



Volunteer Policy



Trinity MAT

Policy	Volunteer Policy
Date of review	September 2024
Date of next review	September 2027
Lead professional	Head of HR
Status	Non-Statutory

1. Purpose of policy and guiding principles

- 1.1. This policy outlines the process and procedures to be followed when engaging volunteers.
- 1.2. Volunteers offer their services to the trust on an unpaid basis.
- 1.3. The trust recognises that volunteers enhance the learning opportunities of students by contributing a range of skills and experiences to their academic studies. By volunteering for the trust, individuals gain a range of experiences that can be applied to their own personal or professional development.
- 1.4. Where payment is made for work the trust's employment policies apply, this includes recruitment and selection processes.
- 1.5. Where volunteers are Governors some specific statutory guidance and processes outside this policy apply and this will be co-ordinated by the Clerk to the Governors.

2. Links with other policies or legislation

- 2.1. Trinity Multi-Academy Trust will treat all volunteers equally and consistently. The trust's Equalities Policy applies throughout all that we do.
- 2.2. Due to the nature of our organisation the Child Protection and Safeguarding and Health and Safety policies apply. In addition, all volunteers need to comply with the requirements of the current Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance.
- 2.3. All volunteers are required to read and sign the Volunteers Agreement.

3. Consultation

- 3.1. Volunteers are not covered by the trade union consultation instrument.

4. Volunteering opportunities

- 4.1. Generally, each academy will offer volunteering opportunities where volunteers' skills can be matched to student learning needs. This may include mentoring, coaching or supporting students to develop their aspirations and/or career opportunities. In these cases, a member of the trust staff will usually source individuals with the required skills.
- 4.2. Each academy may also agree to requests from members of the community to volunteer and enhance their personal skills. This could include ex-students who want work experience opportunities. In these cases, requests are made to each academy. The decision as to whether to agree to a request lies with a Curriculum Leader or member of the Senior Leadership Team.
- 4.3. In all cases a volunteer should meet with the Curriculum Leader or member of the Senior Leadership Team to discuss the volunteering opportunity, what they will be expected to do, the limits of their involvement and details of who will support and/or supervise them.
- 4.4. As well as tasks; times and days when the volunteer reports for duties should be agreed. Volunteers are not permitted to 'drop in'. A specified length of the opportunity should also be agreed.

5. Requirements of volunteers

- 5.1. Volunteers are required to:
 - Complete a personal details form (Appendix A)

- Apply for an Enhanced DBS check, if required
- Be prepared to produce photographic ID on request (when applying for a DBS check and signing in for the first time)
- Read, sign and return the Volunteers Agreement (Appendix B)
- Complete any necessary training identified as necessary for the duties they will be undertaking. As a minimum, all volunteers will be required to complete Child Protection, 'online' training.
- Sign in at Reception when reporting for duty and await collection by a member of staff

5.2. The academy will:

- Provide a named supervisor/contact
- Provide training that is necessary for the duties the volunteer will be undertaking
- Provide information on fire evacuation and first aid provision
- Retain personal records on file
- Obtain an enhanced DBS check with a children's barred list check (where required)
- Where a volunteer is not known to an academy, at least one reference will be sought

5.3. Each academy HR lead will maintain a register of volunteers and will update the Single Central Record (SCR) as necessary.

6. Supervision and Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks

- 6.1. A DBS check is not needed for all volunteers. A DBS check is only needed when a volunteer has unsupervised access to children and young people, or volunteers who work in regulated activity.
- 6.2. The flowchart in Appendix C explains whether a DBS check is required. Generally, all volunteers who have unsupervised access to students require a DBS check.
- 6.3. The majority of volunteers in each academy do not have unsupervised access to students, as they are supervised by a member of staff or are shadowing members of staff, therefore they will not require a DBS check. However, each academy does reserve the right to request a check on any volunteer and it is recommended that a DBS check is obtained if full supervision cannot be guaranteed.
- 6.4. Where it is determined that a DBS check is required (due to the volunteer having unsupervised contact with children), the DBS checks will be at an enhanced level, along with a children's barred list check.

7. Other considerations

- 7.1. Insurance - each academy's liability insurance extends to volunteers.
- 7.2. Child Protection - all volunteers will receive Child Protection training. All volunteers will be made aware of their responsibility towards promoting the safeguarding and welfare of children and young people.
- 7.3. Code of conduct - all volunteers will receive a copy of the staff Code of Conduct. This outlines the expectations for all adults working with our students across the trust.
- 7.4. Allegations against staff - volunteers are covered by this policy. An academy will investigate allegations made about volunteers. All elements of this policy apply including, if necessary, the requirement to refer individuals to the Disclosure and Barring Service.

- 7.5. Confidentiality - all adults working in, and for, an academy in the trust are bound by a code of confidentiality.
- 7.6. IT accounts - volunteers will not be given an IT account or access to IT systems.
- 7.7. ID Badges - an academy's Safeguarding and Visitors Policy applies and volunteers should wear an ID badge at all times. The academy is responsible for providing the volunteer with a visitor's ID badge and a lanyard of the appropriate colour to identify if the volunteer is to be supervised at all times.
- 7.8. Supervision - all volunteers will work under the supervision of a named person. This member of staff retains the responsibility for students (and/or physical resources) at all times. Volunteers should have and should follow, clear guidance as to the tasks undertaken and what the expected outcome should be. Volunteers should seek advice from this contact. Any issues or concerns should be reported to this person in the first instance.
- 7.9. Health and Safety - each academy has a suite of H&S policies which are available on request. Volunteers should familiarise themselves with the emergency evacuation procedures and first aid provision. Any H&S training for specific tasks should be provided. Volunteers need to exercise due care and attention and should not undertake tasks that may harm or damage their health. Any risks or hazards should be reported to their named contact.
- 7.10. Lunch/catering arrangements - tea and coffee are available in the staff room. If being transported around the building, a suitable, safe and secure container should be used.
- 7.11. Refusal - each academy reserves the right to refuse or terminate a volunteering arrangement.

Personal details form

Volunteer personal details form

Title:	Surname:	Forename:
Home Address:		Telephone:
Car Registration:		Email address:
Compulsory Declaration of any Convictions, Cautions or Reprimands, Warnings or Bind-Overs: The amendments to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (2013 and 2020) provide that when applying for certain job roles (including voluntary work), certain convictions and cautions are considered 'protected' and as such do not need to be disclosed to an employer. Guidance and criteria on whether cautions and/or convictions should be disclosed can be found on the government website (https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/new-guidance-on-the-rehabilitationof-offenders-act-1974). The fact that you have a criminal record will not necessarily bar you from consideration for a volunteering opportunity. If you answer 'yes' to either of the following questions, you must disclose details: 1. Do you have any unspent conditional cautions or convictions under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974? 2. 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? Any declarations should be emailed to hrsupport@trinitymat.org. A failure to disclose any unspent and/or non-protected offences may result in a volunteering agreement being terminated.		
Emergency contact information:		
Name:		
Contact number:		
Please detail below any access arrangements we should be aware of:		Please detail below any medical information we should be aware of:

Volunteer Agreement

Name of volunteer:

Named academy contact:

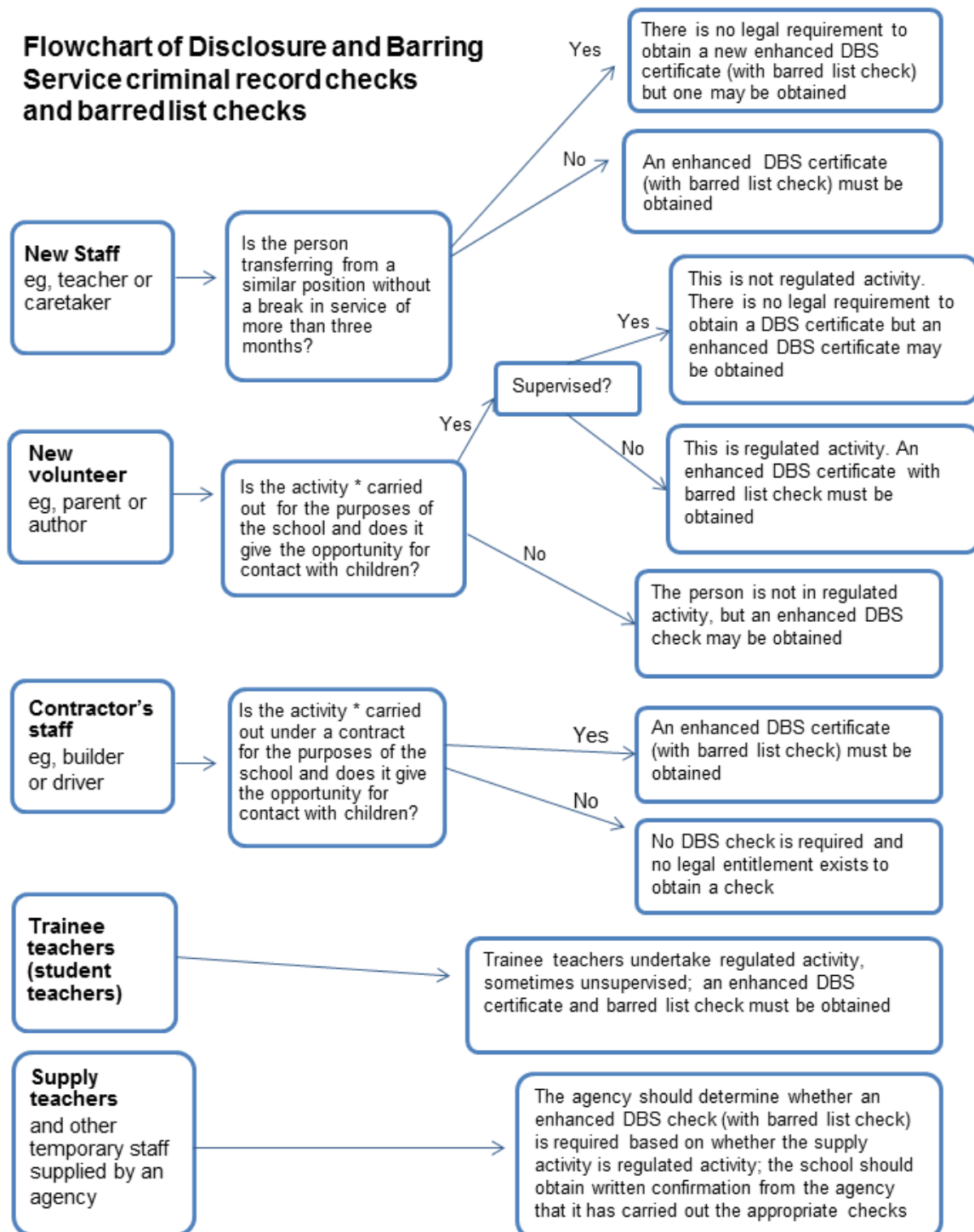
	Please tick
I confirm there is no reason why I should not work with children and young people.	
I confirm that I have read Keeping Children Safe in Education (Part 1).	
I confirm that I have read the academy's Code of Conduct for staff and volunteers and will abide by these expectations. (Please be particularly aware of our social media expectations).	
I confirm that I have reviewed the academy's Health and Safety Induction Presentation (including fire evacuation and first aid procedures)	
I understand that I need to complete Child Protection 'online' training	
I understand that as a volunteer without an Enhanced DBS check I should not have unsupervised contact with students (to delete if enhanced DBS is in place)	
I understand that as a volunteer I am required to follow the guidance given to me, and I will seek advice from my named contact in the first instance. I also understand this is the person I should raise any issues or concerns with.	
I will contact the academy if I am unable to attend as expected, and will provide as much notice as possible.	
I understand that I need to exercise due care and attention during my time in the academy and should not undertake tasks that may harm or damage my health. Any risks or hazards should be reported to the contact above.	
I will wear my name badge at all times and will sign in and out via the InVentry system on my arrival and departure.	
I understand that as an adult I will be expected to role model behaviour, attitude and professional standards to students at all times.	

Signed:

Date:

When a DBS check is required

Flowchart of Disclosure and Barring Service criminal record checks and barred list checks



* Activities listed under the guidance's definition of regulated activity and which are carried out 'frequently'