

# Recruitment of Ex-Offenders Policy



Policy applicable to:	Teaching and support staff in schools and academies (including centrally managed teachers)
Approval	<b>Approved by Trustees of Leigh Trust</b>  Print Name of Chair: Anita Ward  Signed:  Date: 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2024  <b>Adopted by all Schools within Leigh Trust</b>
Date of Implementation of policy	September 2022
Review date of policy	(12 months from date of implementation) <b>Reviewed July 2024 - no changes implemented by Schools HR</b>

At Leigh Trust, all the staff are dedicated to providing all the children with the best possible education and will aim to care properly for their health, safety and welfare at all times. We are committed to working closely with parents and believe that each school should work in partnership with parents, each carrying out their particular responsibilities to help the children gain the most from their time at the school. This procedure pertains to each school, and all other elements of the Trust.

# Recruitment of Ex-Offenders Policy

- as an organisation assessing applicants' suitability for positions which are included in the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order using criminal record checks processed through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), Leigh Trust complies fully with the [code of practice](#) and undertakes to treat all applicants for positions fairly
- Leigh Trust undertakes not to discriminate unfairly against any subject of a criminal record check on the basis of a conviction or other information revealed
- Leigh Trust can only ask an individual to provide details of convictions and cautions that Leigh Trust are legally entitled to know about. Where a DBS certificate at either standard or enhanced level can legally be requested (where the position is one that is included in the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 as amended, and where appropriate Police Act Regulations as amended)
- Leigh Trust can only ask an individual about convictions and cautions that are not protected
- Leigh Trust is committed to the fair treatment of its staff, potential staff or users of its services, regardless of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, responsibilities for dependants, age, physical/mental disability or offending background
- Leigh Trust has a written policy on the recruitment of ex-offenders, which is made available to all DBS applicants at the start of the recruitment process
- Leigh Trust actively promotes 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
- Leigh Trust select all candidates for interview based on their skills, qualifications and experience
- an application for a criminal record check is only submitted to DBS after a thorough risk assessment has indicated that one is both proportionate and relevant to the position concerned. For those positions where a criminal record check is identified as necessary, all application forms, job adverts and recruitment briefs will contain a statement that an application for a DBS certificate will be submitted in the event of the individual being offered the position
- Leigh Trust ensures that all those in Leigh Trust who are involved in the recruitment process have been suitably trained to identify and assess the relevance and circumstances of offences
- Leigh Trust also ensures that they have received appropriate guidance and training in the relevant legislation relating to the employment of ex-offenders, e.g. the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974
- at interview, or in a separate discussion, Leigh Trust ensures 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 position sought could lead to withdrawal of an offer of employment
- Leigh Trust makes every subject of a criminal record check submitted to DBS aware of the existence of the [code of practice](#) and makes a copy available on request
- Leigh Trust undertakes to discuss any matter revealed on a DBS certificate with the individual seeking the position before withdrawing a conditional offer of employment.