



FIRST STEP PLAYGROUP



Policies and Procedures

2. Suitable People

Employment

2.3 Recruitment of Ex-offenders

First Step Playgroup uses the disclosing and barring service (DBS) to assess applicants' suitability for positions of trust. First Step Playgroup 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.

First Step Playgroup is committed to the fair treatment of its staff, potential staff or users of its services, regardless of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, responsibilities for dependents, age, physical/mental disability or offending background.

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

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 an 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 within First Step Playgroup 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 First Step Playgroup to ask questions about your entire criminal record, we only ask about unspent convictions as defined in the Rehabilitation of offenders Act 1974.

We ensure that all those in First Step Playgroup who are involved in the recruitment process have been suitably trained to identify and assess the relevance and circumstances of offences. We also ensure that they have received appropriate guidance and training in the 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 matter 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 Disclosure aware of the existence of the DBS code of practice and make a copy available on request.

We adhere to 'Disqualification by Association' as stated in Statutory Framework for Early Years Foundation Stage (2014) and this will be asked at interview stage.

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 First Step Playgroup. This will depend on the nature of the position and the circumstances and background of the offences.

- Rehabilitation of offenders Act 1974
- DBS Code Of Practice (2012)
- Statutory Framework for Early Years Foundation Stage (2014)

This policy was adopted at a meeting of

First Step Playgroup, Somersham

Held on

8st November 2016

Date to be reviewed

November 2017

Signed on behalf of the management

Name of signatory

Angie Kelly

Role of signatory (e.g. manager)

Playgroup Manager

Reviewed on

2.3 Recruitment of Ex-offenders