



## **FOREST ROW COMMUNITY PRE-SCHOOL POLICY**

### **19. RECRUITMENT OF EX-OFFENDERS**

As an organisation using the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) to assess applicants' suitability for positions of trust, Forest Row Community Pre-School complies fully with the DBS Code of Practice and undertakes to treat all applicants for positions fairly. It undertakes not to discriminate unfairly against any subject of a Disclosure on the basis of a conviction or other information revealed.

Forest Row Community Pre-School is committed to the fair treatment of its staff, and users of its services, regardless of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, responsibilities for dependants, age, physical/mental ability or offending background.

We actively promote equality of opportunity for all with the right mix of talent, skills and potential. We welcome applications from a wide range of candidates, including those with criminal records. We select candidates for interview on the basis of their skills, qualifications and experience.

A disclosure is only requested after a thorough risk assessment has indicated that one is both proportionate and relevant to the position concerned. For those positions where a disclosure is required, all application forms, job adverts and recruitment briefs will contain a statement that a disclosure will be requested in the event of the individual being offered the position.

Where a disclosure is to form part of the recruitment process, we encourage all applicants called for interview to provide details of their criminal record at an early stage in the application process. We request that this information is sent under separate, confidential cover, to a designated person with Forest Row Community Pre-School and we guarantee that this information will only be seen by those who need to see it as part of the recruitment process.

Unless the nature of the position allows Forest Row Community Pre-School to ask questions about an entire criminal record, we only ask about unspent convictions as defined in the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

We ensure that all those in Forest Row Community Pre-School who are involved in the recruitment process have been suitably trained to identify and access the relevance and circumstances of offences. We also ensure 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.

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 matters 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.

We make every subject of a DBS check aware of the existence of the DBS Code of Practice and make a copy available on request.

We undertake to discuss any matter revealed in a Disclosure with the person seeking the position before withdrawing a conditional offer of employment.

**Having a criminal record will not necessarily bar you from working with us.** This will depend on the nature of the position and the circumstances and background of your offences.

Updated	Reviewed	Next Review
December 2014	November 2015	
	May 2016	May 2017
	March 2018	March 2019

Chair of the Committee's signature: .....

Supervisor's signature: .....

Deputy's signature: .....

Date: .....