

# St Peter's Church

Growing in love for God, each other, and the world

## **Recruitment and Selection Policy**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that St Peter's Church employs and promotes the most appropriate employees in a fair and consistent manner free from discrimination. St Peter's Church will ensure the appointed person is the best candidate for the role advertised.

### **Scope**

This policy covers all current employees and applicants for employment with St Peter's Church.

### **Policy**

St Peter's Church is committed to ensuring that there is no discrimination on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage/civil partnership, pregnancy, maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation at any stage of the recruitment process or in the terms and conditions offered to new employees or promoted employees.

St Peter's Church will monitor the composition of its workforce, in order to identify areas that may need positive action measures to promote equal opportunity and diversity.

The following policies should also be consulted during the recruitment process:

- Safeguarding – safer recruitment procedure
- Code of Conduct
- Equality & Diversity

### **Advertising**

All posts will be advertised although short term appointments may only be advertised internally. All employees (including fixed-term employees) will be notified of any positions that arise during their employment by way of these being posted on the staff notice board.

Advertisements will make clear, in both wording and illustration, that the positions are open to all suitably qualified candidates, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage/civil partnership, pregnancy, maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, except those roles which carry an occupational requirement to be a Christian. See the section on Occupational Requirements for more information. Details of positions will be fully circulated to ensure access to all applicants. This includes forwarding internal advertisements to employees on long-term leave.

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## **Application forms**

Application forms will contain relevant questions needed for selection. If these questions are necessary for pension or health insurance, they will be asked after appointment.

## **Screening**

Screening will be carried out by matching details of applicants to the requirements of the job. The screening criteria will be applied consistently to all applicants. Records of the screening process will be retained for a period of one year.

## **Testing**

If it is necessary to use selection tests for a job, they will only relate to non-biased, genuine objective requirements of the role. Records of any testing undertaken will be retained for a period of one year.

## **Interviewing**

The interviewing process will be carried out in the following way:

- no assumptions will be made on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage/civil partnership, pregnancy, maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation
- questions will relate to the requirements of the job as established in the job description and the person specification
- interviews will be carried out by more than one person.
- applicants will be assessed at the end of interviewing against pre-defined criteria
- interviewers will complete Interview Evaluation Forms for each candidate
- records of the interview process will be retained for a period of one year, including questions asked, answers given, any interview notes, and interview evaluation forms for all candidates.

Roles which carry an occupational requirement for the role holder to be a Christian: candidates will be asked specific questions about their religion and faith.

## **Promotion**

Training and job experience needed for promotional opportunities will be open to all employees. Promotion will be determined by merit and performance against objective criteria.

Unsuccessful internal candidates will be given feedback to facilitate improvement.

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No employee will be overlooked in relation to a promotion or an experience-broadening opportunity because of their reluctance to apply or accept on a previous occasion. The process surrounding promotion will be free from discrimination.

## **Training**

All relevant staff, including those on fixed term/part-time contracts, will have equal access to training opportunities, whether training is relevant to their current job, or to enhance promotional opportunities.

## **References**

All external candidates will be required to provide two satisfactory references prior to appointment. References will be checked in accordance with the standard reference checking form. Referees must not be contacted without the permission of the candidate to whom they relate. Should a candidate not be in a position to provide two references, it will be dealt with by St Peter's Church on a case-by-case basis.

## **Medical check**

Upon commencement of employment an employee will be required to complete a medical assessment form for HR and may be required to attend a medical check with a company-nominated occupational health specialist. This medical check will focus on the health and wellbeing of the employee in carrying out their job role and duties, as well as ensuring that any duty to make reasonable adjustments is complied with.

## **Employment of foreign nationals**

St Peter's Church will only employ workers who are legally entitled to work in the United Kingdom. All employees will be required to undertake an appropriate right to work check, regardless of their nationality, by reviewing appropriate immigration documents or by accessing an online right to work check.

## **Records**

St Peter's Church will retain, for at least one year, all records arising through the recruitment process in compliance with the legitimate basis of legal obligation.

## **Occupational requirements**

Some roles may require the role holder to be a practising Christian. For this to be the case, there would need to be a justifiable reason why a non-Christian could not fulfil the role. Examples of this is where the role holder would be required to pray with employees or service users. If you have any questions regarding this, please speak to the Church Wardens.