

Disclosure and Barring Service Checks

(Note: This is a summary only and is not intended as legal advice)

	Enhanced	Enhanced with barred list information
Paid staff with unsupervised access to children		Must be obtained
Unpaid staff (volunteers) with unsupervised access to children		Must be obtained
Unpaid staff (volunteers) with supervised* access to children	No legal requirement, but schools may obtain enhanced check	No
Governors with unsupervised access to children		Must be obtained
Governors with supervised* access to children	Must be obtained	No
Governors with no access to children	Must be obtained	No
Contractors** with unsupervised access to children		Must be obtained
Contractors** with supervised access to children	No legal requirement, but schools may obtain enhanced check	No
Contractors** with no access to children	No	No

*Supervised means on a regular and day-to-day basis and does not reduce over time. The supervision must be 'reasonable in all the circumstance to ensure the protection of children'.

**Contractors are often thought of as solely tradesmen, however, this group may include after-school club leaders, enhanced curriculum providers, music teachers, sports' coaches, consultants and interim management staff. Where contractors are self-employed, schools should consider undertaking a DBS check for them as they are unable to make an application themselves.

DBS Checks for existing staff

Schools should only apply for new checks for existing staff where there are concerns about individuals as they are 'not required' as a matter of course. Staff or volunteers who change their role should undertake the relevant checks for their new position, eg. a volunteer who was previously supervised or worked only weekly, increases their time or begins to work unsupervised.

DBS Checks for Governors and Proprietors

Governors and proprietors in all types of schools must have Enhanced DBS Checks.