



## APPLICATION AND RECRUITMENT PROCESS EXPLANATORY NOTE

### General

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Applicants will be required to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)."

### Application Form

- Applications will only be accepted from candidates completing the Northbourne Park School Application Form in full. CVs will not be accepted in substitution for completed Application Forms in the absence of good reason.
- Candidates should be aware that all posts in the school involve some degree of responsibility for safeguarding children, although the extent of that responsibility will vary according to the nature of the post. Please see job description for the post.
- The School is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and therefore all convictions, cautions, reprimands and final warnings (including those which would normally be considered "spent" under the Act) must be declared, subject to current DBS filtering rules. If you have a criminal record this will not automatically debar you from employment. Instead, each case will be assessed fairly by reference to the School's objective assessment procedure (a copy of which is available from the School on request)
- The successful applicant will be required to undertake a check through the DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) or give consent for a 'Status Check' through the DBS Update Service.
- We will seek references on shortlisted candidates and will approach previous employers for information to verify particular experience or qualifications, before interview.
- If you are currently working with children, on either a paid or voluntary basis, your current employer will be asked about disciplinary offences, including disciplinary offences relating to children or young persons (whether the disciplinary sanction is current or time expired), and whether you have been the subject of any child protection allegations or concerns and if so the outcome of any enquiry or disciplinary procedure. If you are not currently working with children but have done so in the past, that previous employer will be asked about those issues. Where neither your current nor previous employment has involved working with children, your current employer will still be asked about your suitability to work with children, although it may where appropriate answer not applicable if your duties have not brought you into contact with children or young persons.

- You should be aware that provision of false information is an offence and could result in the application being rejected or summary dismissal if the applicant has been selected, and possible referral to the police and/or DfES Children's Safeguarding Operation Unit.

### **Invitation to Interview**

- If you are invited to interview this will be conducted in person and the areas which it will explore will include suitability to work with children.
- All candidates invited to interview must bring documents confirming any educational and professional qualifications that are necessary or relevant for the post (e.g. the original or certified copy of certificates, diplomas etc) and visual identification (e.g. passport or driving licence). Where originals or certified copies are not available for the successful candidate, written confirmation of the relevant qualifications must be obtained from the awarding body.

**Please note that originals of the above are necessary. Photocopies or certified copies are not sufficient.**

### **Conditional Offer of Appointment: Pre-Appointment Checks**

An offer of employment is conditional upon the School receiving an Enhanced Disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) which the School considers to be satisfactory. The School applies for an Enhanced Check for Regulated Activity from the DBS (which includes a check of the Children's Barred List) in respect of all positions at the School which amount to regulated activity. It is unlawful for the School to employ anyone who is barred from working with children. It is a criminal offence for any person who is barred from working with children to attempt to apply for a position at the School. If you are successful in your application you will be required to complete a DBS Disclosure Application Form. Any information disclosed will be handled in accordance with any guidance and / or code of practice published by the DBS.

Any offer to a successful candidate will also be conditional upon:

- verification of the applicant's identity (where that has not previously been verified);
- the receipt of two references (one of which must be from the applicant's most recent employer) which the School considers to be satisfactory;
- for positions which involve "teaching work", information about whether the applicant has ever been referred to, or is the subject of a sanction, restriction or prohibition issued by, the National College for Teaching and Leadership (NCTL) which renders them unable or unsuitable to work at the School;
- for applicants who have carried out teaching work outside the UK, information about whether the applicant has ever been referred to, or is the subject of a sanction issued by, a regulator of the teaching profession in any other country which renders them unable or unsuitable to work at the School;
- where the position amounts to "regulated activity" the receipt of an enhanced disclosure from the DBS which the School considers to be satisfactory;
- where the position amounts to "regulated activity" confirmation that the applicant is not named on the Children's Barred List\*;



- information about whether the applicant has ever been subject to a direction under section 142 of the Education Act 2002 which renders them unable or unsuitable to work at the School;
- for management positions, information about whether the applicant has ever been referred to the Department for Education, or is the subject of a direction under section 128 of the Education and Skills Act 2008, which renders them unable or unsuitable to work at the School;
- confirmation that the applicant is not disqualified from working in connection with early or later years provision;
- verification of the applicant's medical fitness for the role;
- verification of the applicant's right to work in the UK;
- any further checks which the School decides are necessary as a result of the applicant having lived or worked outside of the UK which may include an overseas criminal records check, certificate of good conduct or professional references; and
- verification of professional qualifications which the School deems a requirement for the post, or which the applicant otherwise cites in support of their application (where they have not been previously verified).

## **WARNING**

Where a candidate is:

- found to have a DBS disclosure which shows s/he has been disqualified from working with children by a Court; or
- found to have provided false information in, or in support of, his application; or
- the subject of serious expressions of concern as to his/her suitability to work with children

the facts will be reported to the Police and/or the DfES Children's Safeguarding Operation Unit.

## **Retention of Records**

The School is legally required to undertake pre-employment checks for all new staff. Therefore, if an applicant is successful in their application, the School will retain on his/her personnel file any relevant information provided as part of the application process. This will include copies of documents issued to verify identity, right to work in the UK, medical fitness and qualifications. Medical information may be used to help the School to discharge its obligations as an employer e.g. so that the School may consider reasonable adjustments if an employee suffers from a disability or to assist with any other workplace issue.

This documentation will be retained by the School for the duration of the successful applicant's employment with the School. It will be retained for a period of five years after employment terminates after which it will be securely destroyed.

If the application is unsuccessful, all documentation relating to the application will normally be confidentially destroyed after six months.