



CES Guidance

CES Model Application Forms and Supplementary Forms

Notes to Applicants

These Notes accompany the relevant CES Model Application Forms for each category of employee and:

- the Model Recruitment Monitoring Form;
- the Model Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 – Disclosure Form; and
- the Model Consent to Obtain References Form,

together referred to as the “supplementary forms”.

Where there is a distinction between the categories of employee to which these Notes apply, it will be clearly highlighted.

Applicants are advised to read through these Notes fully before completing the Application Form and the supplementary forms.

Applicants are advised that references to School / College in the Application Forms, the supplementary forms and these Notes to Applicants includes Academies. Further, references to Governing Body in those documents include an Academy Trust Company, a Multi Academy Trust Company and / or its Governing Body / Board of Directors / Local Governing Body as appropriate.

These notes follow the order of the questions as they appear in the application forms on the CES website. The CES has provided specific approval to some online providers to provide CES application forms on their sites. Where applicants are completing application forms via these sites, the order of the questions may be different to that set out in these notes. The supplementary forms provided may also be different. If applicants are unsure, they should ask the recruiting school / college.

TECHNICAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Depending on the recruiting school's / college's own requirements applicants may complete the Application Form and supplementary forms in three ways:
 - Completion and submission electronically;
 - Completion electronically, printing and submitting a hardcopy via post, by fax or by scanning and emailing;

- Printing off and completing in handwritten format, then submitting by post, by fax or by scanning and emailing.
2. Where applicants complete the Application Form and supplementary forms and submit by post, written acknowledgement of receipt will only be provided where the applicant has supplied a stamped addressed envelope with their posted application.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Applicants must ensure that they are using the most up to date version of the Application Form and supplementary forms. Where there is any doubt, applicants should contact the school / college where the position applied for is based, or the contact person mentioned in the job advertisement.

Applicants are reminded that this is an application for a post in a Catholic Voluntary Aided School / Catholic Voluntary Academy / Catholic Voluntary Multi Academy Trust (if applicable) where the Governing Body / Academy Trust Company / Multi Academy Trust Company is the employer and that the post will be subject to the terms and conditions of the appropriate CES model contract of employment. A copy of the relevant contract will be provided to the applicant if they are shortlisted for interview.

Applicants should note that, in accordance with the safeguarding vulnerable groups' regime, it is their responsibility to have made any necessary registrations relevant at the time of making this application, which are required for people working or volunteering with children. Accordingly, applicants are put on notice that any offer of employment made will be conditional upon identity and right to work checks and the results of Disclosure & Barring Service and Teacher Services checks (where applicable). For those who have lived or worked outside of the UK, the offer will also be conditional on satisfactory overseas checks including, where necessary, the provision of a letter of professional standing.

Before signing the application form, applicants must ensure that every section has been completed. **Failure to complete all relevant sections may result in an application being rejected.**

All Application Forms, supplementary forms and any relevant documentary evidence should be sent to the school / college where the position applied for is based, or as instructed in the job advertisement. **Applicants should not return any Application Form and / or supplementary forms and / or any relevant documentary evidence to the CES.** Any applications received by the CES will not be forwarded or returned but shall be securely disposed of.

THE APPLICATION FORM – GUIDANCE ON COMPLETING SPECIFIC SECTIONS

Applicants are advised that the Governing Body complies with the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and the Equality Act 2010.

Details of the Role Applied For

Applicants should complete this section of the Form by inserting the relevant information and ticking the appropriate boxes.

Personal Details

Applicants should insert the requested details and tick the relevant box in order to indicate how they would prefer to be contacted.

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If an applicant has obtained qualified teacher status from a jurisdiction other than England or Wales they should insert their membership number for the relevant teaching profession regulator and provide details of the specific regulator.

Support staff and Lay Chaplain Application Forms only – if applicants have not obtained qualified teacher status they should leave this section blank.

Details of Present Employment

Applicants who are not currently employed, should tick the box that says “no” and proceed to the next section.

Employment History

Applicants should provide full and accurate details of relevant employment history and professional or work experience starting with the most recent. They should not repeat the information provided (if applicable) relating to present employment. Where the applicant is a student seeking a first-time appointment, they should provide details of all teaching practice to date (if applicable).

Other Employment / Work Experience

Applicants should provide details of all other employment and paid or unpaid experience after the age of 18 (e.g. employment unrelated to the teaching profession, voluntary work etc).

Applicants must ensure that there are no gaps in the chronology of their education and / or employment history from the age of 18 to the present day and space has been provided on the form for this information. Failure to provide a full account may lead to an application being rejected.

Applicants must declare whether they have ever been ordained and / or been a member of a religious community. Where the answer to this question is ‘yes’, the Applicant must provide full details and expect that this will be discussed in more detail if they are successfully shortlisted for interview, more particularly in relation to their Canonical status and whether the Applicant is subject to any restrictions which may affect their suitability for appointment to the post applied for.

Post-11 Education and Training

Applicants should provide details of education received in this country and / or abroad, academic vocational qualifications obtained including degrees, with class and division, and Teacher Certificates. Applicants must include postgraduate and professional qualifications. Applicants are advised that they may be required to produce evidence of qualifications attained. Please ensure that all relevant classifications and grades are included.

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (“CCRS”) – this was formerly known as the Catholic Teachers’ Certificate and the Certificate in Religious Education.

Teacher post Application Forms only – applicants should state which subjects they are qualified to teach including other subjects for which they may have experience to teach. Applicants should also provide details of any other specialisms and special areas of teaching interest.

Senior Leadership posts only - the CES recognises that the NPQH is no longer a mandatory requirement in England but applicants should still provide details of the NPQH where requested in the Application

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Form as a potentially desirable qualification. Applicants for Headteacher posts in Wales **must** provide details of the NPQH as this remains a mandatory requirement for first Headship appointments.

Supporting Statement

Applicants should ensure that their supporting statement is clear and concise and does not exceed 1,300 words. It is preferable, although not compulsory, that the supporting statement is typed rather than handwritten.

References

All applicants are required to provide details of at least two, and up to three, referees. A referee who is a current or former employer must have full access to the applicant's personnel records. This is in order to ensure that the information provided is accurate.

There may be situations where the referee does not have full access to an applicant's records for data protection and privacy reasons. If that is the case, the referee will need to be in a position to complete the reference to an acceptable standard with information relating to the applicant's dates of employment. All posts are subject to satisfactory references.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that they have obtained their nominated referees' explicit consent to pass on their contact details. Not only is this a matter of courtesy but it ensures that the General Data Protection Regulation is being complied with. **Please also complete the Consent to Obtain References Form and return it with your application.**

Applicants must advise the school / college if they do not want them to contact any of their referees and provide reasons. For example, where applicants are currently employed, they may not wish the school / college to contact their employer until such time that they have given notice to terminate their employment.

Applicants are advised that schools / colleges designated with a religious character in England and Wales are permitted by law to require certain posts to be filled by practising Catholics. In certain specific circumstances, it is possible that a temporary post may be filled by a person who is not a practising Catholic and there is no intention to deter suitable applicants from expressing their interest.

Senior Leadership posts – Applicants are advised that the 'Memorandum on Appointment of Staff To Catholic Schools' provides that 'the posts of Headteacher or Principal, Deputy Headteacher or Deputy Principal and Head or Coordinator of Religious Education are to be filled by practising Catholics'. The Memorandum may be viewed by visiting the CES's website at:

<http://www.catholiceducation.org.uk/employment-documents/bishops-memorandum/item/1000049-memorandum-on-appointment-of-teachers-to-catholic-schools>

Teacher posts – Applicants are advised that schools / colleges are entitled to give priority to Catholic applicants. A higher degree of priority may be given to practising Catholic applicants but applications from all Catholic applicants (whether practising or not) are eligible to be given priority over applicants who are not Catholic. Nevertheless, applicants who are not Catholic are welcome to apply.

Support Staff posts – Applicants are advised that schools / colleges (in England only) are entitled to give priority to Catholic applicants where it can be demonstrated that attaching this requirement to a particular post is a proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim (commonly known as a “genuine occupational requirement”). The recruitment documentation should make clear whether this requirement applies to the post.

Definition of “practising Catholic” – Schools / colleges may provide guidance to the applicant regarding the definition of a “practising Catholic” with the application pack and / or in the event that the applicant is shortlisted for interview.

In summary, all suitably qualified Catholic applicants, regardless of the teaching post for which they are applying, are eligible to be given preference over applicants who are not Catholic. Practising Catholic applicants should nominate their Parish Priest as one of their referees. Those applicants applying for the permanent Senior Leadership posts referenced in the Memorandum must provide such details.

For other teaching posts, Catholics who do not consider themselves to be “practising” may provide a copy of their baptism certificate with their application form, instead of providing a Priest’s reference. Alternatively, they should provide details of the name and address of the Parish where they were baptised and the date of their baptism. For support staff posts, the recruitment documentation should make it clear if being a Catholic is a requirement for the post.

In the event that an applicant is appointed, any failure to disclose the existence of a relationship, whether it be by marriage, blood or as co-habitee, between the applicant or their spouse / civil partner / partner, with a member, or an employee, of the Governing Body of the school / college where the post is situated may be considered a disciplinary offence warranting summary dismissal.

Right to work in the UK

The Governing Body is under a legal duty to require all members of staff to provide documentary evidence of their entitlement to undertake the position applied for and to ensure that they have an ongoing entitlement to live and work in the UK. These checks need to be carried out for every person the Governing Body employs regardless of race, ethnicity or nationality. Therefore, on receipt of a conditional offer of employment, and before a successful applicant commences their post, they must provide supporting evidence of their right to live and work in the UK.

The Home Office guidance entitled “An employer’s guide to right to work checks” provides a list of the documents that can be provided to demonstrate an applicant’s right to live and work in the UK (see Annex A of the guidance).

The Home Office guidance is regularly updated to reflect changes in immigration law. It is important that applicants refer to the current version. Applicants should expect to provide originals of the documents listed in Annex A to the Governing Body as evidence of their right to work in the UK. Verified copies will then be taken of the original documents as required.

Language requirements for public sector workers

The ability to communicate with members of the public in accurate spoken English and / or Welsh is an essential requirement for public facing posts. The Public Sector Workers Code of Practice notes that “to serve the public it is vital that those working in public-facing roles can communicate in English,

or in Wales, English or Welsh”¹. The standard of language required is satisfied if it is sufficient to enable the effective performance of the person’s role². Please note that this language requirement may be in addition to mandatory English language requirements associated with an applicant’s immigration route.

Public facing roles within the public sector would include leadership teams, teachers, support staff and others employed to work in publicly funded schools.

Declaration

The Governing Body has a duty to make a report where an applicant provides false information in prescribed circumstances in accordance with the Education Act 2002.

SUPPLEMENTARY FORMS

Model Recruitment Monitoring Form

Applicants are not required to complete the Recruitment Monitoring Form, however, if they do, they will be helping the school / college to fulfil its duties under the Equality Act 2010.

The Recruitment Monitoring Form will be used purely for monitoring and statistical purposes and will not form part of the application or the recruitment process. The persons involved in the recruitment process will not have sight of the completed Recruitment Monitoring Form.

Where applicants wish to complete the Recruitment Monitoring Form, they should return it *with* their completed application form but in a *separate* sealed envelope clearly marked “Confidential – F.A.O: Recruitment Monitor”.

Model Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 – Disclosure Form

As the position applied for gives privileged access to vulnerable groups, all applicants attending interview are required to disclose all spent convictions and cautions under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exemptions) Order 1975 unless it is a “protected” conviction / caution under the amendments made to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exemptions) Order 1975 (in 2013 and 2020) and, therefore, not subject to disclosure.

Applicants invited for interview, should bring The Disclosure Form with them to the interview in a **separate, sealed envelope** clearly marked “Confidential – Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 – Disclosure Form”. Interviewees will be asked to hand the form to the interviewer at the end of the interview.

Interviewees must disclose all spent and unspent convictions on this form other than those which are “protected”. This may include driving offences but will not include youth cautions, reprimands

¹ See

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/573013/english_language_requirement_public_sector_workers_code_of_practice_2016.pdf

² S.77(8) Immigration Act 2016

or warnings. The rules on multiple convictions were changed in November 2020. If interviewees are unsure about whether or not a conviction requires disclosure they should review the Ministry of Justice guidance on the filtering of “protected” convictions and cautions which can be accessed on the [Ministry of Justice](#) website.

The Disclosure Form will only be seen by those persons within the school / academy / college and / or Governing Body / Academy Trust Company / Multi-Academy Trust Company who are required to see it as part of the recruitment process if you are the preferred / one of the preferred candidates for the position.

Model Consent to Obtain References Form

Applicants should ensure that they complete and return the Consent to Obtain References Form with their completed application.

If applicants have any further questions in relation to the position applied for they should contact the school / college where the position applied for is based or they should contact the individual named on the job advertisement.

CONFIDENTIAL**REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS ACT 1974 – DISCLOSURE FORM**

This disclosure form is supplementary to the relevant section relating to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (as amended), of the relevant CES Application Form.

If you are invited for interview, please bring this form with you to the interview in a separate, sealed envelope marked “Confidential – Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 - Disclosure Form”. You will be asked to hand the form to the interviewer at the end of the interview.

1. In accordance with statutory requirements certain pre-employment checks are conducted for positions that involve work with vulnerable groups, specifically children and vulnerable adults.
2. The information obtained from these checks is used to help safeguard these groups. It will not be used to discriminate unfairly against those with convictions which we consider unrelated to working with vulnerable groups. We ask for this information in order to facilitate an honest and open dialogue with prospective employees and we encourage all prospective employees to provide contextual information regarding any convictions disclosed.
3. Having a criminal record will not automatically bar you from employment or voluntary work with us.

As the position you are applying for gives you privileged access to vulnerable groups, you are required to disclose all spent convictions and cautions under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exemptions) Order 1975 unless they are a “protected” convictions/cautions under the amendments made to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exemptions) Order 1975 (in 2013 and 2020) and, therefore, not subject to disclosure.

This means that you must disclose all spent and unspent convictions on this form other than those which are so “protected”. If you are unsure about whether or not your conviction requires disclosure please review the Ministry of Justice guidance on the filtering of “protected” convictions and cautions which can be accessed on the [Ministry of Justice](#) website.

Failure to disclose any disclosable criminal convictions could lead either to your application being rejected or, if you are appointed, to summary dismissal if it is subsequently discovered that you have had any disclosable criminal convictions and a referral to the Police may be made.

It is an offence to knowingly apply for, offer to do, accept, or do any work in a regulated position if you have been disqualified from working with children.

Any offer of employment will be subject to checks being carried out in order to ensure that you are not subject to a prohibition order or an interim prohibition order.

Failure to complete this form may render your application invalid.

Full Name:

Date of Birth:

Post Applied for:

Do you have any unspent conditional cautions or convictions under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (as amended)?

No: Yes:

Do you have any adult cautions (simple or conditional) or spent convictions that are not protected as defined by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (Amendment) (England and Wales) Order 2020?

No: Yes:

If you have answered yes to the question above, please set out the following details below:

- Date of each conviction / pending hearing / reprimand / warning;
- The offence;
- The sentence; and
- The Police Force / Court involved.

Declaration: I hereby certify that the information given above is true and accurate:

SIGNATURE :

DATE :

Request for Your Consent to Process Your Data

In compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), we wish to ensure you are aware of the purpose for which we are requesting your consent to collect and process the data we have asked you to provide on this form.

Important information regarding your consent

1. We are St Aidan's Catholic Primary School, a Voluntary Aided School.
2. To the extent that you have disclosed any criminal records information on this form, your information may be shared with OFSTED/Estyn and the Local Authority Designated Officer for child protection matters (the LADO). As a Catholic education provider, we work closely with Liverpool Archdiocese with whom we may be required to share the information you have provided on this form.
3. The person responsible for data protection within our organisation Mrs Suzanne Robinson, Data Protection Officer, and you can contact them with any questions relating to our handling of your data. You can contact them by email at staidan@knowsley.gov.uk
4. We require the information requested on this form in order to process your application for employment and to ascertain whether you are a suitable candidate to work with children/in a child centred environment.
5. We require you to complete this form regarding criminal records disclosure as the information is needed in order to assist us in complying with our legal obligation to safeguard and protect children from harm.
6. If your application is successful and you have disclosed criminal records information on this form, we shall retain the form as part of your permanent employment record and afterwards in accordance with the School's data retention policy. In addition, we shall document and retain records of relevant guidance/advice received by OFSTED/Estyn and/or the LADO and any other appropriate third party.³
7. If you are unsuccessful and you have disclosed criminal records information which could disqualify you from working with children/in a child centred environment, we shall share

³ See paragraph 2.

the information you have provided on this form with OFSTED/Estyn and/or the LADO and any other appropriate third party.⁴

8. If you are unsuccessful and you have not disclosed criminal records information on this form, this form shall be destroyed after a maximum period of 6 months.
9. We will keep a record of your consent as evidence that we have obtained your consent to collect and process the data you have provided on this form.
10. You have the right to withdraw your consent at any time and can do so by informing our organisation's Data Protection Officer (see paragraph 3 above) that you wish to withdraw your consent.
11. If you fail to complete this form, we may not be able to comply with our legal duty to safeguard children. This means that we may not therefore continue to process your employment application or offer you a position within our organisation.
12. To read about your individual rights you can refer to our fair processing notice and data protection policies.
13. To complain about how we have collected and processed the information you have provided on this form, you can make a complaint to our organisation by **emailing staidan@knowsley.gov.uk**. If you are unhappy with how your complaint has been handled you can contact the Information Commissioners Office via their website at www.ico.org.uk.

Request for your consent

Please ensure that you read paragraphs 1-13 above and raise any relevant questions before providing your consent below:

- I confirm that I have read and understood paragraphs 1-13 above and that I have been offered the opportunity to raise any relevant questions: Yes No
- Please check this box if you have any objection to our collecting and processing your personal information as described in paragraphs 1-11 above:
- I agree to my personal data being shared as stated in paragraphs 2, 6 and 7 above:
Yes No

⁴ Ibid