



HEAD OF DEFENCE CHILDREN SERVICES

DCS Volunteering Statement

We believe at Defence Children Service (DCS) that volunteers provide a valuable contribution to the School or Settings work, and that they enrich the School or Setting through the breadth of their knowledge and experience. DCS are committed to using volunteers in a way that supports the School or Settings strategic aims and vision, as well as its development plan¹.

DCS aims to encourage the wider community to engage with the educational provision, thereby enhancing the curriculum, raising attainment, and promoting community cohesion. DCS will ensure that volunteers support the School or Settings vision and values and adhere to the agreed policies and procedures. DCS will provide staff, volunteers and parents with clear expectations and induction guidelines and set a clear, fair process for recruiting and managing volunteers.

To ensure DCS is upholding its responsibility to keep our people safe in line with UK statutory guidance, we will conduct enhanced DBS checks with a Barred List Check for all volunteers prior to the commencement of any work within our Schools and Settings. Details of checks will be held on the Single Central Record (SCR) until the volunteer leaves the School or Setting. DCS will consider the results of any DBS check that returns with spent and unspent listed convictions and assess these on a case-by-case basis with regards to the nature of the conviction and type of work the volunteer will be involved in.

DCS will provide Level 1 Safeguarding training to all volunteers prior to them beginning work at the School or Setting, including ensuring that they have read and understood Part 1 of 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'. In accordance with our Safer Recruitment Directive, volunteers will undertake Level 2 Safeguarding within 6 weeks of commencing. DCS require volunteers to agree and adhere to both our code of conduct² and all relevant School's and Setting's policies and directives.

¹ This statement has been developed in line with the statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (KCSIE) from the Department for Education (DfE)

² [20240125-Staff Code of Conduct Statement.docx](#)