

Recruitment and Selection Policy

January 2025 Next update due February 2026

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This policy has been written with the underlying principles of a Church of England school, which applies to Ash C of E Primary School, Evercreech C of E Primary School, Lovington C of E Primary School, North Cadbury C of E Primary School and Preston C of E Primary School.

1. **Introduction**

- 1.1 Staff are the most important and valuable resource and play a major role in the delivery of quality teaching and learning in our schools. The purpose of this policy (and those associated with it) is to support safe and fair recruitment practices that are rigorously enforced, adopting a coherent and consistent approach to recruiting and retaining staff of the highest caliber.
- 1.2 The Board of Directors has overall responsibility for all staff appointments in its school. However, it may delegate responsibility for any or all appointments, with the exception of the posts of Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher, to the Headteacher, an individual Local Governor or a group of Local Governors.
- 1.3 Where the Headteacher is exercising delegated responsibility, this cannot be delegated to another person by the Headteacher.
- 1.4 Discrimination claims can arise at any point during the recruitment and selection process from the wording of an advert to the formal interview process, so it is crucial that Headteachers, Directors and Local Governors are trained and are confident that no discrimination, direct or indirect, takes place at any stage of the process.

This recruitment & selection policy has been broken down into the key stages of the process for ease of reference. A checklist can be found on the SEE website which schools may find useful when planning a recruitment exercise.

2. **Statutory Framework**

The statutory requirements for appointing staff in maintained schools are set out in the School Staffing (England) Regulations 2009. Further information can be found by clicking on the following link: School Staffing (England) Regulations. Preston Primary Academy Trust has elected to follow this guidance, wherever possible, when making its own appointments

Keeping Children Safe in Education is statutory guidance issued by the Department of Education (2024). Schools must have regard to this guidance when carrying out their duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Further information can be found by clicking on the following link: Keeping children safe in education 2024.

It is strongly recommended and implied in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024 that at least 1 person on any appointment panel has undertaken safer recruitment training. Preston Primary Academy Trust requires that this is met and that that safer recruitment training is renewed every 3 years.

2.1 Disclosure of Criminal Records

Some posts in schools are exempt under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (ROA) or the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006, as amended by the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012. Therefore, schools are required to assess the applicant's suitability for employment through accessing the Disclosure and Barring service (DBS).

Please also refer to <u>Guidance overview: Guidance on the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and the Exceptions Order 1975 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u> for further information.

The majority of staff employed in a school will be working with children and therefore, engaging in regulated activity relating to children, in which case an enhanced DBS check which includes children's barred list information, will be required.

For others (e.g. contractors) who have an opportunity for regular contact with children who are not engaging in regulated activity, an enhanced DBS certificate, will be required which does not include a barred list check.

Barred list information **must not** be requested on any person who is not engaging in or seeking to engage in regulated activity.

It is therefore, advised the school complies fully with the <u>DBS Code of Practice</u> and undertakes to treat all applicants for positions fairly so that they do not discriminate unfairly against any subject of a Disclosure on the basis of conviction or other information revealed.

2.2 DBS Disclosure

Employers can only ask an individual to provide details of convictions and cautions that they are legally entitled to know about.

DBS filtering rules were first introduced in 2013 when amendments were made to legislation that affected both what an employer can ask an individual in relation to convictions and cautions (for example a self-declaration on an application form of 'do you have any convictions'), and what is disclosed on a Standard or Enhanced DBS certificate.

These rules were updated in November 2020 with the main changes being:

warnings, reprimands and youth cautions will no longer be automatically disclosed on a DBS certificate.

The multiple conviction rule has been removed, meaning that if an individual has more than one conviction, regardless of offence type or time passed, each conviction will be considered against the remaining rules individually, rather than all being automatically disclosed.

The amendments to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (2013 and 2020) provides that when applying for certain jobs and activities, certain convictions and cautions are considered 'protected'. This means that they do not need to be disclosed to employers, and if they are disclosed, employers cannot take them into account.

Applicants should be given the opportunity to declare any convictions prior to the return of the DBS and the recruitment application form provides an initial opportunity for this.

- Employers of exempt roles have a right to know about, and can take into account, unspent convictions.
- An offence may be filtered before it is spent.
- The only way to discover details of unspent convictions may be via selfdisclosure or a basic DBS certificate.
- The individual does not have to disclose their criminal history unless they are asked.
- Police may use other powers to share information about an offence that would automatically be filtered if they believe it is relevant to the role.

Paragraph 351 of <u>Keeping children safe in education 2024</u> explains the different types of DBS check required for those working with children which are:

Basic DBS check – this provides details of convictions and conditional cautions considered to be 'unspent' under the terms of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

Standard DBS check – this provides information about convictions, cautions, reprimands, and warnings held on the Police National Computer (PNC), regardless or not of whether they are spent under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. The law allows for certain old and minor matters to be filtered out.

Enhanced DBS check – this provides the same information about convictions, cautions, reprimands and warnings held on the Police National Computer (PNC) as a Standard DBS check, plus additional information held by police

such as interviews and allegations. Additional information will only be disclosed where a chief police officer reasonably believes it to be relevant and considers that it ought to be disclosed. The position being applied for/or activities being undertaken **must** be covered by an exempted question in the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 and by provisions in the Police Act 1997 (Criminal Records) Regulations 2002.

Enhanced DBS check with children's barred list information – where people are working or seeking to work in regulated activity relating to children, this allows an additional check, to be made, about whether the person appears on the children's barred list, along with a check of the Police National Computer records plus additional information held by police as above. The position being applied for, or activities being undertaken **must** be eligible for an enhanced DBS check as above and be for a purpose listed in the Police Act 1997 (Criminal Records) (No2) Regulations 2009 as qualifying for a barred list(s) check. In addition, this check **can** also include information as to whether an individual is subject to a section 128 direction.

All candidates should be asked to provide documentary evidence of their identity to satisfy DBS requirements, i.e. either a current driving licence or passport including a photograph, or a full birth certificate, plus documents such as a utility bill or financial statement that shows the candidate's current name and address, and where appropriate change of name documentation. More information can be obtained from the Disclosure and Barring Service Website - http://carecheck.co.uk/.

e-DBS

The successful candidate will be required to complete a DBS application. See further HR quidance available on the SSE website.

Existing staff

Paragraph 351 of <u>Keeping children safe in education 2024</u>advises there are limited circumstances where schools will need to carry out new checks on existing staff. These are when:

- an individual working at the school moves from a post that was not regulated activity with children into work which is considered to be regulated activity with children. In such circumstances, the relevant checks for that regulated activity must be carried out
- there has been a break in service of 12 weeks or more, or
- there are concerns about an individual's suitability to work with children.

Appointees from another school or college

Paragraph 239 of <u>Keeping children safe in education 2024</u> states there is no requirement for a school to obtain an enhanced DBS certificate or carry out checks for events that may have occurred outside the UK if, during a period which ended not more than three months before the persons appointment, the applicant has worked, in a school in England, in a post:

- which brought the person regularly into contact with children, or
- to which the person was appointed on or after 12th May 2006 and which did not bring the person regularly into contact with children or young persons, or
- in another institution within the further education sector in England, or in a 16-19 academy, in a post which involved the provision of education which brought the person regularly into contact with children or young person

Whilst there is no requirement to carry out an enhanced DBS check in the circumstances described above, schools should carefully consider if it would be appropriate to request one, to ensure they have up to date information. Schools must still carry out all other relevant pre-appointment checks including where the individual is engaging in regulated activity with children. This includes **a separate barred list check** for those in regulated activity, which can be obtained via the DBS.

Student Teachers and Volunteers

Trainee/student teachers

Where applicants for initial teacher training are salaried by the school, the school must ensure that all necessary checks are carried out. As trainee teachers are likely to be engaging in regulated activity, an enhanced DBS certificate (including and barred list information) must be obtained.

Where trainee teachers are fee-funded it is the responsibility of the initial teacher training provider to carry out the necessary checks, schools should obtain written confirmation from the training provider that these checks have been carried out and that the trainee has been judged by the provider to be suitable to work with children. There is no requirement for the school to record details of fee-funded trainees on the single central record.

Volunteers

Pre-employment Checks

Under no circumstances should a volunteer for whom no checks have been completed be left unsupervised or allowed to work in regulated activity. These checks are an important part of safeguarding, and it is advised that

these should be followed even when volunteers are already known to the school.

References

It is good practice to request a reference for any volunteer as it provides an indication of whether the person is appropriate for the role.

Regulated activity

Volunteers who will be engaged on an unsupervised basis to teach or look after children regularly or provide personal care on a one-off basis in schools will be in regulated activity.

For all volunteers who are new to working in regulated activity the Headteacher/Manager should obtain an enhanced DBS certificate (which should include barred list information).

The Trust has determined that those working in the following areas are required to undertake a new DBS check every 3 years:

- Volunteers in roles excepted from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.
- Casual Staff in roles excepted from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

Schools are responsible for ensuring they record the dates for re-checking these employees and volunteers and ensuring a re-check is completed every three years. The Disclosure Team will be able to assist by confirming dates on which previous disclosure certificates were obtained but the school must maintain accurate records for managing the requirement for re-checks.

Where an existing worker's disclosure re-check reveals a previously unknown criminal background or any cause for concern the Head or line manager must seek advice from their HR Advisory Service.

Non-Regulated Activity

For volunteers who are not engaging in regulated activity but have the opportunity to come into contact with children on a regular basis, e.g. supervised volunteers, then the Headteacher/Manager may want to obtain an enhanced DBS certificate that does not include barred list information (as they are not legally permitted to request barred list information on a volunteer who, because they are supervised, are not in a regulated activity).

DBS Check

The school should undertake a risk assessment and use their professional judgement and experience when deciding whether to seek an enhanced DBS check 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; and
- whether the role is eligible for an enhanced DBS check.

It is an offence to fail to make a referral without good reason.

Also refer to Keeping children safe in education: statutory guidance for schools and Flowchart of Disclosure and Barring Service criminal record checks and barred list Checks (<u>Appendix 1</u> below).

Starting regulated activity (employment) before the DBS check is complete.

Paragraph 253 of Keeping children safe in education 2024 advises that a member of staff can work in regulated activity, as set out above, before his/her DBS certificate has come through, provided that he/she is supervised and has also undergone other required checks, including a separate barred list check. A "clearance risk assessment" must be completed prior to the individual starting work confirming the outcome of the required checks are pending and a template assessment can be obtained from the trust's Advisory Service.

Nominated Verifier

Each school should have a nominated verifier who is responsible for registering applicants onto the e-DBS system, confirming their identity and monitoring the progress of applications, liaising with the County Hall DBS team and the applicant as required.

Prohibition Checks

Paragraph 259 of <u>Keeping children safe in education 2024</u> advises that a Prohibition from teaching check should be carried out on both teachers and support staff as this will reveal whether there are any restrictions. However, this is related to the teaching profession only. Whereas a DBS barred list will include anyone barred from any profession involving children and vulnerable adults.

Teacher Services allows schools to check the status of teachers they employ or are considering employing. Schools can search for a teacher's record in Teacher Services using the individual's teacher reference number (TRN) and date of birth.

The check will allow the school to:

- identify teachers with an active prohibition, sanction or restriction, including teacher prohibition orders;
- see details of any decision by the secretary of state not to impose a prohibition order following a determination by a professional conduct panel of unacceptable professional conduct, conduct that may bring the teaching profession into disrepute, or conviction of a relevant offence.

3. Relevant Legislation

All job applicants are protected against discrimination because of sex, marital or civil partnership status, transgender status, race, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief and pregnancy or maternity throughout every stage of the recruitment process. Any candidate who is treated in a discriminatory way at a selection interview, or who is rejected for employment because of, for example, gender or race, may bring a complaint of discrimination to an employment tribunal, provided that the claim is lodged within three months of the date of the alleged discriminatory act.

It is important that throughout every stage of the recruitment process that the school ensures they are mindful of the relevant legislation;

- Equality Act 2010.
- Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017 (SI 2017/353).
- Data Protection Act 2018.
- General Data Protection Regulation (2016/679 EU).
- Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006.

Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 legally protects people from discrimination in the workplace and in wider society.

It replaced previous anti-discrimination laws with a single Act, making the law easier to understand and strengthening protection in some situations. It sets out the different ways in which it's unlawful to treat someone.

It is against the law to discriminate against anyone because of:

- age.
- disability.
- gender reassignment.
- marriage or civil partnership (in employment only)
- pregnancy and maternity.
- race.
- religion or belief.
- sex.
- Sexual orientation.

Asking applicants questions in relation to sickness absence or their health either before or during the interview

Section 60 of the Equality Act 2010 restricts the circumstances in which an employer can ask an applicant about their health before making an offer of employment. This would include enquiries about the amount of sickness absence that they have had. Such enquiries can only be made if they are necessary for the purpose of:

- establishing whether or not they will be able to undergo an assessment (which would include an interview), or whether or not the employer will be required to make reasonable adjustments to the assessment process;
- establishing whether or not they will be able to carry out a function that is intrinsic to the work;
- diversity monitoring;
- taking positive action under s.158 of the Act; or
- establishing whether or not they have a disability, where having that disability is an occupational requirement for the role.

It is, therefore, unlikely asking a question about the number of days' sickness absence an employee has had would be considered to be necessary for any of the above purposes. However, simply asking such a question does not amount to unlawful action under the Act, but if the candidate objects to the question and decides to bring a direct disability discrimination claim relating to the failure of the employer to offer them employment, the fact that the question was asked, will shift the burden of proof to the employer. The employer will then have to show that it had a non-discriminatory reason for rejecting the applicant.

Schools are, therefore, advised to ensure they make it clear that any offer of employment is conditional and subject to satisfactory pre-employment clearance which includes medical clearance to verify the candidate's mental and physical fitness to carry out their work responsibilities and confirmation of regular attendance at work. In the event schools are advised that the potential employee does has a poor level of attendance due to sickness absence or a medical condition for which the recommended adjustments are

not considered to be reasonable, the school could consider withdrawing their offer. However, prior to any decision being made they are strongly advised to contact their HR Adviser.

Please also refer to <u>Equality Act 2010</u>: <u>guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u> for further information.

Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017 (SI 2017/353)

The general public sector equality duty requires public authorities and bodies exercising public functions to have due regard to the need to: eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act 2010; advance equality of opportunity; and foster good relations. The duty applies to all of the protected characteristics, except marriage and civil partnership, which is only covered by the first part of the duty, ie the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited under the Act.

Under the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017 (SI 2017/353), there are three specific duties:

- to publish equality information;
- to publish equality objectives; and
- to publish gender pay gap information.

Data Protection Act 2018

The Data Protection Act 2018 controls how personal information is used by organisations, businesses, or the Government.

Everyone who is responsible for using personal data has to follow strict rules called 'data protection principles. They must make sure the information is:

- used fairly, lawfully, and transparently;
- used for specified, explicit purposes;
- used in a way that is adequate, relevant, and limited to only what is necessary;
- accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date;
- kept for no longer than is necessary;
- handled in a way that ensures appropriate security, including protection against unlawful or unauthorised processing, access, loss, destruction, or damage.

Please refer to <u>Data protection - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u> for further information.

General Data Protection Regulation (2016/679 EU)

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into force from 25th May 2018, individuals have the right to request access to any personal data that is being processed. Thus, an individual who has applied for a job, whether successfully or unsuccessfully, may submit a request to the employer in respect of access to any file containing data about them, for example interview notes.

Please also refer to <u>Guide to the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) | ICO</u> for further information.

Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006

The responsibility lies with the employer to make sure, before it employs a person, that they have the right to work in the UK.

Immigration system from 1st January 2021

Introduction

Following the UK's exit from the European Union on 1st January 2021, a new immigration system is now in place to allow organisations to employ skilled workers from outside of the UK and Ireland. Irish nationals are exempt from the new rules and continue to have freedom of movement to live and work in the UK.

The transition period for EU citizens to apply for settled status ended on 30th June 2021. An EU citizen who has registered for or been granted 'settled status', via the EU Settlement Scheme, will be able to prove this by supplying a share code that can be used to check them on the Gov.UK site or by showing a current document issued by the Home Office that shows they have settled status. This excludes Irish nationals as they retain the right to work in the UK.

Right to Work Checks

An employer has a statutory duty to prevent illegal working by carrying out document checks to confirm if a person has the right to work in the UK. These checks must be completed before employment commences and, therefore, the school can request that applicants who are invited to interview to provide valid documentation or their share code evidencing proof of their right to work in the UK.

The checks can either be completed through checking the applicant's;

<u>original documents</u>, or

right to work online (if they have given you their share code).

Please also refer to <u>Checking a job applicant's right to work - GOV.UK</u> (<u>www.gov.uk</u>) for further information

Right to Work Checks using Original Documents

Please also refer to <u>Checking a job applicant's right to work</u> for further information and also <u>Appendix 2</u> for further guidance.

Points based system

From 1st January 2021, new arrangements took effect for all newly arriving EU, EEA and Swiss citizens (except Irish nationals) who wished to work and live in the UK with a new UK points-based system being introduced. The new UK points-based system enables Home Office licensed sponsor employers to sponsor eligible migrant workers to enter the UK to work and live.

Please also refer to <u>UK points-based immigration system: employer information - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u> for further information.

If an EU citizen applies for a role and does not have settled status schools and the trust will need to investigate whether they can offer them a Skilled Worker visa under the Points Based System.

A requirement for employees in schools to speak fluent English

Part 7 of the Immigration Act (2016) sets out the requirement for public sector customer-facing roles to speak fluent English. If the ability to speak an appropriate standard of spoken English is a requirement of the role it must be made clear in the application pack the standard of English that is required. The ability to speak fluent English will be assessed at interview.

The Act does not apply to existing employees changing jobs without a break in service, but checks are required for individuals moving from other Local Authorities or other Modification Order Bodies.

The provisions of the Equality Act 2010 still apply and therefore to ensure that racial discrimination is avoided, all candidates should be treated in the same way.

Please also refer to <u>English language requirement for public sector workers:</u> <u>code of practice - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>

A Requirement for the employer to provide the employee with a Statement of Written Particulars and other information on their first day of employment

From 6th April 2020, new legislation made it a requirement for employers to issue a Statement of Written Particulars and provide specific information to an employee or casual worker on, or before, day one of their employment. The school will, therefore, need to liaise with their payroll provider for further information on providing this information to new employees. For further information please refer to Employment particulars - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk).

4. Recruitment

4.1 Identifying a Vacancy

A staff vacancy can occur for a number of reasons, e.g., staff resignation, school re-organisation, identification of a specific project. The most common occurrence will be staff resignation.

On receipt of a staff resignation, the Headteacher or Line Manager should consider whether there is a need to replace the post in exactly the same way as the previous appointment or whether the creation of the vacant post provides an opportunity to review the school staffing structure and how tasks and responsibilities are allocated.

Consideration should be given to the following:

- Does the school or trust need to replace the post?
- Can the school or trust afford to replace the post and, if so, what are the required contracted hours to meet the operational needs of the school or trust?
- What type of contract does the school or trust wish to offer permanent, fixed term or flexible?
- Has the nature of the role changed since the previous post-holder was appointed?
- Does the Job Description need updating in line with the required changes of the post?
- If schools are appointing to provide tuition/coaching as part of enrichment activities, consideration needs to be given to the employment status of the individual.

4.2. Advertising a Vacancy

4.2.1 Headteacher/Deputy Headteacher Vacancies

Advice regarding the recruitment and selection process for Headteacher/Deputy Headteacher appointments can be obtained from the central team.

It is a legal requirement that <u>all schools</u> must have a Headteacher, however, there is no legal requirement for schools to either have a Deputy Headteacher or to be limited to just one.

The statutory regulations require that, unless there is "good reason not to", Headteacher & Deputy Headteacher vacancies should be advertised in such a manner as the Trust considers appropriate.

A decision not to advertise should only be taken if the Trust can demonstrate there is "good reason not to" and that it does not leave it open to challenge. All decisions should be documented fully, as the Board of Directors will need to demonstrate that it has acted reasonably if challenged.

It is recommended that Directors and the Local Governing Body seeks advice from the CEO.

When advertising, the Trust should decide the best way of reaching its target audience, taking into consideration the type of media to be used and the level of exposure the advertisement will receive.

The Trust may decide to appoint to the vacant post on an "Acting" basis while it considers the longer-term leadership requirements of the school. In these circumstances there is no legal requirement to advertise externally, however, any internal appointment should only be made following a fair and transparent selection process where all staff are given equal opportunity to apply (provided they meet the essential criteria for the post). Governors should consider assessing potential candidate suitability alongside the National Standards of Excellence for Headteachers (2020) (Headteachers' standards 2020 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)).

Any acting arrangement should be kept under regular review by the Trust and they should be able to demonstrate that all reasonable measures are being taken to appoint to the post on a permanent basis as quickly as is possible.

Where an appointment is made on an "Acting" arrangement, the individual should be paid in accordance with the provisions contained within the School Teachers Pay & Conditions Document (STP&CD 2022).

4.2.2 Teaching and Support Staff Vacancies

There is no legal requirement to advertise a teaching or support staff vacancy externally. Given the associated costs with external advertising, the Headteacher should consider succession planning and whether there is the potential to appoint to the vacant post from within the existing staffing structure.

In any event, Headteachers are advised to ensure all vacancies are advertised on the staff noticeboard as a minimum, to enable all staff equality of opportunity to apply and reduce or remove the potential for a claim of unfair treatment or discrimination.

Teacher Notice Dates

For teaching posts, schools may want to take into account the timing of when they advertise any vacancies to reflect teacher's statutory resignation dates which are; 28th/29th February, 31st May and 31st October. The contract notice periods for teachers are 3 months in the Summer term, and 2 months for the Autumn and Spring term.

Headteacher Notice Dates

For Headteachers, the resignation dates are: 31st January, 30th April and 30th September, with an additional 1 month notice to that of teachers being required.

4.3 **Drafting the Advert**

Irrespective of the type of post being advertised, it is important the content of the advert attracts the required caliber of applicant – it is the quality of the content rather than the quantity that is important.

The advert should set out clearly the specific details of the vacancy and as a minimum should cover the:

- name of school or central team;
- job title;
- salary of the post (if the post is term time only and/or part-time the prorated salary should be published), this should be in-line with decisions made in the trust pay policy;
- number of contracted hours;
- type of contract being offered (If fixed term the reason for this should be specified, e.g. maternity cover, sickness absence);
- preferred start date;
- brief description of work and skills/qualifications required;

- closing date and how to apply;
- contact name & number for the applicant to contact should they want to find out more information.

4.4 Offering Guaranteed Interviews to disabled applicants as a 'Disability Confident' employer and other equality schemes for Veterans and those leaving care

Applicants who declare they have a disability

If an applicant states they have a disability, there is a legal requirement for the recruiting body to consider if any reasonable adjustments will be required as part of the selection process.

4.5 Appointing a family member, partner, relative or friend

Nepotism is a form of discrimination in which a family member, partner, relative or friend is hired for reasons that do not necessarily have anything to do with their experience, knowledge, or skills and therefore it is important schools have robust, transparent processes in place to avoid the potential for a discrimination claim when appointing a family member, partner, relative or friend.

If an employee is aware that a family member, partner, relative or friend of theirs is applying to work at their school, it is their responsibility to inform them they must ensure the school is made aware of their relationship to them (the employee). The model application form requires an applicant to declare if they are related to any staff member, pupil or governor/ director.

An employee who is involved in the selection process (shortlisting or interviewing) and is aware that a family member, partner, relative or friend of theirs or any other person they know personally, has applied, they should declare this to the other members of the shortlisting/interview panel at the earliest opportunity. Ideally, they should then be withdrawn from the selection process and replaced by another suitable colleague. If, however, this is not possible, then the school should ensure someone impartial monitors the process and the decisions made so the school is able to demonstrate the recruitment process has been conducted fairly and equitably. This will also ensure the employee concerned, the candidate and the school are protected from any allegations that personal relationships influenced the result.

4.6 The Application Pack

The application pack serves as the "shop window" to the school and will be the basis on which potential applicants form first impressions of the school as a prospective employer. In addition to the content of the advert, careful consideration should be given to the content of the application pack to ensure it promotes the school positively and attracts the highest calibre applicants.

Welcome Letter

A welcome letter should be included in the application pack providing relevant information about the school, aimed at attracting the applicant and further encouraging them to continue with their application.

Job Description

Support Staff

A copy of the Job Description should be included within the application pack as this provides the applicant with an accurate illustration of the key tasks, duties and responsibilities of the post. It is important that Job Descriptions are kept up to date and reviewed regularly to ensure any changes in the roles are identified and captured.

Teachers

The statutory duties for teachers, including Headteachers and Deputy Headteachers, are set out in the School Teachers Pay & Conditions document along with the Teacher Professional Standards as published by the Department for Education. These documents should be referred to when creating or reviewing an existing job description for teaching posts.

Person Specification

The person specification defines the essential and desirable attributes an individual will need to possess to be able to fulfil the role. These attributes include qualifications, skills, experience and knowledge and it is this criterion that will be used in the short-listing process (see section 7.2). A template person specification can be found on the SSE website.

The person specification should be derived from the job description, selecting the key tasks and duties of the role and translating these into the abilities and skills required to do the role.

Application Form

The Trust application form should be included in all packs.

Pay and Grading

The Trust uses the same pay and grading structure as the Local Authority's Local Government Services employees.

In order to provide the Trust with an objective but flexible means of determining the grades/salaries for their establishments, a number of generic job descriptions have been assessed and graded under the Local Authority's Job Evaluation Scheme. From these a matrix of job roles and respective salary grades, with key responsibilities summarised has been produced to help identify the appropriate grade and salary ranges for new posts. This should ensure that posts throughout the Local Authority with similar levels of responsibility attract common grades/salary ranges, thus reducing the scope for potentially costly equal value claims. A copy of the Job Evaluation matrices can be found in Appendix 3

4.7 **Selection**

4.7.1 Safer Recruitment Training

It is strongly recommended and implied in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023 that at least one person on any appointment panel has undertaken safer recruitment training. PPAT requires training to be renewed every 3 years It is also recommended that the Local Governing Body involves the person who has undergone the training at all stages of the appointment process. For further information on training please contact Somerset Local Safeguarding Children's Board Somerset Safeguarding Children's Board

4.7.2 **Shortlisting**

The Data Protection Act provides for applicants to have a right to see the information used in the short-listing process. Therefore, it is advised that the short-listing panel use the job description and person specification to inform the short-listing process by listing the 'essential' criteria and 'desirable' criteria for all the requirements of the job on a short-listing grid. It is advised that the short-listing panel is made up of at least 2 people.

To score applicants the panel is advised to use a points or rating system to score the candidates against the criteria on the short-listing grid. For example: 2=exceeds criteria, 1=meets criteria, 0=fails to meet

criteria. Once scoring is complete any applicants that score a '0' on one or more of the 'essential' criteria would not be considered further. Remaining candidates can be ranked in priority order, highest score first. If there are still a large number of candidates, then the shortlisting panel may want to consider scoring them against the 'desirable' criteria. A template short-listing document can be found at section 4c.

On completion of the short-listing process a decision should be made on the list of candidates to invite for interview. If there is only 1 job to fill, it is advised that the number of candidates invited is limited to no more than 6. It may be that schools wish to introduce an initial phone interview to further short-list candidates prior to inviting to interview.

4.7.3 Checking for any Gaps in Employment History that have been unaccounted for

At this stage of the recruitment process the application form should be scrutinised to check for any gaps in employment history and to ensure that the referees are the most recent employers. Where there are periods of time unaccounted for, this should be explored further at the interview stage.

4.7.4 Completing Online Searches on shortlisted candidates

Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE 2024) states as part of the shortlisting process schools **should consider** carrying out an online search as part of their due diligence on shortlisted candidates. This may help identify any incidents or issues that have happened historically which might not be revealed as part of the standard pre-employment checks, and are publicly available online, which the school might want to explore with the applicant at interview. This is not currently the practice of the Trust.

It notes that any search undertaken is purely about whether the individual is suitable to work with children and young people and care must be taken to avoid unconscious bias and any risk of discrimination. It may be sensible to have someone on the appointment panel to conduct the search – only sharing information that is relevant and of concern.

4.7.5 Reference request at shortlisting stage

Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE 2024) states that references should be sought on all short-listed candidates, including internal, before interview.

4.7.6 **Interviewing**

Invitation to Interview Letter

Invitation to interview letters should be sent to all short-listed candidates. - The school can ask in the letter if the candidate requires any reasonable adjustments to be made so that they are able to attend and participate fully in the interview.

4.7.7 **Interview Expenses**

There is no legal or statutory requirement for schools or the trust to reimburse candidates for their interview expenses.

However, there may be some occasions when this may be considered. These are:

- A school or the trust has a hard to fill vacancy (for example, recent attempts to appoint have been unsuccessful), and the candidate has requested reimbursement. Wherever possible, schools or teams may also want to consider reducing any costs associated with travelling for interview, by carrying out a virtual interview.
- A candidate has requested a face-to-face interview rather than a virtual one as part of a reasonable adjustment. All candidates who declare a disability on their application form should be offered a pre-interview discussion.
- Where a school does agree to pay interview expenses, they are advised to make candidates aware in advance of the interview, that these will not be paid until after the conclusion of the interview and in the event of a candidate withdrawing their application or refusing the offer on grounds that are considered inadequate, no expenses will be paid.
- It is advised the school or team may want to consider not paying for the expenses of the successful candidate, until they have commenced employment.
- It is advised the school or team may want to consider paying for the expenses of unsuccessful candidates, following interview.
- The cost of interview expenses paid to candidates are paid from the school's or team's own budget.

4.7.8 **Interview Questions**

In order to apply a consistent approach, it is advised the panel agree in advance of the interview, a set of questions which they will ask all candiates which are based on the requirements of the post. The

questions used should be competency based so they allow the candidate to provide examples of how they meet the requirements for the post. The panel may ask supplementary questions to enable them to explore further the candidate's application and references (if available).

The interview panel should be clear that it is their responsibility to ensure each applicant has the equal opportunity to highlight their suitability for the role, however this does not mean they need to stick rigidly to a set group of questions and exploring and probing an individual's competencies is one of the best ways to do this.

4.7.9 **Selection Tests**

In addition to a panel interview, depending on the type of role being recruited, selection tests can be used as part of the selection process e.g. professionally designed selection tests can provide an objective and relatively accurate way of assessing key skills which are difficult to measure in an interview. There are a variety of different techniques available to enable assessment of a wide range of skills and aptitudes at all levels.

Examples include:

- Group Selection Exercises.
- Involvement of Pupils.
- Oral Presentation Skills.
- In-Tray Exercises.
- Written Exercises.
- Verbal reasoning*.
- Checking skills.
- Numerical computation.
- Clarification.
- Personality and behaviour assessment*.

* It is advised that some of these techniques should only be used when it is essential to determine that a candidate has specific abilities, aptitudes or behaviour and should only be used and interpreted by qualified and experienced assessors.

4.7.10 Interview Panel

It is advised interview panels comprise of a minimum of 2 panel members, as this not only allows 1 person to observe and assess the candidate, and make notes, while the candidate responds to the question posed by the other panel member/s but prevents the potential for a 'hung panel' in the decision-making process. It also

reduces the possibility of any dispute about what was said or asked during the interview.

For some posts it can also be useful for other members of staff and Directors or Governors to meet the candidates and pupil involvement is recommended for teaching posts. This will ensure that the candidates are able to obtain a full view of the working environment and philosophy of the school while at the same time enables an assessment to be made of how candidates interact with various stakeholders. Only people involved in the selection process should be included in the final decision-making process.

4.7.11 Note taking

It is advised that notes are taken in relation to the candidates' responses/answers to questions and marked afterwards using the interview assessment form and Interview Summary Scoring form. An interview assessment form and interview summary scoring document can be found on the SEE website.

5. Post Interview - Provisional Job Offer & Pre-Employment checks

These will be conducted in line with current Trust practice

5.1 Offer Letter

The offer letter should contain the following information:

- Title of Post.
- Salary grade and its monetary value
- Full-time or, if part-time, the number of hours per week.
- Permanent or fixed term.
- Start date and, if fixed-term, the termination date and reason for the fixedterm nature of the post.
- Confirmation that a full Statement of Particulars will be issued by payroll provider in due course.
- A reminder, where appropriate, that the appointment is subject to satisfactory clearance by the disclosure procedure, medical clearance, confirmation of qualifications and satisfactory completion of a probationary period (applicable for non-teaching posts only).

Pre-employment checks are undertaken for all new appointments to ensure suitability for the role and to ensure the school complies with its legal duties.

5.2 **Identity Checks**

Proof of identity of a candidate and their eligibility to work in the UK **must** be

checked thoroughly to ensure they are who they claimed to be at interview.

If not already provided prior to interview the school should ensure the successful candidate provides this information before their appointment and start date is confirmed.

The following should be carried out:

- Check to confirm the documents are genuine, original, and unchanged and belong to the person who has given them to you.
- Check the person has the right to work in the UK and have permission to do the type of work being offered to them (including any limit on the number of hours they can work).
- For students, check for evidence of their study and vacation times.
- Check photos are the same across all documents and look like the applicant.
- Check the dates of birth are the same across all documents.
- If 2 documents give different names, check to see if the person has supporting documents showing why they're different, e.g. marriage certificate or divorce decree.

5.3 Educational & Professional Qualifications

Candidates should be asked to provide either originals or certified copies or a letter of confirmation from the awarding body confirming any educational and professional qualifications that are necessary or relevant for the post.

5.4 Full References

References are sought to aid the selection process and validate information given by the prospective employee. In addition, they can aid the assessment of a potential employee's character, honesty and reliability. They are particularly important in roles that involve 'regulated activities' with children or vulnerable adults as defined by the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006, as amended by the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012, or roles that are subject to National Minimum Standards or Quality Standards.

When the successful candidate has been offered and accepted the post the school should then request full references, where not previously obtained. The successful candidate should be informed that their appointment will not be confirmed, and a start date given until the school has received and verified all references and pre-employment checks. A template reference pro-forma can be found in Guidance for Schools on the SSE Website under Section 4c – Useful Forms and Templates.

5.5 **Referees**

Referees can be asked to return a reference via email for speed, however, the email address should be verified first to ensure it is a work email address. The Headteacher/Manager should also request that a hard copy is sent with a company stamp/compliment slip for authenticity.

At least 1 reference must be received from the current or most recent employer and should be written by the current or previous Manager, Supervisor or someone more senior than the successful candidate.

If the successful candidate does not have a current or previous employer a reference may be accepted from a previous educational establishment, a Job Centre contact or a personal contact who works as or has retired from a recognised profession or a 'person of good standing in the community' (see Examples of recognised professionals or a person of good standing in their community). In this case the reference does not need to be from a work email or with a company compliment slip, stamp or business card.

If the successful candidate was previously self-employed a reference may be accepted from a previous client or their accountant.

In normal circumstances, pre-written references or 'to whom it may concern' references will not be accepted without verification. However, an exception to this may be made if a previous employer has wound down or ceased to exist and has issued a pre-written reference to the employee at the end of the employment.

References received should be retained on the employees' centrally held file.

5.6 **DBS Disclosure**

Roles subject to DBS

- Two written references are required for all roles subject to DBS clearance. One reference must be obtained from the current/most recent employer. Verbal references cannot be accepted.
- Specific questions about the employees' suitability to work with children or vulnerable adults should be asked.
- The reason why the previous employment ended must be asked.
- A full employment history and written explanation of any gaps in employment is required.

Roles not requiring a DBS

 Two written references must be obtained. One reference must be obtained from the current/most recent employer. Verbal references cannot be accepted.

5.7 **Starting Salaries for Internal/External Appointments**

Teachers

There is no automatic portability of pay assumed when determining salary for newly appointed teachers. However, when determining the remuneration of a teacher, the Headteacher and/or Local Governing Body must consider the Trust's pay policy and the teacher's particular post within its staffing structure. (Section 3.1 of School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document).

Support Staff

Internally Appointed Candidates (Grade 17 – 9)

In accordance with the Trust salary policy, on promotion it is advised that the candidate is appointed to the minimum point on the scale. If there are special circumstances where a Headteacher considers that an increase in excess of the minimum is merited, then it is advised they obtain agreement from Chief Financial Officer prior to any formal offer is made to the candidate. Reference should always be made to the school pay policy.

Externally Appointed Candidates (Grade 17 – 9)

It is advised that the starting salary of an externally appointed candidate is made at the minimum point on the scale. However, Headteachers do have the discretion to pay at a point within this scale if the candidate is already paid on a higher salary or where their experience is beneficial to the school. It is advised they obtain agreement from the trust prior to any formal offer is made to the candidate, and this should be covered in the trust's pay policy.

Internally and Externally Appointed Candidates (Grade 4 – 8)

For Grades 4 – 8 spot salary applies

Apprentices

The Trust has determined that employees appointed as Apprentices will be paid the NMW rate for Apprentices for the first 12 months of employment. They will then be paid the National Minimum Wage (NMW) for their age. Should trainees successfully attain a substantive post, their salary would then reflect the grade for the post.

Schools are able to pay an appropriate rate taking into account the NMW and the grade applicable to the post.

5.8 **Medical Clearance**

Under no circumstances should a new member of staff be allowed to commence employment in a school until they have been deemed medically fit for post.

Short Pre-employment Health Questionnaire

The successful candidate should be asked to complete a short preemployment medical questionnaire (the baseline health questionnaire can be obtained from the Trust's advisory service).

Candidates for crossing patrol and driver posts must undergo a more in-depth health assessment and should be referred to occupational health. The Recruiting Manager should select pre-employment screening on the OH Portal when making the referral.

Information about the assessment process can be obtained from the Trust's advisory service

Full Pre-Employment Health

If the prospective employee has answered "yes" to any of the questions on the short pre-employment medical questionnaire and not provided enough information in the questionnaire for the school to determine if they consider them as medically fit to start in post then they **must** then be referred to the school's occupational health occupational health provider for further assessment. Once referred occupational health will review the referral and may ask the prospective employee to complete a full medical questionnaire online. This will only be seen by nurses or doctors employed by the occupational Health provider, who will send the prospective employee an e-mail to start this process.

5.9 **Retention of Recruitment Paperwork**

Unsuccessful Candidates

The recommended retention period for recruitment application forms and interview notes for unsuccessful candidates is 6 months to a year from the date of application as there will usually be no need for it to retain the data other than to defend any claims of discrimination that may result. The time limit for discrimination claims is three months but taking into account a potential extension under the rules on early conciliation, it could be around five months before the employer hears of the claim against it.

Successful Candidates

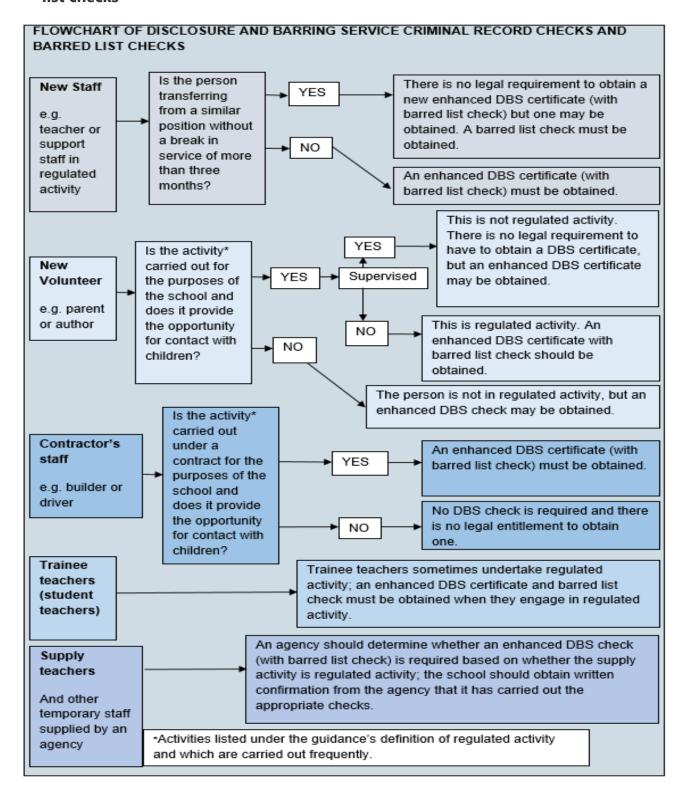
For successful candidates some of the recruitment documents will transfer to their personnel file. However, only data that is necessary for the ongoing employment relationship should be retained and the school must be able to identify the legal basis for retaining it. The school is likely to have a valid reason for retaining most of the data in relation to the successful candidate gathered during the recruitment exercise. As well as containing the new employee's personal details, the employee's application form will provide an important record of the qualifications and experience that the employee states they have which may be important evidence if there is a later dispute about the capabilities of the employee or if the employer needs to demonstrate that due care was taken in selecting an appropriately qualified applicant. Notes made during the interview process may be important for the same reason and may also demonstrate just what the prospective employee was told about the nature of the work. Again, this may be important evidence if there is a dispute further down the line.

6. Unsuccessful Candidates - Delivering the outcome and providing feedback

It is recommended unsuccessful candidates are informed verbally of the outcome if this is possible and also offered the option to receive feedback on their interview, if they would like it.

The recruiting manager may also want to consider delaying informing unsuccessful candidates of the outcome until the successful candidate has accepted the post, if the unsuccessful candidate/s would have also been suitable for appointment.

Flowchart of Disclosure and Barring Service criminal record checks and barred list checks



Right to Work Checks using Original Documents

The right to work checks can be completed using documents from List A, List B, Group 1 and List B, Group 2.

List A – acceptable documents to establish a continuous statutory excuse

- 1. A passport (current or expired) showing the holder, or a person named in the passport as the child of the holder, is a British citizen or a citizen of the UK and Colonies having the right of abode in the UK.
- 2. A passport or passport card (current or expired) showing that the holder is a national of the Republic of Ireland.
- 3. A current document issued by the Home Office to a family member of an EEA or Swiss citizen, and which indicates that the holder is permitted to stay in the United Kingdom indefinitely.
- 4. A document issued by the Bailiwick of Jersey, the Bailiwick of Guernsey or the Isle of Man, which has been verified as valid by the Home Office Employer Checking Service, showing that the holder has been granted unlimited leave to enter or remain under Appendix EU to the Jersey Immigration Rules, Appendix EU to the Immigration (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Rules 2008 or Appendix EU to the Isle of Man Immigration Rules.
- 5. A current Biometric Immigration Document (Biometric Residence Permit) issued by the Home Office to the holder indicating that the person named is allowed to stay indefinitely in the UK or has no time limit on their stay in the UK.
- 6. A current passport endorsed to show that the holder is exempt from immigration control, is allowed to stay indefinitely in the UK, has the right of abode in the UK, or has no time limit on their stay in the UK.
- 7. A current Immigration Status Document issued by the Home Office to the holder with an endorsement indicating that the named person is allowed to stay indefinitely in the UK, or has no time limit on their stay in the UK, together with an official document giving the person's permanent National Insurance number and their name issued by a government agency or a previous employer.

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- 8. A birth or adoption certificate issued in the UK, together with an official document giving the person's permanent National Insurance number and their name issued by a government agency or a previous employer.
- 9. A birth or adoption certificate issued in the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or Ireland, together with an official document giving the person's permanent National Insurance number and their name issued by a government agency or a previous employer.
- 10. A certificate of registration or naturalisation as a British citizen, together with an official document giving the person's permanent National Insurance number and their name issued by a government agency or a previous employer.

List B Group 1 – documents where a time-limited statutory excuse lasts until the expiry date of leave

- 1. A current passport endorsed to show that the holder is allowed to stay in the UK and is currently allowed to do the type of work in question.
- 2. A current Biometric Immigration Document (Biometric Residence Permit) issued by the Home Office to the holder which indicates that the named person can currently stay in the UK and is allowed to do the work in question.
- 3. A current document issued by the Home Office to a family member of an EEA or Swiss citizen, and which indicates that the holder is permitted to stay in the United Kingdom for a time limited period and to do the type of work in question.
- 4. A document issued by the Bailiwick of Jersey, the Bailiwick of Guernsey or the Isle of Man, which has been verified as valid by the Home Office Employer Checking Service, showing that the holder has been granted limited leave to enter or remain under Appendix EU to the Jersey Immigration Rules, Appendix EU to the Immigration (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Rules 2008 or Appendix EU to the Isle of Man Immigration Rules.
- 5. A document issued by the Bailiwick of Jersey or the Bailiwick of Guernsey, which has been verified as valid by the Home Office Employer Checking Service, showing that the holder has made an application for leave to enter or remain under Appendix EU to the

- Jersey Immigration Rules or Appendix EU to the Immigration (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Rules 2008, on or before 30th June 2021.
- 6. A frontier worker permit issued under regulation 8 of the Citizens' Rights (Frontier Workers) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020.
- 7. A current Immigration Status Document containing a photograph issued by the Home Office to the holder with a valid endorsement indicating that the named person may stay in the UK, and is allowed to do the type of work in question, together with an official document giving the person's permanent National Insurance number and their name issued by a government agency or a previous employer.

List B Group 2 – documents where a time-limited statutory excuse lasts for six months

- 1. A document issued by the Home Office showing that the holder has made an application for leave to enter or remain under Appendix EU to the immigration rules (known as the EU Settlement Scheme) on or before 30th June 2021 together with a Positive Verification Notice from the Home Office Employer Checking Service.
- 2. A document issued by the Bailiwick of Jersey or the Bailiwick of Guernsey showing that the holder has made an application for leave to enter or remain under Appendix EU to the Jersey Immigration Rules or Appendix EU to the Immigration (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Rules 2008 on or before 30th June 2021 together with a Positive Verification Notice from the Home Office Employer Checking Service.
- 3. An Application Registration Card issued by the Home Office stating that the holder is permitted to take the employment in question, together with a Positive Verification Notice from the Home Office Employer Checking Service.
- 4. A Positive Verification Notice issued by the Home Office Employer Checking Service to the employer or prospective employer, which indicates that the named person may stay in the UK and is permitted to do the work in question

Please also refer to <u>Checking a job applicant's right to work - GOV.UK</u> (<u>www.gov.uk</u>) for further information.

Appendix 3

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Job	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal	Brief Purpose of Job
Number	•		Column	·
			Points	
				and/or office administration
				background with which to
				influence decisions and
				communicate to Headteacher,
				governing bodies and LA's etc.
				Responsible for the line management of a team covering
				all administrative and premises
				duties.
N1759	Includes	12	12-19	Reports to Headteacher
				Business Manager/Office Manager/School
				Administrator/Admin Officer
	Business			Small/medium sized primary school
	Manager/Office			with up to 200 pupils.
	Manager/School			To ensure the smooth day to day
	Administrator/Admin			operation of the school, with efficient and effective administrative processes
	Officer			and procedures and a fully functional
	Officer			premises support, maintaining
				standards appropriate to the school
				requirements. Produces reports
	Small/medium sized			(administrative and financial) and statistics on a regular basis to inform
	primary school with up			decision making within the school and
	to 200 pupils.			governor committees. Ensures the
				availability of supplies (e.g. fuel,
				cleaning, school consumables), and
				that Health and Safety requirements are met. Provides local advice and
				guidance on ICT issues.
				Jobs at this level
				Responsible for the line management
				of a team covering both administrative
				and premises duties. Works in a general framework of recognised
				procedures and provides advice and
				guidance within these established
				general frameworks. Make decisions
				affecting the school, based on own
				understanding of problem, from within the range of choices covered by these
				frameworks.
				Regularly redefine others' priorities in
				order to achieve deadlines in place.
				Requires a good standard of practical experience and skill level gained from
				several years financial or
				administrative experience in a
				supervisory capacity.
AG0249	Includes	13	6-11	Reports to Headteacher
		<u> </u>		

Job	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal	Brief Purpose of Job
Number	·		Column	·
			Points	
				Office Manager/BA to
				Office Manager/PA to Headteacher/Admin Officer
	Office Manager/PA			Provide a comprehensive and
	to Headteacher/			confidential financial and
				administrative support to the
	Finance Officer/Admin			Headteacher, and possible
	Officer			supervision of a team within the
				administration, receptionist, library or
				welfare etc field of activity. May also include the Clerk to
	NB - This level would			Governors responsibility.
				Finance Officer
	also include a number of			Provide an efficient administration of
	differing job titles			the policies and procedures (primarily
	around the same group			but not exclusively) of the Finance
	of job responsibilities			Function. Maintain accurate
	although the precise			computer records, accounts. Provide accurate financial reports for
	combination can vary			other/senior management for approval
	considerably.			or information.
	,			Jobs at this level
				 May have a supervision
				responsibility for others work
				(possibly a small clerical team or
				day to day deployment of cleaners), would work within
				described procedures, but needs
				to deal with regular day to day
				problems, which will involve giving
				advice and guidance and/or
				assistance. Correct decisions will
				be from a range of established
				alternatives relating to their work,
				and which will have a longer-term effect on the operation of the
				school.
				 Regularly redefine own and possibly
				others' priorities in order to achieve
				deadlines in place. Require a good
				standard of practical experience
				gained from several years experience
				in area of activity to be applied to a
				range of more involved tasks in an
				area of activity.
AG0250	Includes	14	4-6	Reports to Headteacher or
				Business/Office Manager
				Finance Assistant
				Maintain record of income and expenditure, and provides information
				for financial decision making.
				Receive, check, record, balance, and
				prepare for banking money collected
				prepare for banking money collected

Job Number	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal Column Points	Brief Purpose of Job
	Finance Assistant/School Secretary/Receptionist/ Admin Officer NB - This level would also include a number of differing job titles around the same group of job responsibilities although the precise combination can vary considerably.			by school. Process and despatch authorised orders, match signed delivery notes and report on potential overspends. Deals with all items of day to day financial process. School Secretary Provide a comprehensive and confidential secretarial/administrative support to the Headteacher, or a more general support to the Senior Management team of the school. Receptionist Undertake receptionist duties, provide the first line contact between school and community, and administer the school diary for events eg lettings etc. Jobs at this level Would not be responsible for the work of others. Would work within prescribed procedures, deal with day to day problems, exchanging information, which may need some more detailed explanation, and often provide advice and guidance. Correct decisions will be from a range of established alternatives relating to their work, and which will have an effect on the running of the school. Can determine own priorities in order to achieve deadlines, but will expect guidance to resolve a high incidence of conflicting priorities. Need to be able to operate independently and accurately a range of readily understood rules, and procedures or techniques.
PA007	Includes	15	3-4	Reports to Headteacher or Business/Office Manager/Admin Officer.
	Administrative/Clerical Assistant/Receptionist			Administrative/Clerical Assistant Administrative support service undertaking data entry/extraction, or other general administrative duties. Generate standard reports for general management information. Complete numerous forms, statistical returns providing data and information to other groups/LEA governors. May be relief

Job	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal	Brief Purpose of Job
Number			Column	
			Points	
				telephonist, maintain the filing system or
				deal with incoming post etc.
				Receptionist
				Undertake receptionist duties, providing
				the first line of contact between school
				and community, and undertakes some
				administrative duties.
				Jobs at this level
N1201	Clerk to Governors	13	6-11	 Would not be responsible for the work of others. Would work within prescribed procedures, but need to deal with day to day problems, exchange information, which may need some straightforward explanation. Correct decisions will be from a range of established alternatives relating to their work. Role involves a high number of interruptions, can often determine own priorities to achieve deadlines, but will be expected to seek guidance to resolve conflicting priorities. Need to be able to operate a range of readily understood rules, and procedures or techniques. Reports to Chair of Governors
				Clerk to Governors
				Responsible for advising the board on
				constitutional matters, duties and
				powers and will work within the broad
				current legislative framework. Secures
				the continuity of board business and
				observe confidentiality requirements.

Job	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal	Brief Purpose of Job
Number			Column Points	
CLASSRO	 OM SUPPORT			
PC002	Includes	13	6-11	Reports to Headteacher/Business Manager
	ICT/Network Manager/Senior ICT Technician			ICT/Network Manager/Senior ICT Technician Jobs at this level
	Very large primary school (above 350 pupils)			 Work within the guidelines established by the school/line management, the equipment or manufactures recommendations, providing advice and guidance on the appropriate solution, provide assistance in resolving problems, calling on expert advice if necessary. Make decisions affecting their own function or department, based on analysis of problem and the general guidelines/instructions available. Regularly has to resolve priorities. Needs specific knowledge of systems/hardware and software and the ability to apply and communicate this information to users. Decisions taken will have an effect of the operation of the school and in particular the teaching assistance to pupils. No direct staff supervisory responsibility. Budget responsibility will normally be shared and not fully delegated.
PC003	Technicians	14	4-6	Reports to Headteacher/Business Manager/ICT Manager/Senior Technician
				 Technicians Jobs at this level Work in a specific subject or across many subjects within the guidelines established by the school/line management, the equipment or manufacturers

Job	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal	Brief Purpose of Job
Number	·		Column	
			Points	
PC004	Includes	15	3-4	recommendations, providing straight forward demonstrations which may lead to further requirements, provide assistance in resolving first level problems, calling on expert advice if necessary. Make decisions affecting their own function, department or pupil, based on analysis of problem and the general guidelines/instructions available. • Regularly has to resolve priorities. • Require practical knowledge and skills across a field of knowledge in order to offer assistance to the teachers and pupils in the development of their knowledge. Reports to Office Manager/Business Manager/Senior Technician
	Technicians/Reprographic/Resources Technicians			Technicians Under specific instruction/guidance provide the appropriate basic equipment and resources necessary and ensure they are available to a safe and satisfactory standard to support student learning in a safe working environment. Resources /Reprographics Technician Provide an efficient and effective reprographics service in the collation and reproduction of material for use within and external to the school operation. Maintain the equipment (e.g. TV/videos, OHP's, cameras etc) to the required standard and identify faults to-and the appropriate action to Senior management. Complete appropriate administration for facility e.g. monthly accounts Jobs at this level

Job Number	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal Column Points	Brief Purpose of Job
				 Work in a specific subject or across a number of subjects within the guidelines established by the school/line management, the equipment or manufactures recommendations, providing straight forward demonstrations which may lead to further requirements, provide assistance in resolving first level problems, calling on others for advice. Make decisions affecting their own function, guided by general guidelines/instructions available. Usually a physically demanding job with frequent instances where manual handling etc techniques need to be deployed to reduce risks of physical injury. Need to be able to operate a range of readily understood rules, and procedures or techniques.

Job	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal	Brief Purpose of Job
Number			Column Points	
			Tomes	
PREMISES	SUPPORT			
PP002	Includes	13	6-11	Reports to Headteacher/Business
				Manager/Office Manager
				Site Manager/Senior
	Site Manager/Senior Caretaker/Caretaker			<u>Caretaker/Caretaker</u>
	caretakery caretaker			Provide advice and guidance on daily
	Large – very large			maintenance issues. Secure and
	sized primary school			maintain the school's grounds,
	with 200 -350 + pupils			buildings and furnishings to standards
				defined by the school, Trust, and legal requirements. Supervise, monitor
				performance of and allocate duties to
				cleaners/assistant caretaker/grounds
				staff. Provide the support service in
				respect of lettings as and when
				appropriate, ensuring layouts are appropriate and fit for use.
				appropriate and fit for use.
				Jobs at this level
				 Work within prescribed procedures, but needs to deal with day to day problems, which will involve giving advice and guidance and/or assistance. Correct decisions will be from a range of established alternatives relating to their work, and which will have some effect on the school's operation. Responsible for the general maintenance of and securing of buildings, vehicles, and the safe and proper use of equipment in regular use, ensuring safety and service levels are maintained. Recommend purchases of high value items to senior management. Usually a physically demanding job with frequent instances where manual handling etc techniques need to be deployed to reduce risks of physical injury. Need to be able to operate a range of readily

Job	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal	Brief Purpose of Job
Number	·		Column	
			Points	
				understood rules, and procedures
				or techniques.
PP003	Caretaker	14	4-6	Reports to Headteacher/Business
				Manager/Office Manager/Site
				Manager/ Senior Caretaker
				<u>Caretakers</u>
				Deals with the daily maintenance
				issues of the school site. Secure and
				maintain the school's grounds,
				buildings and furnishings to standards
				defined by the school, Trust and legal
				requirements. Take delivery, check
				and store deliveries. Layout rooms as
				required for general and specific
				purposes, including those associated
				with lettings.
				With rectangs.
				May monitor the work of contract
				cleaners and report on quality of work
				through the appropriate channels.
				Responsible for the general
				maintenance of and securing of
				buildings, vehicles, and the safe and
				proper use of equipment in regular
				use, ensuring safety and service levels
				are maintained. Recommend
				purchases of items to senior
				management.
				Jobs at this level
				Work within proporihad
				Work within prescribed procedures, but needs to
				respond to day to day
				problems, which will involve
				giving advice and guidance
				and/or assistance. Correct decisions will be from a range
				of established alternatives
				relating to their work, and which
				may have some immediate
				effect on the school operation.
				Usually a physically demanding job
				with frequent instances where
				manual handling etc techniques

Job	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal	Brief Purpose of Job
Number			Column	
			Points	
				need to be deployed to reduce risks of physical injury. Need to be able to operate a range of readily understood rules, and procedures or techniques.
PP004	Includes	15	3-4	Reports to Headteacher/Business
				Manager/Office Manager/Site
				Manager/Senior Caretaker/Caretaker
	Caretaker/Assistant			Caretaker/Assistant Caretaker
	Caretaker			Undertake a range of maintenance/decoration/minor repair duties to buildings and grounds. Handles pre-planned maintenance, which does not involve specialist knowledge. Carries out ground work required at the school, maintains all machinery in operational and safe condition, cleans the external areas of the school and ensures a safe and clean environment for pupils. Maintain an inventory of stock and refer purchase requirements through appropriate channels. Carries out ground maintenance work required at the school, maintains all machinery in operational and safe condition, cleans the external areas of the school and ensures a safe and clean environment for pupils. Jobs at this level Work within prescribed procedures, but needs to deal with day to day problems, which will involve passing straightforward information or advice/assistance. Correct decisions will be from a range of established alternatives relating to their work, and which will have some but limited effect on the school operation. Usually a physically demanding job with frequent instances where manual handling etc techniques need to be deployed to reduce risks of physical injury, with a high degree of external working

Job Number	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal Column Points	Brief Purpose of Job
				requirement. Need to be able to operate a range of readily understood rules, and procedures or techniques.
PP005	Crossing Patrol	16	7-8	Reports to Headteacher/Business Manager/Office Manager
				Jobs at this level:
				To provide daily care, support and a safe environment for pupils by:
				 ensuing safety and good kerb drill in the crossing of roads outside the school; providing a safe well-defined
				crossing position outside the school; maintaining a clear and
				unobstructed area of road outside the school;
				 ensuring the proper procedure is following in halting traffic flow for safety of students and drivers.
PP006	Cleaner	17	1	Reports to Business/Office/Site Manager, School Administrator or Caretaker.
				Cleaner
				Clean the school to the appropriate specification as indicated by school/LEA and Health and Safety requirements. Complete the appropriate documentation for purposes of Health and Safety.
				 Jobs at this level Do not have supervisory responsibility although they may assist with the induction of new employees to familiarise the day to day activities. Have a clear day to day programme, within which
				they may exchange some straightforward information, referring any questions outside their day to day activities or
				requests for purchase or replacement equipment to the supervision. Uses machinery/equipment allocated,
				and reports faults through the appropriate channel.

Job	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal	Brief Purpose of Job
Number			Column Points	
				Usually a physically demanding job with frequent instances where manual handling etc techniques need to be deployed to reduce risks of physical injury. Able to operate independently after an initial induction and explanation of the day to days, equipment and Health and Safety guidance.
Job	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal	Brief Purpose of Job
Number			Column	
			Points	
LEARNING	S SUPPORT			
PL004	Includes	15	3-4	Provides support to management in
. 200				the day-to-day running of a
				Library/Information Centre. Assist
				students and staff. Deal with
	Library Assistant/			issue/returns/reservations. Maintain
	Information/Resource			records. Undertake repairs. Assist
	Centre Assistant			Manager in displays/events. Assist in
				development and use of ICT. Good
				GCSE standard with some library
				experience.
				схрепенее.
PL005	Includes	15	3-4	Under the specific guidance and
				direction of the teacher:
				1. Deliver learning support
	Classroom Assistant			individually and in groups
	Looming Cumpant			through a range of tasks, for
	Learning Support Assistant			example: - Supporting literacy and
	Assistant			numeracy tasks, clarifying and
	Teaching Assistant			explaining instructions
				- Focusing support in areas needing improvement, both
				needing improvement, both academic and social
				- Supporting pupils to use ICT and
				other equipment to enhance
				learning - Motivating and encouraging
				pupils to concentrate and to fulfill tasks
				2. Undertake learning activities
				with pupils of varying abilities to
				ensure differentiation and
				access to the curriculum.

Job	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal	Brief Purpose of Job
Number			Column	
			Points	
				 Promote and reinforce pupils' self-esteem, appropriate behavior and levels of effort. Assist teaching staff in the development of learning strategies by the preparation of resources and maintaining a safe and suitable learning environment. provide care and supervision of pupils within the classroom, within the school and, where appropriate, outside the school. There will be a requirement to work with pupils, either individually or in groups, who have some special educational needs, learning difficulty, or who exhibit occasional behavioral problems.
N1635	Higher Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA)	12	12-19	To complement the professional work of teachers by taking responsibility for delegated learning activities under an agreed system of supervision. This involves a contribution to the planning and preparing of lessons, within a framework set by the assigned qualified teacher, delivering learning activities for individuals/groups or whole classes without the presence of the teacher and monitoring pupils by assessing, recording and reporting their achievements, progress and development. "Specified work" that HLTA's can undertake under the supervision of a qualified teacher is defined in Section 133 of the Education Act 2002 as being these activities: (a) planning and preparing lessons and courses for pupils;

Job	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal	Brief Purpose of Job
Number			Column Points	
				This includes delivery via distance learning for computer aided techniques; (c) assessing the development, progress and attainment of pupils; and (d) reporting on the development, progress and attainment of pupils.
PL010	Senior Learning Support Assistant/Learning Support Assistant/Teaching Assistant/Home/School Liaison Officer	13	6-11	 Under the guidance and direction of the teacher and/or SENCO: Deliver learning support individually and in groups through a range of tasks Undertake learning activities with pupils of varying abilities to ensure access to learning and to the curriculum Promote and reinforce pupils' selfesteem, appropriate effort and behaviour and to guide pupils to become independent learners Assist teaching staff in the development and achievement of individual and group learning strategies. Prepare resources and maintain a safe and suitable learning environment. Participate in the assessment and appraisal processes concerning learning strategies and initiatives Provide care and supervision of pupils within the learning environment and outside of the establishment or school There will be a requirement to support pupils with significant to intensive challenges on both a one-to-one and group basis. Pupils will not be easily engaged and significant creativity and initiative are required. There will often be a need to make immediate decisions without referral to others to

Job Number	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal Column Points	Brief Purpose of Job
				care for the needs of pupils with substantial emotional or behavioral difficulties. Substantial physical effort is required and there is a regular physical risk in dealing with aggressive behaviour. Regular contact with Health Service professional(s) and others assessing pupil progress etc. Requires good standard of education and a significant empathy and understanding of pupils with significant additional educational needs. Requires specialist training to NVQ3 level and beyond to meet the exceptional learning needs of the client group.
PL008	Senior Learning Support Assistant/Learning Support Assistant/Teaching Assistant	14	4-6	In partnership with teaching staff will manage, with significant independence, a whole school cross curricular learning support strategy (eg Additional Literacy Strategy, ICT) or facility (Nursery, Library, Movement and Coordination). • Will identify, develop and/or acquire materials and equipment to support the strategy or activity. • Will liaise with suppliers and users on the effective use of materials. • Will deliver teaching (learning support to individuals or groups of pupils) and is responsible for pace of progress and achievement of learning objectives. Will liaise with teachers and parents on results of learning interventions and initiatives. • Will work with teachers on curriculum planning and assess the progress made. • Will require significant knowledge and understanding of the curriculum area concerned.

Job	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal	Brief Purpose of Job
Number	·		Column	·
			Points	
				Will require educational competence to A level standard plus specific training (e.g. NNEB) and development in delivering teaching and learning strategies.
PL009	Senior Learning Support Assistant/Learning Support Assistant/Classroom Assistant/Teaching Assistant	14	4-6	 Within a defined faculty base, work with considerable independence under the broad supervision of the Head(s) of Faculty and in partnership with teaching staff to develop and implement with individuals or groups of pupils, schemes of work to support key teaching/learning strategies e.g. literacy strategy at English Key Stage 3 etc. Will ensure a differentiated approach to learning and will procure or develop teaching aids and/or materials to sustain differentiated strands of study for groups of pupils. Will liaise with teaching staff to ensure integration of study into the broad stream curriculum. Will require significant knowledge and understanding of the curriculum area concerned. Will require an educational competence to A level standard plus specific training and development in delivering teaching and learning strategies.
PL013	Includes	15	3-4	strategies. As per PL011 and also:
	Senior Midday Supervisor/ Midday Supervisor with special duties			Senior Midday Supervisor Supervises the work a small number of lunchtime supervisors ensuring that any immediate issues are dealt with promptly and efficiently without resort to management or teachers within the school. Reports to the Headteacher on a daily basis on the general conduct over the lunch period. Any major issues or incidents are automatically referred upwards. Liaises directly with

Job	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal	Brief Purpose of Job
Number			Column	
			Points	
				Headteacher over work rotas and timetables to ensure appropriate
				cover is maintained.
				Midday Supervisor with special duties
				Support pupils on a one-to-one or group basis, where pupils have difficulty in eating. There will often be a need to make immediate decisions without referral to others to care for the needs of pupils with substantial emotional or behavioral difficulties. There may also be a requirement to help with medical conditions, requiring some understanding of medical procedures. Substantial physical effort is required and there is a regular physical risk in dealing with aggressive
PL011	Includes	16	2	behavior. To provide daily care, support and a
			_	safe environment for students by:
	Midday Supervisor/ Lunchtime Supervisor			 ensuring the dining hall is ready and cleared for school use in the afternoon encouraging appropriate eating and ensuring appropriate behaviour following current procedure where a student conflict arises and understanding the appropriate course of action in case of injury challenge unauthorised entry to school and report to a senior member of staff ensuring and encouraging safe play in the playground ensuring safety and good kerb drill in the crossing of roads outside the school provide a safe well-defined crossing position outside the school.

Job Number	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal Column	Brief Purpose of Job
			Points	
				 maintain a clear and unobstructed area of road outside the school ensure the proper procedure is followed in halting traffic flow for safety of students and drivers. The job requires experience of working with students and a range of interpersonal skills and an understanding of when and how to intervene.
PL020	School Counsellor	12	12-19	Reports to Headteacher/member of management team Provides a confidential school based counseling service for students and staff. Liaises with other agencies, and/or specialists in cases of referrals, following obtaining appropriate authorization (e.g. Parents in the case of students). Identifies common sources of concern or problems leading to the need for counseling and advises the Headteacher on these general areas maintaining confidentiality at all times. Maintains confidential case records and continuously reviews and evaluates the service provided and attends case conferences. Due to the range of issues that can arise through this counseling facility, knowledge and skills would need to include a Diploma in Counseling, or certificate in Adolescent Counseling, BACP Accreditation, and a thorough knowledge of the Children Act, Child Protection Procedures, the Code of Ethics and Practice etc.

Job Number	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal Column	Brief Purpose of Job
Number			Points	
N1758	Parent Family Support Adviser (PFSA)	12	12-19	Reports to Headteacher/member of management team Job Purpose To provide advice and guidance to school or groups of schools, families, parents and pupils to encourage their involvement in the school environment and thereby encourage the positive participation of pupils in the learning environment of the school, and improve the learning opportunities for those students. To investigate the circumstance behind absence or investigate the circumstances contributing or causing children to be unable to make best use of time at school and, if appropriate, help resolve difficulties and identify areas that may be of concern soon and common events or environmental information common to all. Enable the focus of attention on likely causes to provide a preventative option for the school and other agencies.
	Cook	15	3-4	Reports to Business Manager/Office Manager Job Purpose To plan menu's, purchase and prepare food. To implement and maintain high standards of kitchen cleanliness in accordance with Health and Safety and Food Hygiene guidelines.
	Kitchen/Catering Assistant	16	2	Reports to Cook/Business Manager/Office Manager/Administrator

Job Number	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal Column Points	Brief Purpose of Job
				Job Purpose To assist with the preparation and serving of meals, including basic food preparation. To comply with regulations and good practice regarding the safe handling of food, equipment use and cleaning. To clean kitchen equipment, floors, surfaces, cupboards and storage areas as required, in accordance with laid down procedures, practices and frequencies. To undertake duties in the dining areas, including setting tables, clearing away and dishwashing.
N1627	Nursery Manager/Preschool Manager	12	12-19	Reports to Headteacher/member of leadership team Jobs at this level Responsible for managing the delivery of a high quality, inclusive, fully integrated nursery/pre-school provision. Works in partnership with staff, parents, carers and their children to adopt a flexible, professional approach in promoting the development, welfare and potential of all children attending the nursery/pre-school setting. Ensures that the setting is adequately staffed at all times and meets the prescriptive legislative requirements and Quality Assurance standards. Manages the deployment of all nursery/pre-school staff and ensures that regular staff meetings are held. Line-manages up to 7 posts, some non-childcare, ensuring their

Job	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal	Brief Purpose of Job
Number			Column	·
			Points	
				continued professional
				development and that staff work to
				deliver agreed outcomes for
				individual children.
N1641	Includes	14	4-6	Reports to Nursery Manager/member
				of leadership team
				Jobs at this level
	Nursery Supervisor/Pre-			
	School Supervisor/			As per Grade 15 Nursery Assistant role
	Breakfast Club/After			plus:
	School Club Supervisor			Assist management in the delivery of a
				high quality, inclusive, fully integrated
				childcare provision for children under
				five.
				Work in partnership with staff,
				parents, carers and their children and
				adopt a flexible, professional approach
				in promoting the development,
				welfare and potential of all children
				attending the childcare/pre-school
				setting.
				Assists the Nursery/Pre-School
				Manager with the operational
				management of the setting.
				Oversees the work of specific nursery
				staff, to ensure childcare provision
				links to the Foundation Stage
				Curriculum and relevant planning.
				Manages at least 1 member of
				nursery/pre-school staff
N1617	Includes	15	3-4	Reports to Nursery
				Manager/Supervisor
				Job Purpose To work within established
	Nursery Assistant/Pre-			childcare standards and local
	School Assistant/			policies to ensure that individual children's daily childcare needs are
	Brookfast Club / After			met at all times.
	Breakfast Club/After School Club Assistant			Will have responsibility for a
	School Club Assistalit			number of children, working in partnership with families, ensuring
	l .]	j	partificionip with families, ensuming

Job Number	Example Job Title	Grade	Spinal Column Points	Brief Purpose of Job
				that individual children's childcare needs are met at all times. Requires an appropriate level 3 qualification, such as NVQ 3.
N1642	Nursery Nurse Assistant/ Nursery Assistant/Pre- School Assistant/ After School Club Assistant	16	2	Reports to Nursery Supervisor To work within established childcare standards and local policies to ensure that individual children's daily childcare needs are met at all times. Normally unqualified/apprentice level.