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# TEACHING STAFF APPLICATION GUIDANCE NOTES ON COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM

**Please read these notes carefully and keep for future reference**. They are designed to help you in completing your application form. We want to try and make sure that everyone applying for a job with the Haberdashers' Adams' Federation Trust and Haberdashers' Abraham Darby has a fair chance. Completing this application form is the first stage in the recruitment process which may lead to an interview and the possible offer of a job.

- It is important that you complete all sections of the application form as clearly and fully as possible.
- Please ensure that you have given your name and address accurately so that we are able to contact you.
- We are interested in your experience and any skills or training which shows that you meet the requirements of the job for which you are applying. Include non work activities which are relevant.
- You are asked in Section 6 of the application form to provide a supporting statement.
- We do not ask for many personal details. This is because we do not take into account such things as gender, race and marital status.
- Please do not forget to sign the form.
- If you attach additional sheets to your application form make sure you put your name and the post title at the top of each page.
- We ask everyone to complete an application form as well as sending a copy of their current C.V.

Remember we can only decide whom we should interview based on what is written on your application form.

# JOBS WORKING WITH CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND/OR VULNERABLE ADULTS

The job for which you are applying involves substantial opportunity for access to children, young people and/or vulnerable adults and your application will be subject to rigorous pre-employment checks. This is in order to ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults. These checks will include a check by the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) on Police Records for **all** criminal convictions, cautions and any impending cases. A more detailed explanation is included in this application form.

#### **DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998**

The information or data which you have supplied on the application form will be processed and held on computer and also on your personal records if you are appointed.

The data may be processed by the Haberdashers' Adams' Federation and Abraham Darby Academy for the purposes of equality monitoring, compiling statistics and for the keeping of other employment records.

By signing and returning this application form you will be deemed to be giving your explicit consent to processing of data contained or referred to on it, including any information which may be considered to be sensitive personal data.

# **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY**

### **COMMITMENT TO EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

The Haberdashers' Adams' Federation Trust and Haberdashers' Abraham Darby are committed to equality of opportunity in all aspects of their activities. We recognise that people suffer discrimination, disadvantage and exclusion, both in employment and in the delivery of services, for many reasons including:

- race
- sex
- sexual orientation
- · gender re-assignment
- religion or belief
- disability
- pregnancy or maternity

We are committed to combating inequality and striving to ensure that all people in all parts of the community are treated fairly. Age, marriage and civil partnership are not protected characteristics for the schools' provision but do apply to staff.

#### **EQUALITY IN EMPLOYMENT**

It is the Federation and Academy's policy that all of its employees, and those who apply for employment, will be treated with equal fairness, respect and dignity.

#### We will:

- Publicise, by this charter, our commitment to equality to all of our employees and within the community at large.
- Encourage job applications from all sections of the community and ensure that only relevant and justifiable factors
  are taken into account in making appointments
- Make available appropriate training for employees so that they can both understand and actively promote equal
  opportunities policies and, recommend that everyone who takes part in the recruitment and selection process will
  first receive the necessary training.
- Ensure that existing and future HR policies and conditions of service are applied fairly to all employees and are such that they can both promote equality of opportunity and seek to remove obstacles to its achievement.
- Recommend that applicants with disabilities who meet the essential requirements of the post are interviewed, and
  do everything reasonably practical to adapt jobs and premises to meet the needs of people with disabilities.
- Measure the effectiveness of our policies by regular monitoring of both existing employees and of job applicants.

### **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY MONITORING**

So that we can measure the effectiveness of this charter, we need to collect information about our job applicants. Therefore please fully complete and return the Monitoring Form attached to this application form.

- When your application is received the Monitoring Form will be removed before the form goes to those involved in shortlisting for interviews.
- Those involved in shortlisting and interview will not know what information is on the Monitoring Form.

# **ESSENTIAL ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

# FOR POSTS WHICH INVOLVE WORKING WITH CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND/OR VULNERABLE ADULTS

The post for which you are applying will involve working with children, young people and/or vulnerable adults. In order to ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults, your application will be subject to rigorous pre-employment checks. Please read this information carefully, detach and keep these notes.

- 1. The references you have offered will be taken up prior to interview without seeking further permission from you. We also reserve the right to contact any other previous employer for a reference.
- 2. We will also take into consideration relevant information received from **any** source. This may include information held by Telford & Wrekin Council, for example in Social Care or Education, and information received from other external authorities or bodies.
- 3. You will be required to provide proof of any educational qualifications or memberships of professional bodies that are stated in your application form.
- 4. You will be asked to submit original proof of identification, such as a birth certificate, National Insurance number, passport or driving licence. You will also be asked to submit all marriage certificates in cases where you have changed your name, and previous address details.
- 5. You will have to complete a medical questionnaire and may be required to meet with our Occupational Health physician if required.
- 6. You may be subject to a probationary period. Failure to successfully complete a probationary period may lead to a further probationary period or dismissal.

# **Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)**

- 1. This post is covered by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) (Amendments) Order 1986 and the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000. It is also covered by the Protection of Children Act 1999.
- 2. A caution or conviction will not necessarily debar you from applying for the post. We will consider any previous offences in accordance with our Equal Opportunities Policy. There are, however, certain offences which will debar you from working with children under the regulations made under the Children's Act, including Schedule 1 offences such as sexual and violent offences. If you require a confidential discussion concerning previous offences before apply for a post you can contact the Principal or the Personnel Officer at the Academy.
- 3. At interview, or in a separate discussion, we will ensure that an open and measured discussion takes place on the subject of any offences or other matter that might be relevant to the position. Failure to reveal information that is directly relevant to the position sought could lead to withdrawal of an offer of employment.
- 4. Prior to any offer of employment being made you will be required to complete a **Disclosure and Barring Service Application Form**. On this form you will need to declare **ALL** CAUTIONS, BIND OVER ORDERS & CONVICTIONS. This includes offences which are considered spent for other purposes or that you may believe have been removed from your record.

# All information given will be treated as strictly confidential and will be stored securely.

Once completed this disclosure form will be sent to the Disclosure and Barring Services (DBS). The DBS will search Police Force, Department of Health, and Department for Education & Skills records for relevant information. The DBS will inform you of the result of their search and they will also send a copy of the result to Abraham Darby Academy. This information will enable the Principal to make his decision on possible employment.

We undertake to discuss any matter revealed in a Disclosure with the person seeking the position before withdrawing a conditional offer of employment.

The Academy's policy on Disclosure and Barring checks and the DBS's Code of Practice are available on request from the HR Manager.

If you require further information you can contact the DBS direct on **0870 90 90 811** or visit their web site www.dbs.gov.uk

If you do take up employment it is necessary for you to inform the Principal and HR Manager of any cautions, bind overs or convictions you sustain during the subsequent course of your employment. **Failure to do so will lead to dismissal.** 

# **IMPORTANT**

WE WILL REPORT ALL PERSONS TO THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES WHO ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN EMPLOYMENT WHILST THEY ARE DISQUALIFIED FROM WORKING WITH CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND/OR VULNERABLE ADULTS.

# THE RECRUITMENT PROCESS

## WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT?

As a candidate applying for employment with Haberdashers' Adams' Federation Trust and Haberdashers' Abraham Darby you can expect to be dealt with courteously, efficiently and fairly. If, at any stage of the recruitment process, you are unhappy with the way you are treated, or if you have any suggestions as to how we can do better, please do not hesitate to contact the HR Manager.

If you require any help or have any questions about the recruitment process or the position you are applying for, please contact either the PA to the Principal, or the HR Manager, who will be more than happy to assist you.

We endeavour to always try to reply individually to every applicant. However, regrettably this may not always necessary be the case if there is an unusually high number of applications received. Therefore, if you have not heard from us within 28 days of the closing date, your application has been unsuccessful. We are sorry that this means we are treating you less courteously than we would wish.

Whatever the outcome of your application, thank you for the interest you have shown in working for Haberdashers' Adams' Federation Trust and Haberdashers' Abraham Darby.