into account

Prospective applicants will be supplied, as a minimum, with the following:

- Job description and person specification
- The school's child protection policy
- The school's safer recruitment policy (this document)

### **4.3 Application Forms**

All prospective applicants must fully complete an application form. CVs will not be accepted.

The School promotes the practice of using anonymised application forms to manage unconscious bias via the Teach in Herts website.

### **4.4 Shortlisting**

Our shortlisting process will involve at least 2 people and will:

- Consider any inconsistencies and look for gaps in employment and reasons given for them
- Explore all potential concerns.

Once we have shortlisted candidates, we will ask shortlisted candidates to:

- Complete a self-declaration of their criminal record or any information that would make them unsuitable to work with children, so that they have the opportunity to share relevant information and discuss it at interview stage. The information we will ask for includes:
  - If they have a criminal history
  - Whether they are included on the barred list
  - Whether they are prohibited from teaching

- Information about any criminal offences committed in any country in line with the law as applicable in England and Wales
- Any relevant overseas information
- Sign a declaration confirming the information they have provided is true.

The relevant criminal record self-declaration form is attached at Appendix 2.

- A member of the school's safeguarding team (a DSL) will also undertake an Online search to help identify any incidents or issues that are publicly available online. Shortlisted candidates will be informed that we will carry out these checks as part of our due diligence process. The DSL that undertakes the check will not form part of the interview panel – see appendix 3.

#### **4.5 Employment History and References**

We will seek to obtain references before interview. Any concerns raised will be explored further with referees and take up with the candidate at interview.

A minimum of two references will be taken up and at least one of the references will be obtained from the candidate's current or most recent employer and will be sought directly from the referee. If this is not possible, then a third personal reference will be sought.

When seeking references we will:

- Not accept open references
- Liaise directly with referees and verify any information contained within references with the referees
- Ensure any references are from the candidate's current employer and completed by a senior person. Where the referee is school based, we will ask for the reference to be confirmed by the headteacher as accurate in respect to disciplinary investigations
- Obtain verification of the candidate's most recent relevant period of employment if they are not currently employed
- Secure a reference from the relevant employer from the last time the candidate worked with children if they are not currently working with children
- Compare the information on the application form with that in the references and take up any inconsistencies with the candidate
- Resolve any concerns before any appointment is confirmed
- Where necessary, referees will be contacted by telephone or email in order to clarify any anomalies or discrepancies and verify the source of the reference. This contact will then be recorded in the individual's personnel file for successful candidates.
- Where necessary, previous employers who have not been named as referees will be contacted in order to clarify any anomalies or discrepancies. A detailed written note will be kept of such exchanges.

Referees will always be asked specific questions about:

- The candidate's suitability for working with children and young people

- Any disciplinary warnings, including time-expired warnings, that relate to the safeguarding of children
- The candidate's suitability for this post.

Open references or testimonials provided by the candidate will not be accepted.

Candidates are not automatically entitled to see their employment references.

#### **4.6 Interview and Selection**

When interviewing candidates, we will:

- Probe any gaps in employment, or where the candidate has changed employment or location frequently, and ask candidates to give a satisfactory explanation for this
- Provide a satisfactory explanation of any anomalies or discrepancies in the information available to recruiters
- Explore any potential areas of concern to determine the candidate's suitability to work with children
- Declare any information that is likely to appear on a DBS check (via the criminal record self-declaration form)
- Provide a childcare disqualification declaration form if and when required
- Demonstrate their capacity to safeguard and protect the welfare of children and young people
- Demonstrate how they meet the job description and person specification.
- Record all information considered and decisions made

Selection techniques will be determined by the nature and duties of the vacant post and may include a variety of methods. The school will conduct interviews in a face-to face manner (which could be via remote methods using video conferencing software, such as Microsoft Teams or similar, if face to face is not possible). Telephone interviews may be used at the short-listing stage.

#### **5) Pre-Employment Checks**

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' personnel files. We follow requirements and best practice in retaining copies of these checks, as set out below.

##### **New staff**

All offers of appointment will be conditional until satisfactory completion of the necessary pre-employment checks. When appointing new staff, we will:

- Verify their identity, it is important to be sure that the person is who they claim to be, this includes being aware of the potential for individuals changing their name. Best practice is checking the name on their birth certificate, where this is available. Further identification checking guidelines can be found [here](#).
- Obtain (via the applicant) an enhanced DBS certificate, including barred list information for those who will be engaging in regulated activity (see definition below). We will obtain the certificate before, or as soon as practicable after, appointment, including when using the DBS update service. We will not keep a copy of the certificate for longer than 6 months,

but when the copy is destroyed we may still keep a record of the fact that vetting took place, the result of the check and recruitment decision taken (see Appendix 1)

- Obtain a separate barred list check if they will start work in regulated activity before the DBS certificate is available
  - 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. Advice on this can be found on the [Gov.uk website](https://www.gov.uk).
- Since 1 July 2021 candidates from an EEA Country are required to provide evidence of having obtained settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme.
  - Since January 2021, any overseas external candidates must apply for a VISA via the [New Points Based Immigration Scheme](#).
- Verify their professional qualifications, as appropriate by viewing original certificates. The Teacher Services system should be used to verify any award of qualified teacher status (QTS) and the completion of teacher induction or probation.
  - 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. These could include, where available:
    - For all staff, including teaching positions: criminal records checks for overseas applicants
    - For teaching positions: obtaining a letter from the professional regulating authority in the country where the applicant has worked, confirming that they have not imposed any sanctions or restrictions on that person, and/or are aware of any reason why that person may be unsuitable to teach
  - Check that candidates taking up a management position\* are not subject to a prohibition from management (section 128) direction made by the secretary of state

\* Management positions include members of the Senior Leadership Team.

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.

**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**

In certain circumstances we will carry out all the relevant checks on existing staff as if the individual was a new member of staff. These circumstances are when:

There are concerns about an existing member of staff's suitability to work with children; or

An individual moves from a post that is not regulated activity to one that is; or

- There has been a break in service of 12 weeks or more
- 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
- We believe the individual has received a caution or conviction for a relevant (automatic barring either with or without the right to make representations) offence, under the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 (Prescribed Criteria and Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations 2009; or
- We believe 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

In addition, we re-run all staff members DBS checks every 5 years.

## **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 identity 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 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.

### **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.

### **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.

### **Volunteers**

Under no circumstances will 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 the school, will be in regulated activity. The school will obtain an enhanced DBS certificate (which should include barred list information) for all volunteers who are new to working in regulated activity. Existing volunteers in regulated activity do not have to be re-checked if they have already had a DBS check (which includes barred list information). However, the school may conduct a repeat DBS check (which should include barred list information) on any such volunteer should they have concerns.

There are certain circumstances where the school may obtain an enhanced DBS certificate (not including barred list information), for volunteers who are not engaging in regulated activity. This is set out in DBS workforce guides, which can be found on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk). Employers are not legally permitted to request barred list information on a supervised volunteer as they are not considered to be engaged in regulated activity.

The school will 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 DBS check.

Details of the risk assessment should be recorded.

It is for the school to determine whether a volunteer is supervised. In making this decision, and where an individual is supervised, to help determine the appropriate level of supervision the school must have regard to the statutory guidance issued by the Secretary of State. This guidance requires that, for a person to be considered supervised, the supervision must be:

- by a person who is in regulated activity;
- regular and day to day; and
- "reasonable in all the circumstances to ensure the protection of children."

The DBS cannot provide barred list information on any person, including volunteers, who are not in, or seeking to engage in regulated activity.

### **Governors & Members**

All trustees, local governors and members 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.

The chair of the board will have their DBS check countersigned by the secretary of state.

It is the responsibility of the Governing Board to apply for the certificate for any of their governors who do not already have one.

Governance is not a regulated activity and so governors do not need a barred list check unless, in addition to their governance duties, they also engage in regulated activity.

All proprietors, trustees, local governors and members will also have the following checks: A section 128 check (to check prohibition on participation in management under section 128 of the Education and Skills Act 2008). [Section 128 checks are only required for local governors if they have retained or been delegated any management responsibilities.]

- Identity
- Right to work in the UK
- Other checks deemed necessary if they have lived or worked outside the UK

### **6.1 Secretary of State Prohibition Orders and Section 128 direction (teaching and management roles)**

In all cases, where an applicant is to undertake a teaching role of any kind (this may include non-teaching staff if they plan, prepare and deliver lessons and assess and report on pupils without supervision of a qualified teacher) a **Prohibition Order** check will be made. It is anticipated that this will be performed at the shortlisting stage, but it will, in any case, be carried out before any unconditional offer of employment is made.

The above activities do not amount to "teaching work" if they are supervised by a qualified teacher. If in any doubt or if the candidate has taught previously, or may teach in the future, the check will be undertaken.

Prohibition orders prevent a person from carrying out teaching work in schools, sixth form colleges, 16 to 19 academies, relevant youth accommodation and children's homes in England. A person who is prohibited from teaching must not be appointed to work as a teacher in such a setting.

Prohibition orders are made by the Secretary of State following consideration by a professional conduct panel convened by the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA). Pending such consideration, the Secretary of State may issue an interim prohibition order if it is considered to be in the public interest to do so.

**A Section 128 direction** prohibits or restricts a person from taking part in the management of an independent school, including academies and free schools. An individual who is subject to a section 128 direction is unable to:

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

A person prohibited under section 128 is also disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a governor of a school as stated in [Keeping children safe in education](#) and the DfE [Governance Handbook](#).

Schools can use the TRA's Employer Access service to make prohibition, direction, restriction, and children's barred list checks. The service is free to use and is available via the TRA's web page ([Teaching Regulation Agency \(education.gov.uk\)](#)). Schools will require a DfE Sign-in account to log onto the service.

Further information about obtaining a DfE Sign-in account and using the Employer Access service to carry out a range of 'teacher status checks' including verification of qualified teacher status (QTS) and the completion of teacher induction or teacher probation can be found [here](#).

Where the candidate will be engaging in regulated activity, a DBS barred list check will also identify any section 128 directions.

Since 1 January 2021, TRA checks will be for UK Citizens only and schools will therefore need to arrange for these checks to be carried out in the relevant country for overseas applicants (including those from the EEA).

## **6.2 Proof of identity, Right to Work in the UK & Verification of Qualifications and/or professional status and Criminal Records Self Declaration Form**

All shortlisted candidates invited to attend an interview at the school will be required to bring their identification documentation such as passport, birth certificate, driving licence etc. with them as proof of identity/eligibility to work in the UK, in accordance with the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 and DBS Code of Practice Regulations (including evidence of settled status as required) and to complete the Criminal Records Self Declaration form (See Appendix 2)

Good quality photocopies of all documents will be taken. These will then be signed and dated by the person who has evidenced the originals and the copy should state this;

*"Originals seen and identity confirmed"*

- Successful Candidates: all documents will be stored securely on the employee file for audit and inspection purposes, including any relevant risk assessments.
- Unsuccessful Candidates: all documents will be kept securely for no later than 6 months after the recruitment process has been concluded. After which they will be destroyed securely.

Please note that the legislation surrounding what information is disclosed in an Enhanced and Standard DBS certificate changed on 28 November 2020 and as a result, an employer may not receive full details of a candidate's criminal history due to the changes to filtering.

However, in accordance with safeguarding, an employer is still legally entitled to ask shortlisted candidates to disclose their criminal history, however this no longer includes final warnings, cautions and reprimands. Further guidance on this can be found in the NACRO guidance [here](#).

In addition, applicants must be able to demonstrate that they have actually obtained any academic or vocational qualification required for the position and claimed in their application form.

### **6.3 Fitness to undertake the role**

A confidential pre-employment health questionnaire must be completed to verify the candidate's mental and physical fitness to carry out their work responsibilities. A successful candidate can be asked relevant questions about disability and health in order to establish whether they have the physical and mental capacity for the specific role **once an offer of employment has been made**. Confidential pre-employment checks will be carried out by the School's Occupational Health provider.

### **6.4 Individuals who have lived or worked outside the UK**

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

The Home Office guidance on criminal records checks for overseas applicants can be found [here](#).

Following the UK's exit from the EU, schools should apply the same approach for any individuals who have lived or worked outside the UK regardless of whether or not it was in an EEA country or the rest of the world.

These checks could include, where available:

- criminal records checks for overseas applicants - Home Office guidance can be found on GOV.UK; and for teaching positions obtaining a letter (via the applicant) from the professional regulating authority in the country (or countries) in which the applicant has worked confirming that they have not imposed any sanctions or restrictions, and or that they are aware of any reason why they may be unsuitable to teach.

Where available, such evidence can be considered together with information obtained through other pre-appointment checks to help assess their suitability.

Where this information is not available schools should seek alternative methods of checking suitability and or undertake a risk assessment that supports informed decision making on whether to proceed with the appointment.

Although sanctions and restrictions imposed by another regulating authority do not prevent a person from taking up teaching positions in England, schools should consider the circumstances that led to the restriction or sanction being imposed when considering a candidate's suitability for employment. Further information can be found in DfE Guidance.

Not all countries provide criminal record information, and where they do, the nature and detail of the information provided varies from country to country. Schools should also be aware that the criteria for disclosing offences in other countries often have a different threshold than those in the UK. The Home Office provides guidance on criminal records checks for overseas applicants which can be found [here](#).

Some overseas qualified teachers can apply to the TRA for the award of qualified teacher status (QTS) in England. More information about this is available at the following link [Qualified teacher status \(QTS\): qualify to teach in England - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) here. Please note that holding a teaching qualification (wherever it was obtained) does not provide suitable assurances for safeguarding purposes that an individual has not been found guilty of any wrongdoing or misconduct, and or is suitable to work with children.

### **6.5 Childcare Disqualification Declaration**

Where relevant (as detailed below), applicants must complete a Childcare Disqualification form provided by the school in relation to the Childcare Disqualification Regulations 2018. This is to cover circumstances where the individual has a conviction that may result in them being barred from working with children. Where a positive declaration is made a waiver can be applied for from Ofsted and must be satisfactorily granted before the candidate may commence work.

This **only** applies to staff working in the following settings:

- Early Years Provision - staff who provide any care for a child up to and including reception age. This includes education in nursery and reception classes and/or any supervised activity (such as breakfast clubs, lunchtime supervision and after school care provided by the school) both during and outside of school hours for children in the early years age range; and
- Later years provision (for children under 8) - staff who are employed to work in childcare provided by the school outside of school hours for children who are above reception age but who have not attained the age of 8. This does not include education or supervised activity for children above reception age during school hours (including extended school hours for co-curricular learning activities, such as the school's choir or sports teams) but it does include before school settings, such as breakfast clubs, and after school provision.

### **7) Single Central Record**

The school will keep a single central record of pre-employment checks, referred to in the Keeping Children Safe in Education Regulations as "the register". The single central record will cover the following people:

- All staff (including teacher trainees on salaried routes, agency and third-party supply staff who work at the school)
- For independent schools, all members of the proprietor body
- For Academy Trusts, the members and Trustees
- Confirmation that these checks have been carried out along with the date the check was undertaken/obtained must be logged on this record for all employees of the school.

## **8) Induction**

The school recognises that safer recruitment and selection is not just about the start of employment but must be part of a larger policy framework for all staff. The school will therefore provide ongoing training and support for all staff.

All staff who are new to the school will receive induction training that will include the school's safeguarding policies and guidance on safe working practices including Child Protection, PREVENT, FGM awareness and online safety.

Regular meetings will be held during the first 6 months of employment between the new employee(s) and the appropriate manager(s).

**Regulated Activity**

Regulated activity includes:

- a) Teaching, training, instructing, caring for (see (c) below) 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.
- b) Work for a limited range of establishments (known as 'specified places', which include schools and colleges), with the opportunity for contact with children, but not including work done by supervised volunteers.

Work under (a) or (b) is regulated activity only if done regularly. Some activities are always regulated activities, regardless of frequency or whether they are supervised or not. This includes:

- c) relevant personal care, or health care provided by or provided under the supervision of a health care professional:
  - personal care 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
  - health care means care for children provided by, or under the direction or supervision of, a regulated health care professional.



### **Criminal Record Self-Declaration Form**

This form must be completed by all shortlisted applicants where a Disclosure and Barring Certificate (also known as a DBS), is required. The information disclosed on this form will not be kept with your application form during the application process.

#### **Policy statement on recruiting applicants with criminal records**

This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. For further information on criminal record self-declaration for roles that are eligible for standard or enhanced DBS checks please refer to [Nacro guidance](#) and the [MoJ website](#).

We recognise the contribution that ex-offenders can make as employees and volunteers and welcome applications from them. A person's criminal record will not in itself, prevent a person from being appointed to this post. Any information given will be treated in the strictest confidence. Suitable applicants will not be refused posts because of offences which are not relevant to, and do not place them at or make them a risk in, the role for which they are applying.

All cases will be examined on an individual basis and we will take the following into consideration:

- whether the caution or conviction is relevant to the position applied for
- the seriousness of any offence revealed
- the age of the applicant at the time of the offence(s)
- the length of time since the offence(s) occurred
- whether the applicant has a pattern of offending behaviour
- the circumstances surrounding the offence(s), and the explanation(s) offered by the person concerned
- whether the applicant's circumstances have changed since the offending behaviour.

It is important that applicants understand that failure to disclose all unspent cautions and convictions; and also, any adult cautions and spent convictions that are not protected could result in disciplinary proceedings or dismissal. Further advice and guidance on disclosing a criminal record can be obtained from [Nacro](#).

**Please note that, if you are unsuccessful, this disclosure form will be securely destroyed within 6 months of your application.**



Surname:		Forename:	
Post applied for:		Date:	
NI Number:		Teacher Ref No. <i>If applicable</i>	
Date of QTS (Qualified Teacher Status): <i>If applicable</i>			
<p>Applecroft School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and we expect all staff to share this commitment. For this post, pre-employment checks will be carried out, references will be sought, and successful candidates will be subject to an enhanced DBS check and other relevant checks with statutory bodies.</p>			
Do you have any unspent conditional cautions or convictions?		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have any spent adult cautions (simple or conditional), or spent convictions, which are not 'protected' as defined by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (as <a href="#">amended</a> )?		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have any criminal convictions or relevant service discipline convictions received within the Armed Forces Justice System (e.g. through Summary Hearing or Court Martial) where it would be considered an equivalent offence in England and Wales?		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Have you ever been barred from working with Children or disqualified from working in Childcare?		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Are you subject to any sanctions in the EEA?		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Teaching Posts Only</u> : Are you or have you ever been prohibited from teaching or sanctioned by the GTCE?		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Management Posts Only</u> : Have you been prohibited from the management of an independent school (s128)?		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>If you have answered YES to any of the questions above please provide full details:</b></p>			
<p><b>Please complete and sign the declaration below:</b></p> <p>I declare that all the information I have provided in this disclosure is full and correct at the time of application and that I have not omitted anything that could be relevant to the appointment of someone who will work with children. I understand that the recruitment panel may be made aware of any relevant information that I have disclosed in order to discuss the matter(s) with me as part of the recruitment process and that, if my application is successful, a risk assessment of the disclosed information will be held securely on my personnel file.</p>			
<p><b>DECLARATION</b></p> <p>I declare that the information provided on this form is correct. I understand that the declaration of a criminal record will not necessarily prevent me from being offered this role at Applecroft School however failure to disclose may result in an offer of employment being withdrawn.</p>			
Signed:		Date:	

# Applecroft School



## Online Search Record

### How to use this form:

- Fill in the 'search parameters' column. Adapt the example parameters to your needs
- Once you've adapted the form to suit your needs, make a separate copy for each candidate and give these to the staff member who will carry out the searches. They should not be involved in carrying out interviews or making recruitment decisions
- Have the staff member carry out the searches as directed by the search parameters
- Ask them to return the forms back to you before you conduct interviews. Raise any concerns with the candidates

<b>Candidate name:</b>	
<b>Role shortlisted for:</b>	
<b>Searcher name:</b>	
<b>Date and time of online search:</b>	
<b>Search Parameters:</b>	<b>Concerns Raised:</b> Only record information that suggests the candidate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- is unqualified for the role</li> <li>- poses a potential safeguarding risk</li> <li>- risks damaging the reputation of your school/trust</li> <li>- Don't include any irrelevant personal information.</li> </ul>
<b><u>Google search:</u></b> The following terms, looking at the first page of results: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Candidate name'</li> <li>• 'Candidate name' + 'current school/employment'</li> <li>• 'Candidate name' + 'previous school/employment'</li> <li>• 'Candidate name' + 'educational institution'</li> <li>• 'Candidate name' + 'job title'</li> </ul>	
<b><u>Websites:</u></b> The candidate's name was typed into the search function of the following websites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LinkedIn</li> <li>• Twitter (checked the top 10 results)</li> <li>• Facebook (checked the top 10 results)</li> <li>• Their current school's website</li> </ul>	

