



Horizons Education Trust, American Lane, Huntingdon, PE29 1TQ

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CEO: Adam Dabin

Safer Recruitment Booklet

A collage of three images: a child with a magnifying glass, a child playing a keyboard, and a child with a stethoscope.

**Every child
deserves safety**



Safeguarding

Our learners are exceptional. They have some of the most complex needs of any children and young adults, yet they show us every day what is possible when they are understood, supported, and empowered. We do not take lightly the privilege and responsibility of being stewards of their futures - these are the citizens of tomorrow, and we are dedicated to giving them the skills, confidence, and opportunities to thrive.

Horizons Education Trust (HEdT) is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and young people, including those with profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD), severe learning disabilities (SLD), and social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs. Every member of staff and every volunteer has a responsibility to protect children and to model a safe, respectful, and protective ethos across our schools.

As part of a collaborative trust community, staff are expected to uphold our values and contribute to both academy and trust priorities. This requires working flexibly and professionally with colleagues, parents, carers, and external partners in what can often be complex and high-pressure situations.

Because of the nature of this role, applicants must be willing to undergo rigorous child protection and safeguarding checks, including verification of employment history, references from previous employers, and an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check with children's barred list information where applicable. Safeguarding is at the heart of Horizons Education Trust. We are dedicated to ensuring that all children are safe, respected, and supported to achieve their full potential.



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Horizons Education Trust Policy

Statement on the Recruitment of Ex-offenders

The DBS Code of Practice requires that the academy makes available a copy of its policy on the Recruitment of Ex-offenders to all job applicants. A model policy statement is given below:

In accordance with the Disclosure and Barring Service Code of Practice this policy is made available to all job applicants at the outset of the recruitment process. The DBS Code of Practice is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dbs-code-of-practice>

- As an organisation which uses the Disclosure and Barring service, the Governing Body of the school complies fully with the DBS Code of Practice and undertakes not to discriminate unfairly against any subject of a Disclosure on the basis of conviction or other information revealed.
- We meet the requirements in respect of exempted questions under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. A DBS check will therefore be carried out before appointment to any job at the school is confirmed. This will include details of convictions cautions and reprimands, as well as 'spent' and 'unspent' convictions. A criminal record will not necessarily be a bar to obtaining a position.
- We are committed to the fair treatment of applicants on all protected grounds and in relation to all history of offending.
- We promote equality of opportunity for all with the right mix of talent, skills and potential and welcome applications from a wide range of candidates, including those with criminal records. We select all candidates for interview based on their competencies, qualifications and knowledge.
- Application forms and recruitment information will contain a statement that job applicants will be required to disclose their criminal record if they are invited to interview and a DBS check will be carried out if they are offered the job. The information will only be seen by those who need to see it as part of the recruitment process.
- At interview, or in a separate discussion, we ensure that an open and measured discussion takes place on the subject of any offences or other matter that might be relevant to the position. Failure to reveal information that is directly relevant to the job sought could lead to the withdrawal of an offer of employment.
- We undertake to discuss any matter revealed in a disclosure with the person seeking the job before withdrawing a conditional offer of employment.
- We ensure that people at the school who are involved in the recruitment process have access to professional advice to identify and assess the relevance and circumstances of offences. We also ensure that they have received appropriate guidance in the relevant legislation relating to the employment of ex-offenders, e.g. the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.



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Privacy Notice for Job Applicants

Under Data Protection Law, individuals have a right to be informed about how Horizons Education Trust, uses any personal data held about them. We comply with this right by providing privacy notices to individuals where we are processing their personal data.

This privacy notice explains how we collect, store and use personal data about individuals applying for jobs at our school.

We, Horizons Education Trust, are the 'Data Controller' for the purposes of Data Protection Law.

Our Data Protection Officer is [The ICT Service](#) (see 'Complaints' / 'Contact us' below).

Successful candidates should refer to our privacy notice for the School Workforce for information about how their personal data is collected, stored and used during their period of employment with ourselves.

The personal data we hold:

We process data relating to those applying to work at Horizons Education Trust. Personal data that we may collect, use, store and share (when appropriate) about you includes, but is not restricted to:

- Full name and address
- Contact details
- Copies of right to work documentation
- References
- Evidence of qualifications
- Employment records, including work history, job titles, training records and professional memberships
- We may also collect, store and use information about you that falls into "Special Categories" of more sensitive personal data. This includes information about (where applicable):
- Race, ethnicity, religious beliefs, sexual orientation and political opinions
- Disability and access requirements

Why we use this data:

The purpose of processing this data is to aid the recruitment process by:

- Enabling us to establish relevant experience and qualifications.
- Facilitating safe recruitment, as part of our safeguarding obligations towards pupils.
- Enabling equalities monitoring.
- Ensuring that appropriate access arrangements can be provided for candidates that require them.

Our lawful basis for using this data:

We only collect and use personal information about you when the law allows us to. Most commonly, we use it where we need to:

- Comply with a legal obligation.
- Carry out a task in the public interest.



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Less commonly, we may also use personal information about you where:

- You have given us consent to use it in a certain way.
- We need to protect your vital interests (or someone else's interests).
- Where you have provided us with consent to use your data, you may withdraw this consent at any time. We will make this clear when requesting your consent and explain how you go about withdrawing consent if you wish to do so. If you wish to withdraw consent at any time, please contact the school secretary or Jon Panther via jpanther@horizons.org.uk

Some of the reasons listed above for collecting and using personal information about you overlap, and there may be several grounds which justify the Trust's use of your data.

Our basis for using Special Category data Article 9 – UK GDPR | Fieldfisher:

For 'Special Category' data, we only collect and use it when we have both a lawful basis, as set out above, and one of the following conditions for processing as set out in Data Protection Law:

- We have obtained explicit consent to use the special category personal data in a certain way.
- We need to perform or exercise an obligation or right in relation to employment, social security or social protection law.
- We need to protect an individual's vital interests (i.e. protect a child's life or someone else's life), in situations where they are physically or legally incapable of giving consent.
- The data concerned has already been made manifestly public by the data subject.
- We need to process it for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims.
- We need to process it for reasons of substantial public interest as defined in legislation.
- We need to process it for health or social care purposes, and the processing is done by, or under the direction of, a health or social work professional or by any other person obliged to confidentiality under law.
- We need to process it for public health reasons, and the processing is done by, or under the direction of, a health professional or by any other person obliged to confidentiality under law.
- We need to process it for archiving purposes, scientific or historical research purposes, or for statistical purposes, and the processing is in the public interest.
- For criminal offence data, we will only collect and use it when we have both a lawful basis, as set out above, and a condition for processing as set out in data protection law. Conditions include:
 - We have obtained consent to use it in a specific way.
 - We need to protect an individual's vital interests (i.e. protect a child's life or someone else's life), in situations where they are physically or legally incapable of giving consent.
 - The data concerned has already been made manifestly public by the data subject.
 - We need to process it for, or in connection with, legal proceedings, to obtain legal advice, or for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal rights.
 - We need to process it for reasons of substantial public interest as defined in legislation.

Collecting this information:

While most of the information we collect from you is mandatory, there is some information that you can choose whether to provide it to us.

Whenever we seek to collect information from you, we make it clear whether you must provide this information (and if so, what the possible consequences are of not complying), or whether you have a choice.



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How we store this data:

Personal data we collect as part of the job application process is stored in line with Horizons Education Trust Data Protection and Data Retention Policies.

We will retain, and dispose of, the personal data of all unsuccessful job applicants in accordance with our Data Retention Schedule. Our current Retention Schedule is available to download from the trust website, alternatively a copy is available upon request from the academy office.

Data sharing:

We do not share information about you with any third party without your consent unless the law and our policies allow us to do so. Where it is legally required, or necessary (and it complies with data protection law), we may share personal information about you with:

- Our Local Authority – to meet our legal obligations to share certain information with it, such as shortlists of candidates for a headteacher position.
- Suppliers and service providers – to enable them to provide the service we have contracted them for, such as HR and recruitment support.
- Professional advisers and consultants.
- Employment and recruitment agencies.

Transferring data internationally:

Where we transfer personal data to a country or territory outside the United Kingdom, we will do so in accordance with Data Protection Law.

Your rights - How to access the personal information we hold about you:

Individuals have a right to make a 'subject access request' to gain access to personal information that the Trust holds about them.

If you make a subject access request, and if we do hold information about you, we will:

- Give you a description of it.
- Tell you why we are holding and processing it, and how long we will keep it for.
- Explain where we got it from, if not from you.
- Tell you who it has been, or will be, shared with.
- Let you know whether any automated decision-making is being applied to the data, and any consequences of this.
- Give you a copy of the information in an intelligible form.

You may also have a right for your personal information to be transmitted electronically to another organisation in certain circumstances.

If you would like to make a request, please contact the school secretary or Jon Panther via jpanther@horizons.org.uk



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Your other rights regarding your data:

Under data protection law, individuals have certain rights regarding how their personal data is used and kept safe. You have the right to:

- Object to the use of your personal data if it would cause, or is causing, damage or distress.
- Prevent your data being used to send direct marketing.
- Object to the use of your personal data for decisions being taken by automated means (by a computer or machine, rather than a person).
- In certain circumstances, have inaccurate personal data corrected, deleted or destroyed, or restrict processing.
- Claim compensation for damages caused by a breach of the data protection regulations.
- To exercise any of these rights, please contact the school secretary or Jon Panther via jpanther@horizons.org.uk

Complaints:

We take any complaints about our collection and use of personal information very seriously. If you think that our collection or use of your personal information is unfair, misleading or inappropriate, or have any other concern about our data processing, please raise this with us in the first instance.

To make a complaint, please contact the school secretary or Jon Panther via jpanther@horizons.org.uk

You can also contact our Data Protection Officer:

The ICT Service

Email: dpo@theictservice.org.uk

Tel: 0300 300 0000 option 1

Address: South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne Business Park, Great Cambourne, Cambourne, Cambridge, CB23 6EA

Alternatively, you can make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office:

- Report a concern online at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>
- Call 0303 123 1113
- Or write to: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF
- Contact us:

If you have any questions, concerns or would like more information about anything mentioned in this privacy notice, please contact:

- Jon Panther via jpanther@horizons.org.uk

This notice is based on the [Department for Education's model privacy notice](#) for School Workforce, amended to reflect the way we use Job Applicants data in this trust.



Achievement beyond expectations

