



CCMS Circular 2008 / 20

17 October 2008

VETTING AND BARRING SCHEME

COUNCIL FOR CATHOLIC MAINTAINED SCHOOLS

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Target Audience:

- Principals of Catholic Maintained Schools

Summary of Contents:

Vetting and Barring Scheme (effective 12 October 2009)

Enquiries:

Enquiries regarding this circular should be referred to:

Diocesan Education Offices

Armagh 028 8775 2116

Clogher 028 6632 2709

Derry 028 7126 1931

Down and Connor 028 9032 7875

Dromore 028 3026 2423

Related Documents:

CCMS Circular 2008 / 10

DE Circular 2008/03

Superseded Documents:

Expiry Date:

CCMS Circular 2008 / 20

VETTING AND BARRING SCHEME

The new Vetting & Barring Scheme, established under the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups legislation, is effective from 12 October 2009.

The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups (Northern Ireland) Order 2007 has established new provisions in Northern Ireland aimed at strengthening current vetting arrangements to protect children and vulnerable adults.

The legislation and the Vetting and Barring Scheme it creates will have a number of features including:

- The creation of an Independent Safeguarding Authority to register people working with children and vulnerable adults and to maintain lists of those barred from such work.
- Introducing a requirement for staff and volunteers working in specified positions to register with the ISA and pay a registration fee.
- Placing a requirement on employers to check whether an individual working in specified positions is registered with the ISA prior to employing them, by way of an online check.

In order to prepare employers, organisations, regulatory bodies and workers to undertake their responsibilities and requirements under the new scheme, the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety has commissioned the Volunteer Development Agency (www.volunteering-ni.org) to deliver a series of Information Sessions between October 2008 and October 2009.

As you may be aware the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools is responsible for vetting all teachers, governors and volunteers within the Maintained sector. I wish to assure you that the Council will continue to manage the vetting procedure on your behalf. In light of this Officers from CCMS will be attending one of the information sessions outlined above and further guidance will be issued in due course.

If you have any queries in relation to the above, please do not hesitate to contact the Personnel Department in CCMS (Holywood) on Tel (028) 9042 6972

La'Verne Montgomery
Head of Human Resources and Corporate Services