



PARTNER OF THE EVERYONE MATTERS SCHOOLS TRUST

Safer Recruitment Policy

Rainford High School



Guidance Owner	Principal
Scope of the Policy	Rainford High
Written/last reviewed	September 2026
Next review due	September 2027
Summary of key changes	No changes



1. PURPOSE

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. These are compliant with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026.

2. NEW STAFF

2.1 When appointing new staff, we will:

- Verify their identity
- Obtain (via the applicant) an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate, including barred list information for those who will be engaging in regulated activity (see definition below). We will not keep a copy of this for longer than 6 months
- Obtain a separate barred list check if they will start work in regulated activity before the DBS certificate is available
- Verify their mental and physical fitness to carry out their work responsibilities
- Verify their right to work in the UK. We will keep a copy of this verification for the duration of the member of staff's employment and for 2 years afterwards
- Verify their professional qualifications, as appropriate
- Ensure they are not subject to a prohibition order if they are employed to be a teacher
- Carry out further additional checks, as appropriate, on candidates who have lived or worked outside of the UK, including (where relevant) any teacher sanctions or restrictions imposed by a European Economic Area professional regulating authority, and criminal records checks or their equivalent
- Check that candidates taking up a management position are not subject to a prohibition from management (section 128) direction made by the secretary of state
- We will ask for written information about previous employment history and check that information is not contradictory or incomplete.

2.2 We will seek references on all short-listed candidates, before interview. We will scrutinise these and resolve any concerns before confirming appointments. The references requested will ask specific questions about the suitability of the applicant to work with children.

2.3 We will carry out an online search on the shortlisted candidates prior to interview to help us identify any incidents or issues that have happened that are publicly available online. Candidates are made aware of this at the application stage.

3. Regulated activity

3.1 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

4. EXISTING STAFF

- 4.1 If we have concerns about an existing member of staff's suitability to work with children, we will carry out all the relevant checks as if the individual was a new member of staff. We will also do this if an individual moves from a post that is not regulated activity to one that is.
- 4.2 We 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
 - The individual has received a caution or conviction for a relevant offence, or there is reason to believe the individual has committed a listed relevant offence, under the [Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 \(Prescribed Criteria and Miscellaneous Provisions\) Regulations 2009](#); or
 - 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

5. AGENCY AND THIRD-PARTY STAFF

- 5.1 We will obtain written notification from any agency or third-party organisation that it has carried out the necessary safer recruitment checks that we would otherwise perform. We will also check that the person presenting themselves for work is the same person on whom the checks have been made.

6. CONTRACTORS

- 6.1 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 includes contractors who are provided through a PFI or similar contract). This will 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
- 6.2 We will obtain the DBS check for self-employed contractors.
- 6.3 We will not keep copies of such checks for longer than 6 months.
- 6.4 Contractors who have not had any checks will not be allowed to work unsupervised or engage in regulated activity under any circumstances.

6.5 We will check the identity of all contractors and their staff on arrival at the school.

7. TRAINEE/STUDENT TEACHERS

7.1 Where applicants for initial teacher training are salaried by us, we will ensure that all necessary checks are carried out.

7.2 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.

7.3 We will confirm their identity when they arrive on site by checking their photographic ID.

8. VOLUNTEERS

8.1 We will:

- Never leave an unchecked volunteer unsupervised or allow them to work in regulated activity
- Obtain an enhanced DBS check with barred list information for all volunteers who are new to working in regulated activity
- 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
- We will carry out all of the same recruitment checks for a volunteer that we will for a new employee.

9. TRUSTEES

9.1 All schools include:

- All trustees will have an enhanced DBS check without barred list information.
- They will have an enhanced DBS check with barred list information if working in regulated activity.
- The chair of the board will have their DBS check countersigned by the secretary of state.
- All proprietors, trustees, local governors and members will also have the following checks:
- A section 128 check (to check prohibition on participation in management under [section 128 of the Education and Skills Act 2008](#)).
- Identity
- Right to work in the UK
- Other checks deemed necessary if they have lived or worked outside the UK

10. STAFF WORKING IN ALTERNATIVE PROVISION SETTINGS

10.1 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.

11. ADULTS WHO SUPERVISE PUPILS ON WORK EXPERIENCE

- 11.1 When organising work experience, we will ensure that policies and procedures are in place to protect children from harm.
- 11.2 We will also consider whether it is necessary for barred list checks to be carried out on the individuals who supervise a pupil under 16 on work experience. This will depend on the specific circumstances of the work experience, including the nature of the supervision, the frequency of the activity being supervised, and whether the work is regulated activity.

12. PUPILS STAYING WITH HOST FAMILIES

- 12.1 Where the school makes arrangements for pupils to be provided with care and accommodation by a host family to which they are not related (for example, during a foreign exchange visit), we will request enhanced DBS checks with barred list information on those people.
- 12.2 Where the school is organising such hosting arrangements overseas and host families cannot be checked in the same way, we will work with our partner schools abroad to ensure that similar assurances are undertaken prior to the visit.

13. POST-16

- 13.1 At Rainford all the same safer recruitment checks are carried out for all staff in school regardless of what key stage they work with.