

Ashford CE Primary School



Safer Recruitment Policy (Including Recruitment and Selection)

Updated Policy: June 2026

Approved by FGB: 11 June 2026

Signed: L Bowman

Chair of Governors

Safer Recruitment Policy

Our School Vision

We are a caring Christian community where everyone adopts an “I can” attitude; everyone feels valued, safe and loved by God. We celebrate our God-given individuality, achievements and talents and we aspire, with God’s help, to become the best that we can be. We believe that each one of us has the ability to achieve our highest potential, living and learning in the fullness of God.

I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.

Philippians 4v13

1. Introduction

This policy has been introduced to provide a framework for the efficient and effective recruitment of all categories of staff at Ashford CE Primary School.

The Governing Body values the contribution of all staff and recognises that the recruitment of appropriately skilled staff is key to the provision of a safe and successful teaching and learning environment in which pupils can thrive.

To make sure we recruit suitable people, we will ensure that those involved in the recruitment and employment of staff to work with children have received appropriate safer recruitment training.

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Accordingly, this policy complies with the current DfE guidance document ‘Keeping Children Safe in Education’ and the Early Years Foundation Stage framework and Working Together to Safeguard Children.

[Keeping Children Safe in Education \(KCSIE\) 2025.](#)

[The Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework](#)

[Working Together to Safeguard Children](#)

2. Aims of the Policy

- To ensure that newly recruited staff possess the most appropriate blend of qualifications, experience, knowledge, skills and abilities to meet the demands of the post and the needs of the school.
- To ensure a consistent and equitable approach to the appointment of all staff.
- To ensure that all relevant equal opportunities legislation is adhered to and that appointees are recruited without regard to gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marital or civil partnership status, colour, race, nationality, ethnic or national origins, religion or belief, age, pregnancy or maternity leave.
- To ensure that the recruitment and selection process is accessible to all by giving appropriate regard to the needs of individuals with a disability, with provision of reasonable adjustments where necessary.

- To ensure that all recruitment practices are compliant with DfE safeguarding guidance, with clear links to child protection policies and procedures, thereby ensuring as far as possible that all staff are suitable to work with children and young people.
- To ensure the most cost-effective use is made of resources in the recruitment and selection process.

3. Responsibilities

The Governing Body, with appropriate advice from the Headteacher, is responsible for determining the staffing complement of the school and for all appointments to the school staff.

The Headteacher will have delegated responsibility for the appointment of teachers and other staff outside of the leadership group.

Once the selection panel has been agreed, the lead person, in conjunction with the panel, will be responsible for drawing up the relevant documentation and planning the selection process.

The selection panel for any position will have responsibility for ensuring that a fair, equitable and non-discriminatory process is maintained throughout the recruitment and selection activities.

4. Safer Recruitment

Matters relating to child protection, safeguarding and the promotion of the welfare of children will be central to the recruitment process, starting with the planning of recruitment needs through to the selection exercise and appointment itself. Particular measures to ensure safe recruitment practice, compliant with DfE advice, are identified throughout this policy. The selection panel have responsibility for ensuring the implementation of these measures. The safeguarding measures noted in this policy are neither exhaustive nor intended to obviate the need to refer to the most recent DfE guidance.

5. The Planning Process

The Governing Body, in conjunction with the Headteacher, will review the staffing requirements of the school annually and assess the short and long term recruitment needs so that, as far as possible, a planned approach to resourcing the school can be taken.

Before the start of the recruitment process, there will be a review of the requirements of the specific role. Where a job description or person specification does not exist (e.g. for new posts) then these will be drawn up for agreement by the Headteacher.

Job descriptions and person specifications for existing posts will also be reviewed to determine whether the roles and responsibilities of the post need to be revised and to update the necessary qualifications, knowledge, experience, skills or abilities required by the post holder.

The person specification will also be assessed to ensure that it does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of any protected characteristic. such as disability, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marital or civil partnership status, colour, race, nationality, ethnic or national origins, religion or belief, age, pregnancy or maternity leave.

Safeguarding Measures

- A statement of the school's commitment to the safeguarding and promotion of the welfare of pupils will be included in the advert, the job description and the person specification. A link to the school Safeguarding Children Policy and Safer Recruitment Policy will also be added.
- All job descriptions will make reference to the responsibility for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils. The job description will clearly set out the extent of relationships and contact with pupils and the degree of responsibility for children and young people that the postholder will have.
- All person specifications will give consideration to the need for the postholder to be suitable to work with children and young people. Qualifications, experience, competencies and qualities needed for the role will be identified, along with an explanation of how they will be assessed during the selection process.
- All shortlisted applicants will be required to complete a self-declaration form regarding suitability to work with children. They will also be notified that any relevant issues arising from references will be taken up at interview.
- When advertising a role, we will make clear whether or not the role is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and the amendments to the Exceptions Order 1975, 2013 and 2020. If the role is exempt, certain spent convictions and cautions are 'protected', so they do not need to be disclosed, and if they are disclosed, we cannot take them into account.

6. Advertising

6.1 All posts

All teaching and non-teaching posts will be advertised internally within the school and in any relevant vacancy circular where appropriate. Posts may additionally be advertised on appropriate internet jobs sites including, where appropriate, the LDBS, the DFE Teaching Vacancy site and the school website. In some cases, an advert may also be in the local press and/or in national/local press or the online platform associated with that newspaper.

In certain circumstances a post or promotion opportunity will be ring-fenced for current staff in the first instance. Any such ring-fencing will be done in a consistent and transparent manner.

Occasionally the decision may be taken not to advertise a post. This may occur, for example, when a similar post has recently been advertised and an appointment can be made from the subsequent interviewees, or because a temporary appointment needs to be made as soon as possible to ensure continuity within a post.

The Headteacher will consider the issues associated with recruiting at a time of significant shortages of staff. Where deemed appropriate a statement will be included on adverts to advise potential

applicants that “The School holds the right to appoint the right candidate as soon as possible. Please do not wait for the closing date to contact us or send in an application form”.

6.2 Leadership posts

Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher posts will be advertised as the Governing Body considers most appropriate. As a general rule, such posts will, as a minimum, be advertised on a relevant internet jobs site, and may additionally be advertised in a nationally printed publication or their equivalent advertising website.

Where the Governing Body has determined that there is good reason not to advertise a leadership post the decision-making process will be clearly documented.

Safeguarding Measures

- All advertisements will include a statement about the school’s commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.
- The advert will be clear about the safeguarding requirements and responsibilities of the role, such as the extent to which the role will involve contact with children
- All advertisements will make clear whether or not the role is exempt from the Rehabilitation of offenders Act 1974 and the amendments to the Exceptions Order 1975, 2013 and 2020. If the role is exempt, certain spent convictions and cautions are “protected”, so they do not need to be disclosed, and if they are disclosed, we cannot take them into account.
- Reference will also be made to the requirement for the successful applicant to undertake an enhanced-level check via the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) and to other checks that will take place such as online searches.
- Links to the relevant school safeguarding policies and the applicant’s privacy notice will be included.

7. The Application Process

For all posts, information packs will be made available electronically, to all interested parties. The information pack may generally consist of:

- a job description and person specification;
- an application form, including an equality monitoring form, with details for completion;
- the school’s Equality Policy statement;
- the school’s Safeguarding Children Policy statement;
- a statement of terms and conditions relating to the post (hours, salary etc);
- information about the recruitment process (interview dates etc);
- any other relevant information regarding the post and the school.
- a letter from school pupils
- current Ofsted and SIAMS reports.

This is a general list and will be adapted in relation to each post as deemed appropriate by the Headteacher.

Applications received after the closing date will not normally be considered, unless the applicant has given prior notice of a late application and this has been agreed by the selection panel, or there has been a low response to the advertisement.

Applications made through means other than application forms will not be considered, unless a reasonable adjustment has been made to accommodate the needs of an applicant with a disability. The advertisement will be clear that CVs are not accepted.

Safeguarding Measures

- All applications must be made using the application form for the position to ensure receipt of relevant personal data, education and employment history, declaration of relationships, details of referees, and a statement of personal qualities and experience.
- The application form will include a statement saying that it is an offence to apply for the role if an applicant is barred from engaging in regulated activity* relevant to children.
- The application form or pack will include a link to policies on safeguarding and the policy on employment of ex-offenders.
- Applicants who have been shortlisted for a post will be asked to complete a separate self-declaration form containing details of any cautions, convictions, reprimands and final warnings that are not protected (i.e. that are not filtered out) as well as any other relevant information.

***Regulated activity** means a person who will be:

- *Responsible, on a regular basis in a school or college, for teaching, training, instructing, caring for or supervising children; or*
- *Carrying out paid, or unsupervised unpaid, work regularly in a school or college where that work provides an opportunity for contact with children; or*
- *Engaging in intimate or personal care or overnight activity, even if this happens only once and regardless of whether they are supervised or not*

8. The Selection Process

8.1 The selection panel

A selection panel of at least two people will be set up prior to the shortlisting process. The members of this panel will be agreed by the Headteacher, as appropriate to the post. Further panel members may be drawn from:

- Senior Assistant Headteacher or Assistant Headteacher
- SENDCO
- Line manager for the post
- School Business Manager
- The local authority's and diocesan authority's representative (For Headteacher appointments)

- Professional advisers where particular expertise or guidance is required or other school, staff who can provide specialist input or objectivity.

Wherever possible, all panel members will have been trained in and/or have relevant experience of recruitment and selection and interviewing. All members of the Senior Leadership Team have completed safer recruitment training.

Where a candidate is known personally to a member of the selection panel this fact should be declared before shortlisting takes place. It may then be necessary to change the selection panel to ensure that there is no conflict of interest and to ensure equal treatment of candidates.

Safeguarding Measures

- At least one member of the panel will have completed appropriate safer recruitment training. This is a minimum requirement and at Ashford CE our best practice requires all members to be trained.

8.2 Shortlisting

Prior to shortlisting, the equality monitoring forms will be removed from the applications. If an applicant has requested reasonable adjustments to a part of the shortlisting process to accommodate a disability then this will be notified to the chair of the selection panel.

The shortlisting process for interview will determine those applicants who best meet the criteria for the post as outlined in the person specification. These processes will be supported by the School Business Manager who can provide guidance to the panel. This includes guidance on inconsistencies and looking for gaps in employment and any reasons given.

Where shortlisted applicants have disclosed a criminal record or have proceedings pending against them, and/or have had any sanctions imposed by the Teaching Regulation Authority (TRA) then this will be followed up at interview. In certain cases, it may be necessary to have a discussion with the applicant prior to the interview.

We will also carry out an online search on shortlisted candidates to help identify any incidents or issues that are publicly available online. The advert states that we carry out these checks as part of our due diligence process.

If a disabled applicant meets the minimum criteria for the person specification, then he/she will be shortlisted.

Safeguarding Measures

- Incomplete applications will be rejected and may, at the discretion of the selection panel, be returned to the candidate for completion. Small mistakes such as typos or a reference to a wrong school name in the personal statement will be noted and checked at interview.
- Notes will be made of any anomalies, discrepancies or gaps in employment so that these can be considered as part of the shortlisting process. Reasons for gaps in

employment, repeated career changes, moves from permanent to temporary or supply teaching will also be noted for exploration and verification.

- Reference will be made to the fact that an online search will be made for information contain within in the public domain about shortlisted candidates in line with guidance in the current KCSIE. The form for undertaking checks is included as Appendix A.

8.3 References

References will be requested for all shortlisted candidates (including internal applicants) prior to interview. The school will comply with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 by not asking questions about a candidate's health or disability as part of these references prior to a job offer being made (including information relating to levels of sickness absence).

It will be for the selection panel to determine whether the referees given by applicants are suitable and appropriate. Any applicants currently working in a school setting will be expected to give the headteacher/principal of that school/college as one referee. References from family members or friends will not be acceptable. If necessary, further references will be sought to ensure all necessary information can be verified. The school will be tenacious in ensuring that all matters have been thoroughly reviewed and checked and in some cases will seek an additional reference from the most recent employer even if not listed in the applicant's references.

References will be compared to the application form to ensure that the information provided is consistent. Any discrepancies will be taken up with the applicant.

All references subsequently received will be held by the chair of the interview panel who will explore any areas of concern at interview. Once a preferred candidate has been chosen following the interview process, the rest of the interview panel will be given access to the references of that person only, in order to confirm their decision.

Safeguarding Measures

- References will be sought and obtained directly from the referee. The school will liaise directly with referees in order to verify the reference. References or testimonials provided by the applicant will not be accepted. No reference addressed "To Whom it may concern" will be accepted.
- Any applicants currently working in a school setting will be expected to give the headteacher/principal of that school/college as one referee.
- The school will also secure a reference from the relevant employer from the last time the candidate worked with children if they are not currently working with children regardless of whether the candidate has identified the organisation as a reference.
- References will seek relevant and objective information and a declaration from the referee that the applicant is suitable to work with children and young people and will include specific safeguarding questions.
- Issues of concern will be raised further with the referee and taken up with the candidate during the interview.
- Where, in exceptional situations, references are not received prior to the interview, any concerns will be resolved satisfactorily prior to any unconditional offer of employment.
- References from Educational Institutions for those leaving education will be accepted in the format from the organisation rather than on the school template reference form.

Education references must relate directly to the applicant and include information about working with children/safeguarding.

- If the applicant has never worked with children, then a reference from their most recent employer or their current training provider, or education setting will be obtained.
- References provided electronically will be checked to ensure that they are received from a legitimate source.
- References will not be accepted from a family member.
- Referees will be contacted to clarify any information that is vague or if insufficient information is provided
- The school will establish the reason for the applicant leaving their current or most recent post, and ensure any concerns are resolved satisfactorily before appointment is confirmed
- Information in references will be compared with information on the application form and any inconsistencies addressed with the candidate.
- Any concerns will be resolved before any unconditional offer is made.

8.4 Other checks prior to interview

Where a candidate is claiming specific qualifications or previous experience that is relevant to the job but is not verified by reference checks, these will be verified before interview so that any discrepancy can be explored at interview.

8.5 The interview and selection process

Prior to the interview and selection process candidates will be given any relevant information, e.g. details of any selection methods that will be used. Candidates who have a disability or any other particular needs will be given the opportunity to highlight this prior to any selection activities taking place in order that reasonable adjustments may be made to the recruitment process if required.

Whilst an interview is always likely to be used as the primary feature of the selection process, the selection panel will consider whether any additional selection methods are required to supplement the interview. These may include presentations or delivering a worship, teaching observation, interaction with pupils, in-tray exercises, psychometric, verbal or numerical tests, according to the requirements of the role. Any psychometric tests used will have been validated in relation to the job, be free of bias, and be administered and validated only by a suitably trained person.

Whichever methods are chosen, the panel will use these to assess the merits of each candidate against the person specification and explore their suitability to work with children and young people. The selection panel will ensure that all candidates are asked the same core questions at interview based on the list of essential criteria for the post, although supplementary questions may differ according to the candidates' answers and backgrounds.

All candidates will be asked specific safeguarding questions which explore both their experience of or understanding of safeguarding children and their personal values.

Particular care will be taken to ensure that no questions or selection methods could be viewed as discriminatory.

Safeguarding Measures

- Invitations for interview will stress that the successful candidate will be subject to thorough identity checks and an Enhanced DBS Check. Candidates will be requested to bring with them documentation to verify their ID, i.e. passport, driving licence, birth certificate, etc.
- Candidates will be instructed to bring with them to interview any relevant documentation that will confirm education and professional qualifications. Copies of all documents will be kept on file for successful candidates.
- In addition to assessing the candidate's suitability for the post, the panel will assess the candidate's attitude toward children and young people and his/her ability to support the school's safeguarding agenda and promote the welfare of children. Gaps in employment history and concerns or discrepancies in the application form and references will also be explored.

9. Job Offers to Successful Candidates

9.1 Job offers

Successful candidates will normally be offered the post verbally, followed by an offer letter as soon as possible afterwards. A written offer of appointment will include any terms upon which the offer is made conditionally, e.g. satisfactory completion of an occupational health questionnaire, provision of appropriate documentation to verify entitlement to work in the UK and other relevant details. We will record all information on the checks carried out in the school's single central record (SCR). Copies of these checks, where appropriate, will be held in individuals' personnel files. We follow requirements and best practice in retaining copies of these checks, as set out below

9.2 Conditions of Appointment

Any offer of employment at the school will be conditional upon:

- The receipt of at least two satisfactory references, if not already received;
- Verification of the appointee's identity, if not verified following interview;
- A satisfactory Enhanced DBS Check (including a check of the Children's Barred List); Obtain an enhanced DBS notification from the approved DBS service, including barred list information for those who will be engaging in regulated activity (this is the majority of staff in school). We will obtain the certificate before, or as soon as practicable after, appointment, including when using the DBS update service. We will not keep a copy of the certificate for longer than 6 months, but when the copy is destroyed we will still keep a record of the fact that vetting took place, the result of the check and recruitment decision taken. A DBS provided to check against the update service will be retained as it will be needed for future checks.
- In the majority of cases an individual will not be permitted to start work until a satisfactory DBS has been received. To start work prior to the DBS being received a full risk assessment would be completed, a check against the Barred list and references received. However, the individual would remain supervised at all times until the satisfactory DBS has been received.
- Verification of the appointee's medical fitness (mental and physical fitness) to undertake the role;
- Verification of the appointee's right to work in the UK (including a photocopy of the original evidence provided);
- Verification of the appointee's qualifications, if not verified following interview.

- Verification of any necessary additional checks for candidates who have lived or worked outside of the UK.

Where it is a requirement of the post the offer will also be conditional upon:

- Verification of professional status, e.g. QTS/QTLS status, successful completion of statutory induction etc; including that they are not prohibited from teaching or subject to any sanction.
- A Section 128 check for any post in the management structure of the school;
- A completed declaration form to confirm the appointee is not restricted in the work they may perform under childcare disqualification regulations (2018 Childcare Disqualification Regulations and Childcare Act 2006);
- Satisfactory completion of a probationary period.

If any of the following circumstances come to light during the vetting process the facts will be reported to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and/or the police, as appropriate:

- Candidates are found to be on the Children's Barred List, or the DBS check shows that the candidate has been disqualified from working with children;
- An applicant has provided false information in, or in support of, his/her application; or
- There are serious concerns about an applicant's suitability to work with children.

10. Appointment and Promotion of Existing Staff

The school values the contribution of all staff within the school community and seeks to retain key skills. The school will support, as far as possible, the continued professional development of all staff as they seek promotion to new opportunities both within the school and elsewhere. All members of staff are therefore encouraged to consider their suitability for any vacancy within the school. Where a member of staff applies for a vacant post, they will be given equal consideration alongside external candidates, based on the essential criteria for the post. In some cases, posts are ring-fenced for internal staff. DBS for existing staff will be updated in line with the DBS policy.

The school will refer to the DBS anyone who has harmed, or poses a risk of harm, to a child or vulnerable adult where:

- We believe the individual has engaged in [relevant conduct](#); or
- We believe the individual has received a caution or conviction for a relevant (automatic barring either with or without the right to make representations) offence, under the [Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 \(Prescribed Criteria and Miscellaneous Provisions\) Regulations 2009](#); or
- We believe the 'harm test' is satisfied in respect of the individual (i.e. they may harm a child or vulnerable adult or put them at risk of harm); and
- The individual has been removed from working in regulated activity (paid or unpaid) or would have been removed if they had not left

11. Use of Fixed Term and Temporary Contracts

Where it is determined that posts are only of a short-term nature, this will be clearly specified in the job description and on any advertising literature. Posts will only be advertised on a temporary or fixed-term basis for genuine reasons. Most temporary or fixed-term contracts will come to a natural end. Where, however, a fixed duration contract expires and the need for the post remains for a further definite period, then the postholder will usually be given an extension to their fixed period contract.

Where the need for a temporary or fixed-term post becomes a permanent one, there will be no automatic entitlement for the temporary postholder to be offered the permanent contract. It will be for the Headteacher to consider the most appropriate recruitment process in the circumstances. This could include, for example, consideration of the original reason for the post initially being temporary, any subsequent changes to the needs of the school and the original recruitment process that was undertaken.

12. Use of Supply Staff, Students, Volunteers and Contractors

The school workforce is made up of a rich variety of professional and highly skilled and committed people, not all of whom are paid employees. The school values the diversity that this brings to its community as it strives to provide a safe environment and improve the standards of teaching and learning for all pupils. To ensure the continued high standards of contributions, we will:

- Use, as our preferred sources of supply staff, agencies that operate to high quality standards, particularly in terms of recruitment checks and legislative compliance;
- With appropriate adjustment, adopt similar recruitment measures for contractors as for employees, and for volunteers as for paid staff;
- Obtain written confirmation from the training provider that necessary checks have been carried out and that trainee teachers /students have been judged by the provider to be suitable to work with children;
- We will also check that the person presenting themselves for work is the same person on whom the checks have been made;
- Obtain an enhanced DBS check and a Section 128 check for all governors.
- We will ensure that any contractor, or any employee of the contractor, who is to work at the school has had the appropriate level of DBS check. This may be:
 - An enhanced DBS check with barred list information for contractors engaging in regulated activity
 - An enhanced DBS check, not including barred list information, for all other contractors who are not in regulated activity but whose work provides them with an opportunity for regular contact with children
- Ensure all supply staff, volunteers and contractors adhere to the school's Safeguarding Children Policy.
- Contractors who have not had any checks will not be allowed to work unsupervised or engage in regulated activity under any circumstances.
- Where applicants for initial teacher training are salaried by the school, we will ensure that all necessary checks are carried out.
- Where trainee teachers are fee-funded, we will obtain written confirmation from the training provider that necessary checks have been carried out and that the trainee has been judged by the provider to be suitable to work with children. In both cases, this

includes checks to ensure that individuals are not disqualified under the 2018 Childcare Disqualification Regulations and Childcare Act 2006.

- An enhanced DBS is required for Volunteers before they start working as a volunteer in the school. No unchecked person will be allowed to be unsupervised or to work in regulated activity.
 - The school will carry out a risk assessment when deciding whether to seek an enhanced DBS check without barred list information for any volunteers not engaging in regulated activity. We will retain a record of this risk assessment
 - Ensure that appropriate checks are carried out to ensure that individuals are not disqualified under the 2018 Childcare Disqualification Regulations and Childcare Act 2006.
- Governors will have an enhanced DBS with barred list information in order that they can support the school in various roles such as carrying out learning walks and pupil voice, support on trips and visits and, where applicable, carry out other volunteering such as reading and supporting as a school volunteer. A section128 check will be completed for all governors.

13. Alternative Provision

Where we place a pupil with an alternative provision provider, we obtain written confirmation from the provider that they have carried out the appropriate safeguarding checks on individuals working there that we would otherwise perform.

14. Employment of Migrant Workers

The school will not employ, as a member of staff, any individual who cannot demonstrate that he/she has the right to work in the UK, regardless of the individual's colour or apparent race, nationality or ethnic origins. Any employee who has a restricted right to work in the UK will be required to provide ongoing evidence of that right during employment.

The Local Authority/LDBS is licensed to sponsor migrant workers who require sponsorship in order to work in the UK under Home Office rules. The school complies with Home Office requirements in relation to the points-based system for employing migrant workers and will ensure, prior to appointment, that a worker who is subject to immigration control can be employed within one of the tiers for which sponsorship can be granted under the terms of the licence. The school will also meet, as required, all necessary conditions relating to sponsorship, including conducting resident labour market tests and keeping appropriate records. All checks will be completed prior to starting work at the school.

15. Supervising Pupils On Work Experience

When organising work experience, we will ensure that policies and procedures are in place to protect children from harm.

All individuals on work experience will be supervised by a member of staff.

16. Monitoring

The Governing Body is mindful of its commitment to best practice in recruitment and its obligations under both the Equality Act 2010 and DfE safer recruitment guidance and will ensure regular monitoring of all recruitment activity. This will be undertaken with a view to improving future recruitment practices and thereby achieving the aims of this policy. The results of this monitoring and any recommended actions will be reported to the Governing Body.

17. Data Protection

Records relating to recruitment and selection activities will remain confidential and accessible only to those who require information either as part of the recruitment decision-making process or for the administration of the process (including monitoring activities for the purposes of this policy or equality policies). Records relating to successful candidates will be placed in personnel files.

Records for unsuccessful candidates will be retained in a secure place for a period of six months, after which time they will be securely destroyed. Applicants will be made aware of this via the Applicants Privacy Notice which is available on the school website.

18. Status of Policy and Review

The content and operation of this policy is reviewed as and when deemed necessary by the Governing Body. The policy is discretionary and does not confer any contractual rights. The policy is checked and updated following updates to KCSIE and Working Together to Safeguard Children or on advice from the DfE, LA or LDBS



Appendix A

Ashford CE Primary School

Recruitment on-line search of information in the public domain

Candidate name:

Role shortlisted for:

Searcher name:

(The person undertaking the searches will not be part of the decision-making panel/process).

Date and time of online search: *(To be completed only for shortlisted candidate)*

SEARCH PARAMETERS	INFORMATION FOUND
<p>Google search: The following terms, looking at the first page of results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 'Candidate name'• 'Candidate name' + 'current school/employment'• 'Candidate name' + 'previous school/employment'• 'Candidate name' + 'educational institution'• 'Candidate name' + 'job title'• 'Candidate name' + 'place of residence' <p>Websites: The candidate's name was typed into the search function of the following websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• LinkedIn• X (Twitter) (checked the top 10 results)• Facebook (checked the top 10 results)• Their current school's / educational institution website• Instagram• TikTok• A Google search of names as above	<p>Only record information that suggests the candidate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is unqualified for the role• Poses a potential safeguarding risk• Risks damaging the reputation of your school/trust• Where an individual is identified easily – advice that might be given to secure their profile in future <p>Don't include any irrelevant personal information.</p>