



Safe Recruitment Policy

PlaySport uses safe recruitment practices to ensure that all people working with the children in our care are safe and qualified to do so. When recruiting paid staff or volunteers, we will follow the procedures set out below.

Advertising the vacancy

We will advertise all vacancies, and any job advertisements will include a statement about our commitment to safeguarding children.

Initial enquiry

Upon enquiring about a vacancy, we will send potential candidates:

- a job description
- a person specification
- an application form
- a copy of **PlaySport's** **Safeguarding Children** policy.

The application form includes:

- instructions that the application form must be completed by hand or online
- a declaration that all information is correct
- a section under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act that asks if the applicant has been awaiting a verdict, convicted, or cautioned or received a court order or warning for any offence that may affect their suitability for working with children
- a request for the contact details of two referees one of which should be the last employer; (if this is the candidate's first job, their course tutor is a suitable alternative)

All applicants must submit a hand-written or emailed application form by the closing date. We will only accept CVs if they are accompanied by our standard application form completed as required.

Interview procedure

We will notify all candidates selected for interview by letter or email. All candidates will be asked to bring to the following items to the interview:

- proof of identity, e.g passport, driving licence or birth certificate
- proof of address, e.g recent utility bill (not mobile phone) or bank statement proof of qualifications, ie the relevant certificates
- for non-British nationals, proof of the right to work in the UK (as required by the Asylum and Immigration Act)

The interview will be conducted by at least one **PlaySport** Director. At least one member of the interview panel will have up-to date Safer Recruitment Training. All candidates will be asked the same set of questions (dependent on the department they are applying for). We will then ask additional questions about any other issues that arise from their application

form. For example, the interviewers will follow up on any gaps in the candidate's employment history rigorously and ensure that they are satisfied with the explanation given, undertaking additional checks if necessary.

All candidates will also be asked to participate in a practical session with the children for an hour so that they can be observed interacting with the staff and children. The candidate will be always accompanied by a member of **PlaySport** staff. Furthermore, the names and details of the children are never to be shared. When we have interviewed and observed all candidates, we will make our final selection.

Appointing a new member of staff

When we have selected the successful candidate, we will:

- send him or her a written offer, which will clearly state that it is subject to the receipt of suitable references, full sight of a satisfactory enhanced DBS certificate and their written confirmation that they are not disqualified from working with children.
- contact both referees for a reference, which includes specific questions around the suitability of the candidate, which would highlight any safeguarding concerns. Initiate an enhanced DBS check for the candidate, or if the candidate is subscribed to the DBS Update Service, review their current DBS certificate and check their status online
- ask the candidate to complete a health questionnaire
- notify any unsuccessful interviewees.
- We will also take photocopies of the new member of staff's qualification certificates and proof of identity and keep these on file.

When a new member of staff starts work at with **PlaySport** we will give him or her:

- our terms and conditions, and get them to sign their contract; a copy of their contract will be kept on file
- all our policies and ensure that they sign a policy confirmation form to confirm that they have read and understood them; the signed form will be kept on file.

We will conduct a full induction and orientation programme with all new members of staff as set out in our **Staff Induction policy**. Furthermore, staff will have to complete safeguarding training before starting their employment with **PlaySport**.

DBS checks

We will obtain enhanced DBS disclosures for all staff, students and volunteers who will work unsupervised with the children on a regular basis, or who have access to children's information, including office workers. If candidates have subscribed to the DBS Update Service, we will carefully review their current DBS certificate and then check their status online. If there has been a change in their status since their last DBS certificate was issued, we will obtain a new DBS disclosure for them. Additional criminal records checks will be made for anyone who has lived abroad.

New staff will only be allowed to work *unsupervised* with children when we have had full sight of a satisfactory DBS certificate undertaken by **PlaySport**. If a clean DBS check has been undertaken by elsewhere prior, this member of staff will still have to wait for his/her DBS certificate undertaken by **PlaySport** before working unsupervised.

When we appoint a member of staff, we will keep a record of the date and number of their DBS disclosure on our **Central DBS Record**. We will update the DBS checks for all staff every 3 years.

Disqualification

PlaySport will not employ staff or volunteers who have been convicted of an offence or have been subject to an order that disqualifies them from registration under regulations made under section 75 of the Childcare Act 2006. Note that a member of staff can *become* disqualified if they live in the same household as another disqualified person, or if a disqualified person is employed in that household. All new staff must sign a declaration that they are not disqualified when they commence employment and all existing staff must sign the declaration annually to confirm that their status has not changed. If a member of staff becomes disqualified, we will terminate their employment and notify Ofsted.

Immigration status

The management is aware of Asylum and Immigration Act requirements and will check the ability of all new starters to work in the UK. Candidates are expected to provide documents confirming their status, usually a driving licence, passport, and NI number.

This policy was adopted by: Robert McBride	Date: October 2022
To be reviewed: October 2023	Signed: R.McBride