

Recruitment and Selection Policy

Adopted by the Governing Body: February 2017

To be reviewed: February 2018

Recruitment and Selection Procedure

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 section 175 of the Education Act 2002, Governing Bodies of schools need to 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.

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 St Mary's Catholic Primary 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 St Mary's Catholic Primary School recruitment and selection processes. Recruitment and selection in St Mary's Catholic Primary 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 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 St Mary's Catholic Primary 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) Regulations 2009.

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| Name of Candidate: | | |
| Role: | | |
| Date: | | |
| Activity | Completed (tick) | Date Completed (DD/MM/YY) |
| Planning: | | |
| 1. Decide timetable (timescales of all actions to be taken in process). | | |
| 2. Review and update Job Description, Person Specification and all other relevant documents to be provided to candidates (include safeguarding responsibilities). | | |
| Advertise Vacancy (in appropriate publication): | | |
| 1. Advertising request includes copies of the Job Description and Person Specification. | | |
| 2. Ensure the advert includes a reference to safeguarding children. The phrase, "This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment," is recommended by the DFE. | | |
| 3. When sending the application pack out to candidates, include a Job Description and Person Specification for their information. | | |
| Shortlisting: | | |
| 1. Note any discrepancies/anomalies/gaps in employment history to be explored if the candidate is considered for short listing. | | |
| 2. Measure applications against the criteria identified on the Person Specification and Job Description, entering information on the Shortlisting Criteria Form. Have two people involved in shortlisting. | | |
| References (seeking): | | |
| 1. Seek references directly from nominated referee for short listed candidates. Referee must include the current or most recent employer. | | |
| References (on receipt): | | |
| 1. Check against information on application. | | |
| 2. Scrutinise closely and take up any areas of concern with applicant at interview or contact referee for clarification. | | |
| Interviews, Arrangements and Assessing Candidates: | | |
| 1. Send invite letters to candidates, including all relevant information/instructions and details of any additional activities they are to undertake. Ask them to bring with them original documents to prove: Identity (incl.photo) – passport, driving licence with card etc. Permission to work in the UK – Work Permit, Visa etc. Qualifications (QTS/PGCE etc.) – Certificates Membership of Professional Bodies – Certificates, Membership Cards etc. | | |
| 2. Ensure you have a panel of 2-3 people to interview candidates; provide the panel with relevant paperwork i.e. list of candidates, copy of advert, Job Description, Person Specification, references, conditions of service etc. At least one panel member must have received Safer Recruitment Training. | | |
| 3. Panel to meet before interviews to discuss: each panel member's role within the process, format and timing of interviews, finalise questions to be asked. Be aware that you will be interviewing candidates not only for their suitability for the post but also their suitability to work with children. | | |
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| 4. On day of interviews: Take copies of all requested documents and return originals to candidate. As far as possible ensure documents are genuine. | | |
| 5. In interview: Keep good notes of the response received from each candidate in order to assist is decision making, support feedback to candidates, provide evidence to respond to a challenge from a candidate. Notes should be kept for 6 months. Introduce panel members, outline format of interview, explain notes will be taken, explain role, clarify any information on their application form, ask open questions about current/last job, ask range of open questions about skills, ability, knowledge, and relevant experience, some personalised questions may be added to clarify or expand upon particular answers, ask questions covering safeguarding issues, ask if they have any questions, give timescales i.e. 2 nd interviews, appointment decision, go over Terms and Conditions of role (especially working weeks, INSET days), ensure all candidates are asked the same questions in the same order. | | |
| 6. Use Interview Assessment Form to assess candidates (against the person specification, not each other). Select the successful candidate. | | |
| Offers: | | |
| 1. Check the references, proof of qualifications, proof of identification, memberships of professional bodies, right to work in UK status (and Work Permits/Visa's if applicable) are in order. | | |
| 2. Make the offer of employment conditional on: satisfactory medical and police clearance (DBS) and a probationary/induction period for support staff posts. It is advisable that individuals do not commence employment before the DBS disclosure is received. However, if the DBS disclosure is not received at the time when the person is starting, ask Human Resources to carry out a list 99 check and undertake a full risk assessment before making the decision to allow the individual to commence employment. | | |
| 3. Invite candidate to school to process DBS form. | | |
| 4. Send regret letters to all unsuccessful candidates and send all relevant new starter paperwork i.e. Notification of Appointment to HR to generate contracts and other related documents (to ensure new starter is entered on the payroll system). | | |
| 5. Ensure Statutory Probation and Induction Period are applied. | | |
| 6. Ensure Induction pack is given inc. all documents | | |
| 7. Induction Check is completed. | | |
| 8. Single Central Record to be completed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> References received ID checks Professional Qualifications (where appropriate) Right to work in the UK Qualifications (teachers only) Prohibition form (teachers only) Enhanced DBS with Barring Disqualification by Association (specific roles) | | |