



Safer Recruitment Policy

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Governing Body of Wallace Road Nursery School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and require all staff and volunteers to demonstrate this commitment in every aspect of their work

The Governing Body regards its staff as its most important asset. It is the policy of the Governing Body to ensure an adequate supply of suitably qualified and experienced staff to meet the school's human resource requirements and to deliver the school improvement plan.

- 1.2 The appointment of all employees at Wallace Road Nursery School will be made on merit and in accordance with the provisions of Employment Law, the Education Act 2002, the School Staffing (England) Regulations 2003 and the statutory guidance, *Safeguarding Children and Keeping Children Safe in Education* and the college's Equal Opportunities policy.
- 1.3 The Governing Body will ensure that people are treated solely on the basis of their abilities and potential, regardless of race, colour, nationality, ethnic origin, religious or political belief or affiliation, trade union membership, age, gender, gender reassignment, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, socio-economic background, or any other inappropriate distinction
- 1.4 The procedure for the appointment of the Head teacher or Deputy Head teacher differs from that of other staff. The procedure is in Appendix 1.

2. Delegation of Appointments

- 2.1 The Governing Body delegates all support staff appointments and all teaching appointments below the Head to the Head teacher. The Head teacher is expected to involve at least one member of the Governing Body in all appointments, except where indicated in 2.4 below, and governors who wish to be considered for involvement will be expected to undertake recruitment selection training, including "Safer Recruitment" training, at the earliest opportunity.
- 2.2 No governor is to be excluded from being involved in staff appointments unless there is a conflict between the interests of the governor and the interests of the governing body.
- 2.3 A selection panel will be drawn from all governors who have undertaken recruitment training and who have advised the Clerk to the Governors of his/her wish to be involved in staff appointments as required by the Head teacher.

- 2.4 Governors must be involved with the appointment of Head teacher, Teacher or Business manager. All other appointments can be carried out by the Headteacher and one other member of staff. Interview panel must consist of at least two people. At least one person on the interviewing panel must have Safer Recruitment training.

4. Information for Applicants

All applicants for all vacant posts advertised internally or externally will be provided with:

- 4.1 A Job Description outlining the duties of the post and an indication of where the post fits into the organisational structure of the School.
- 4.2 A Person Specification indicating the qualifications, skills and types of experience or expertise which the Governing Body regard as essential or desirable in relation to the job.
- 4.3 An Application Form.
- 4.4 Information about the School and Other General Information:
- a description of the school relevant to the vacant post.
 - a statement about access to the school for applicants who may wish to see it or who may wish to consult the Head teacher before making an application.
 - a statement that canvassing any member of staff, or member of the Governing Body, directly or indirectly, is prohibited and will be considered a disqualification.
 - reference to the school's policy on Equal and Diversity.
 - reference to the legislation concerning the Protection of Children.
 - the name of any person who will be available to provide additional information about the post.
 - the closing date for the receipt of applications.
 - salary level of the post.

5. Short Listing

- 5.1 For all posts outside of the leadership group short listing will be the responsibility of the Head teacher and any other members of the interview panel. All members of interview panel must shortlist.
- 5.2 The selection panel will take up two references on each short listed candidate. For teaching posts the references will, where appropriate, include the applicant's current Head teacher or LA.
- 5.3 References shall be taken up by the person delegated to receive the application. References are the "property" of the selection panel and

strict confidentiality will be observed. References will be sought set against the requirement of the job description and person specification and information regarding issues relating to child protection.

- 5.4 Short listing will be based only on substantial information. The **job description** and the **person specification** will be used to set the criteria and standards for inclusion on the long list and for reducing this to the shortlist of candidates to be invited for interview.
- 5.5 The criteria for selection will be consistently applied to all applicants.
- 5.6 If the field of applicants is felt to be weak the post may be re-advertised.

6. Interviews

- 6.1 The format, style and duration of the interviews are matters for the Head teacher in consultation with those involved in the process to decide but the following will be adhered to:
 - 6.1.1 Briefing:

All candidates will be given relevant information about the school to enable the candidate to make further enquiries about the advertised job.
 - 6.1.2 The formal interview:

Before the interviews the selection panel will agree on the line of questioning to be followed and will ensure that similar questions are put to each candidate. The questions asked will be aimed at obtaining evidence of how each candidate meets the criteria listed on the person specification and each candidate will be assessed against all of the criteria for the post. The same areas of questioning will be covered for each applicant and no questions which would discriminate directly or indirectly on grounds of sex, marital status, sexual orientation, race, religious belief, disability or age will be asked. The interview will also deal with the issues of child protection with each candidate.
 - 6.1.3 Before the interviews the Head teacher, in consultation with those on the panel will decide a procedure for evaluating the candidates at the end of the interviews. The notes taken and documentation used in this evaluation process will form part of the formal record of why candidates were or were not selected and will be retained for six months; after that time they will be destroyed.
 - 6.1.4 Before the interviews the Head teacher, in consultation with those on the panel will decide the structure of the interview, determining which area each interviewer will cover and the approximate time allocation.

7. Offer of Appointment by the Selection Panel

7.1 The offer of appointment by the selection panel is binding on both parties subject to staff qualification requirements, satisfactory DBS Disclosure and medical checks and satisfactory references.

APPENDIX I

The Selection and Appointment of the Head Teacher or a Deputy Head Teacher or an Assistant Head Teacher

1. The Governors will notify the LA of any vacancy for the Head teacher or Deputy Head teacher.
2. The Governing Body will appoint a Selection Panel of at least three Governors. The proceedings of the Selection Panel shall be under the control of the Selection Panel. The Governing Body will **not** delegate the power of appointment, only the selection process.
3. The Selection Panel will determine the interview process and seek approval from the Governing Body before commencing the process.
4. If the need arises the Selection Panel will appoint an Acting Head teacher/Deputy Head teacher. Where it is intended to fill an acting position by external temporary appointment of more than one term the post will be advertised within the area.
5. If an external appointment is to be made to an acting position the governors will seek to do so by secondment and will seek advice from the personnel service provider on the contracting of such a secondment.
6. The Selection Panel will advertise the permanent post in such publications circulating throughout England and Wales as they consider appropriate. In the case of an Assistant Head teacher vacancy the Governing Body may decide that it will not be advertised nationally. All applicants will receive the information set out in paragraph 4 of the Governing Body's policy statement.
7. The selection panel shall shortlist such applicants for the post as they think fit. In the case of a Head or Deputy Head teacher appointment, if it is able to do so, the Selection Panel will recommend one of the interviewed applicants to the Governing Body. The decision of the selection panel will be approved by a meeting of the Governing Body, which must be quorate. The Selection Panel may make a decision about the appointment of an Assistant Head teacher without recommendation to the Governing Body.
8. If the Governing Body approves the recommended candidate for a Head or Deputy Head teacher appointment, the applicant will be offered appointment subject to staff qualification requirement, medical, CRB Disclosure check and references. A decision by the Selection Panel regarding the appointment of an Assistant Head teacher will also be subject to staff qualification requirement, medical, CRB Disclosure check and references.
9. If the Selection Panel cannot agree or Governing Body does not approve the recommendation then the Governors may re-advertise as in step 5 or may require the Selection Panel to repeat step 6.