Homefield Preparatory School

FOUNDED 1870



**APPLICATION FORM FOR THE POST OF TEACHING ASSISTANT**

This form must be completed in full and returned to bursar@homefieldprep.school – please see accompanying notes

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| Personal Information | | | |
| **1.         Personal details** | | | |
| Forename(s): | | Surname: | |
| Address: | | Former name: (including maiden name) | |
| Postcode: | | Preferred name: | |
| How long have you lived at this address:        If less than 5 years please provide all previous addresses for past 5 years. | | | |
| Previous address: | | Previous address: | |
| Postcode: | | Postcode: | |
| Length of time at address: | | Length of time at address: | |
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| **Contact details**  Home telephone:                                                                     Email:  Mobile telephone:  Work telephone: |

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| If there is insufficient space, please continue on a separate sheet if necessary giving page number and title heading. |

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| **2.  General** |
| Do you have Qualified Teacher Status?                        Yes     /      No          Do you have a current full UK driving licence                           Yes     /      No          Please provide full details of membership of any professional bodies: |

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| **3.  Academic and Vocational Qualifications**  Please provide details of all academic and vocational qualifications: | | | |
| Award/Qualification | Awarding Body | Date Obtained | Grade (if appropriate) |
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| **4. Professional Development** | | | | |
| Courses or Study (Attended during the last 3 years) | | | | |
| Name of Course (and award if gained) | Provider | Ftime or Ptime | From | To |
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| **5. Career History** | | | |
| Please provide full details of all positions held, employment, self- employment and unpaid work since leaving secondary education.  Please start with your current or most recent employer and in each case the reason for leaving employment.  Please provide explanations for any periods not in employment, further education or training. | | | |
| Employer/Training Establishment | Position held (including subject taught and at which level) | Date of employment  Month and Year  To - From | Reason for leaving |
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| Overseas Residential/Employment/Study details | |
| Reason for living overseas | Dates |

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| **Current Salary** (basic) if appropriate (Please indicate spine point) | Additions (Please indicate responsibility points, London Allowance etc) |
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| Total Salary |  |

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| **Outside Interests** |
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| If there is insufficient space, please continue on a separate sheet if necessary giving page number and title heading. |

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| **Please set out below a brief statement in support of your application, which addresses the criteria in the person specification for this post.** |
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| If there is insufficient space, please continue on a separate sheet if necessary giving page number and title heading. |

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| **6.**   Please confirm if you know any existing employee, volunteer or Governor at the School and if so, please provide full details of how you know them. |
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| **7.   Referees**     Please provide at least two professional referees**.  One referee should be your current or most recent employer.** *See Application and Recruitment Process Explanatory Note 5* | | | |
| Referee 1 | | Referee 2 | |
| Name |  | Name |  |
| Address |  | Address |  |
| Position |  | Position |  |
| Tel No. |  | Tel No. |  |
| Email |  | Email |  |

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| **8.         Data Protection**  The information that you provide on this form will be used to process your application for employment. The personal information that you provide will be stored and used in a confidential manner to help with our recruitment process.  If you succeed in your application and take up employment with the School, the information will be used in the administration of your employment.  We may check the information provided by you on this form with third parties.  By signing the application form you consent to the processing of sensitive personal data. |

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| 9. Declaration  As the job for which you are applying involves substantial opportunity for access to children, it is important that you provide us with accurate answers. You should be aware that we will institute our own checks on successful applicants with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), and, where appropriate, a check of the Barred List maintained by the DBS, and any offer of appointment will be made conditional on obtaining such satisfactory checks.  It is a criminal offence for any person who is disqualified from working with children to attempt to apply for a position within the School. We will report the matter to the Police and/or the DBS if:   * we receive an application from a disqualified person; * we are provided with false information in, or in support of, an applicant's application; or * we have serious concerns about an applicant's suitability to work with children.   I have not been disqualified from working with children, I am not prohibited from working with children, and I am not subject to any sanctions imposed by a regulatory body (e.g. the General Teaching Council for England, or the Teaching Regulation Agency).  I declare that the information I have given in this Application Form is accurate and true. I understand that providing misleading or false information will disqualify me from appointment or if appointed, may result in my dismissal. |
| Signature: Date: |

**Application and Recruitment Process Explanatory Note**

**1. General**

Homefield Preparatory School ("the School") is committed to ensuring the best possible environment for the children and young people in its care. Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people is our highest priority.

The School aims to recruit staff that share and understand our commitment and to ensure that no job applicant is treated unfairly by reason of a protected characteristic as defined within the Equality Act 2010.

All queries on the School's Application Form and recruitment process must be directed to The Bursar.

**2. Application Form**

Applications will only be accepted from candidates completing the relevant Application Form in full.  CVs will not be accepted in substitution for completed Application Forms.

Candidates should be aware that all posts in the School involve some degree of responsibility for safeguarding children, although the extent of that responsibility will vary according to the nature of the post.  Applicants will receive a Job Description and Person Specification for the role applied for.

As the job for which you are applying involves substantial opportunity for access to children, it is important that you provide us with legally accurate answers. Upfront disclosure of a criminal record may not debar you from appointment as we shall consider the nature of the offence, how long ago and at what age it was committed and any other relevant factors. Please submit information in confidence enclosing details in a separate sealed envelope which will be seen and then destroyed by the Head or the Bursar [as appropriate].  If you would like to discuss this beforehand, please telephone in confidence to the Head or the Bursar [as appropriate] for advice.

Please disclose any unspent convictions, cautions, reprimands or warnings. Please note that the amendments to the Exceptions Order 1975 (2013) provide that certain spent convictions and cautions are 'protected' and are not subject to disclosure to employers, and cannot be taken into account. Guidance and criteria on the filtering of these cautions and convictions can be found at the Disclosure and Barring Service website.

The successful applicant will be required to complete a Disclosure Form from the Disclosure and Barring Service ("DBS") for the post.

Failure to declare any convictions (that are not subject to DBS filtering) may disqualify you for appointment or result in summary dismissal if the discrepancy comes to light subsequently.

If you are currently working with children, on either a paid or voluntary basis, your current employer will be asked about disciplinary offences, including disciplinary offences relating to children or young persons (whether the disciplinary sanction is current or time expired), and whether you have been the subject of any child protection allegations or concerns and if so the outcome of any enquiry or disciplinary procedure.

If you are not currently working with children but have done so in the past, that previous employer will be asked about those issues.  Where neither your current nor previous employment has involved working with children, your current employer will still be asked about your suitability to work with children. Where you have no previous employment history, we may request character references which may include references from your school or university.

You should be aware that provision of false information is an offence and could result in the application being rejected or summary dismissal if you have been appointed, and a possible referral to the police and/or DBS.

**3. Invitation to Interview**

Applicants will be short-listed according to the relevance and applicability of their professional attributes and personal qualities to the role. Short-listed applicants will then be invited to attend a formal interview at which his/her relevant skills and experience will be discussed in more detail.

All formal interviews will have a panel of at least three people chaired by the Head or another designated senior member of staff. The Chair of Governors should chair the panel for the Head's appointment. The interviewers involved will be required to state any prior personal relationship or knowledge of any of the candidates and a judgement will be made by the Chair as to whether or not an interviewer should therefore withdraw from the panel. Should the Chair have a conflict of interest, the Vice Chair shall decide whether the Chair should withdraw from the panel.

The interview will be conducted in person and the areas which it will explore will include suitability to work with children.

All candidates invited to interview must bring documents confirming any educational and professional qualifications that are necessary or relevant for the post (e.g. the original or certified copy of certificates, diplomas etc).  Where originals or certified copies are not available for the successful candidate, written confirmation of the relevant qualifications must be obtained by you from the awarding body.

All candidates invited to interview must also bring with them:

* A current driving licence including a photograph and paper counterpart or a passport or a full birth certificate;
* A utility bill or financial statement issued within the last three months showing the candidate's current name and address;
* Where appropriate any documentation evidencing a change of name;
* Where the candidate is not a citizen of a country within the European Economic Area or Switzerland, proof of entitlement to work and reside in the UK.

**Please note that originals of the above are necessary. Photocopies or certified copies are not sufficient.**

Candidates with a disability who are invited to interview should inform the School of any necessary reasonable adjustments or arrangements to assist them in attending the interview.

**4. Conditional Offer of Appointment: Pre-Appointment Checks**

Any offer to a successful candidate will be conditional upon:

1. Receipt of at least two satisfactory references (if these have not already been received);
2. Verification of identity and qualifications including, where appropriate, evidence of the right to work in the UK;
3. A satisfactory enhanced DBS check and if appropriate, a check of the Barred List maintained by the DBS;
4. For a candidate to be employed as a teacher, a check that that the candidate is not subject to a prohibition order issued by the Secretary of State;
5. Verification of professional qualifications;
6. Verification of successful completion of a statutory induction period (for teaching posts - applies to those who obtained QTS after 7 May 1999) where relevant;
7. Where the successful candidate has worked or been resident overseas, such checks and confirmations as the School may consider appropriate so that any relevant events that occurred outside the UK can be considered; and
8. Satisfactory medical fitness.

It is the School's practice that a successful candidate must complete a pre-employment health questionnaire. The information contained in the questionnaire will then be held by the School in strictest confidence. This information will be reviewed against the Job Description and the Person Specification for the particular role, together with details of any other physical or mental requirements of the role i.e. proposed workload, extra-curricular activities, layout of the School.

The School is aware of its duties under the Equality Act 2010.  No job offer will be withdrawn without first consulting with the applicant, considering medical evidence and considering reasonable adjustments.

**5. References**

We will seek the references, referred to in section 7 of the application form, for all shortlisted candidates prior to interview.  If you do not wish us to contact your current employer in advance of the interview, please notify us at the time of submitting your application.

All referees will be asked if the candidate is suitable to work with children.

The School will compare any information provided by the referee with that provided by the candidate on the application form.  Any inconsistencies will be discussed with the candidate.

**6. Criminal Records Policy**

The School will refer to the Department for Education ("DfE") document, 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' and any amended version in carrying out the necessary required DBS checks.

The School complies with the provisions of the DBS Code of Practice, a copy of which may be obtained on request or accessed here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dbs-code-of-practice>.

**7. Retention and Security of Records**

The School will comply with its obligations regarding the retention and security of records in accordance with the DBS Code of Practice and its obligations under its Data Protection Policy. Copies of DBS certificates will not be retained for longer than 6 months.

**Policy on the Recruitment of Ex-Offenders**

The School will not unfairly discriminate against any candidate for employment on the basis of conviction or other details revealed. The School makes appointment decisions on the basis of merit and ability. If an individual has a criminal record this will not automatically bar him/her from employment within the School. Instead, each case will be decided on its merits in accordance with the objective assessment criteria set out below.

All candidates should be aware that provision of false information is an offence and could result in the application being rejected or summary dismissal if they have been appointed, and a possible referral to the police and/or DBS.

Under the relevant legislation, it is unlawful for the School to employ anyone who is included on the lists maintained by the DBS of individuals who are considered unsuitable to work with children. In addition, it will also be unlawful for the School to employ anyone who is the subject of a disqualifying order made on being convicted or charged with the following offences against children: murder, manslaughter, rape, other serious sexual offences, grievous bodily harm or other serious acts of violence.

It is a criminal offence for any person who is disqualified from working with children to attempt to apply for a position within the School. The School will report the matter to the Police and/or the DBS if:

* the  School receives an application from a disqualified person;
* is provided with false information in, or in support of an applicant's application; or
* the  School has serious concerns about an applicant's suitability to work with children,

In the event that relevant information (whether in relation to previous convictions or otherwise) is volunteered by an applicant during the recruitment process or obtained through a disclosure check, the School  will consider the following factors before reaching a recruitment decision:

* whether the conviction or other matter revealed is relevant to the position in question;
* the seriousness of any offence or other matter revealed;
* the length of time since the offence or other matter occurred;
* whether the applicant has a pattern of offending behaviour or other relevant matters;
* whether the applicant's circumstances have changed since the offending behaviour or other relevant matters; and
* the circumstances surrounding the offence and the explanation(s) offered by the convicted person.

If the post involves regular contact with children, it is the School's normal policy to consider it a high risk to employ anyone who has been convicted at any time of any the following offences: murder, manslaughter, rape, other serious sexual offences, grievous bodily harm or other serious acts of violence, serious class A drug related offences, robbery, burglary, theft, deception or fraud.

If the post involves access to money or budget responsibility, it is the School's normal policy to consider it a high risk to employ anyone who has been convicted at any time of robbery, burglary, theft, deception or fraud. If the post involves some driving responsibilities, it is the School's normal policy to consider it a high risk to employ anyone who has been convicted of drink driving.