

# ST NICHOLAS SCHOOL



## Single Central Register (SCR) Policy

To be reviewed annually, last reviewed \_\_\_\_\_

Head Teacher: ..... Date: .....

Chair of Governors: ..... Date: .....

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## **Statement of intent**

At St Nicholas, we are committed to promoting the safety and wellbeing of our staff, pupils and visitors. Ensuring the safety of our school community is of paramount importance and, as a result, this policy has been created to establish a more comprehensive safer recruitment procedure so that pupils feel safe at school.

A SCR is required as part of this process as it provides schools with a record of all pre-employment checks, ensuring staff are safe to work in the school.

To ensure the school is recruiting suitable individuals for a role, employment checks will be carried out by the governing board and the Head Teacher, in line with the school's Recruitment Policy.

The checks will include identity checks, right to work in the UK checks, varying levels of DBS checks (depending on the role), as well as extended European Economic Area (EEA) checks for staff who have lived or worked outside the UK.

This policy outlines the school's procedure for maintaining an up-to-date SCR in line with government statutory requirements and guidance.

## 1. Legal framework

1.1. This policy has due regard to legislation, including, but not limited to the following:

- The Data Protection Act 2018
- The General Data Protection Regulation
- The Freedom of Information Act 2000
- The Education Act 2002
- The School Staffing (England) Regulations 2009
- The School Staffing (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014
- Education (Pupil Referral Units) (Application of Enactments) (England) Regulations 2007

1.2. This policy has been created with due regard to the following DfE guidance:

- DfE (2018) 'Keeping children safe in education'

## 2. Roles and responsibilities

2.1. The **Governing Board** is responsible for:

- Ensuring all prospective members of staff and all employed members of staff have the required level of DBS checks.
- Deciding whether any prospective member of staff who holds a criminal conviction is suitable to work within the school.
- Informing the LA of any decisions made regarding disclosure of information.
- Ensuring the identity of all existing and prospective employees.
- Applying for an enhanced DBS check for any governors who do not already have one, including a barred list check if, in addition to their governance duties, a governor also engages in regulated activity.

2.2. The **Head Teacher / SBM** is Responsible for:

- Maintaining an up-to-date SCR by updating it upon employment of any member of staff, as well as recording the identity and background checks made for other visiting staff to school.
- Ensuring any cover teachers, volunteers, contractors and/or any other visiting party to school hold the relevant level of security check, including a DBS check.

- Analysing whether any members of staff or returning volunteers, contractors or any other visiting party require an updated DBS check.
- Ensuring the school obtains legible copies of documentation used to prove workers' right to work in the UK, e.g. a copy of a passport.
- Ensuring that documentation evidencing workers' right to work in the UK is up-to-date, especially if visas have an expiry date on them.
- Informing the LA of any decisions made regarding DBS and other security checks.
- Ensuring that the data stored in the SCR is stored safely.
- Acting in accordance with this policy.

2.3. **The school staff are responsible for:**

- Providing accurate and up-to-date information required for the SCR so that they can continue their employment at school.
- Informing the **School Business Manager** of any changes in personal data or additions that need to be made to the SCR.

2.4. **Volunteers, contractors and other visiting parties are responsible for:**

- Providing accurate and up-to-date information required for the SCR, so that they can continue their employment at school.
- Informing the **School Business Manager** of any changes in personal data or additions that need to be made to the SCR.

### 3. **Contents of an SCR**

3.1. The SCR will detail checks for any member of staff who will likely come in to contact with a pupil. This includes the following:

- Full time teachers, supply teachers and trainees
- All other school staff, e.g. senior leaders
- All members of the governing board
- Any other individual likely to work in close proximity to the school's pupils

- 3.2. When employing **agency staff** from a third-party organisation, the school will obtain written notification that the organisation has carried out all of the relevant checks.
- 3.3. The **Head Teacher** must ensure that the individual who presents themselves on their first day of employment is the subject of all pre-employment checks.
- 3.4. A copy of photographic identification will be obtained.
- 3.5. School records will include the following:
  - An identity check
  - A barred list check
  - An enhanced DBS check
  - A teacher prohibition check
  - Right to work in the UK check
  - Professional qualifications check
  - European Economic Area (EEA) check
  - Governor positions - a section 128 check
- 3.6. The SCR will also detail the following relevant checks:
  - Childcare disqualification
  - Safer Recruitment Training date

#### 4. **Storage**

- 4.1. There will be only **one** copy of the SCR created on a spreadsheet, which is password protected.
- 4.2. The school will not keep copies of DBS certificates, but staff have to be prepared to present them upon request.

- 4.3. The school will keep a legible copy of employees' evidence for their right to work in the UK, e.g. a copy of their passport, in the SCR.
- 4.4. All other documentation, such as photocopied proof of qualifications, will be safely stored in a personnel file.
- 4.5. All certificates will be stored in accordance with the school's General Data Protection Regulation Policy.

## **5. Monitoring and review**

- 5.1. The SCR will be updated after each instance of an individual attending school in an employment or voluntary capacity, or when any variation to the fields on the SCR is required.
- 5.2. Records kept on school leavers will be destroyed six months after their departure.
- 5.3. The SCR will be reviewed annually by the Head Teacher, ensuring all safety checks are present and up-to-date.
- 5.4. The Governing Board will review the Single Central Record Policy annually.
- 5.5. Any changes to this policy will be communicated to the Head Teacher and any staff members affected by the change.