

Contractors providing building compliance and reactive maintenance in schools

For all contractors on our approved list we check relevant insurances, professional qualifications and memberships and that they carry out relevant employment checks on all their employees.

When visiting schools, they must book in prior to any visit unless they are responding to a Mission Critical Request. They will carry suitable identification and be clear what the purpose of the visit is. They must sign in, be provided with the necessary visitor accreditation and when they leave sign out. Any keys/access equipment you provide them with must be signed for. You should inform them of any local safeguarding/fire evacuation procedures etc. and provide them with a copy of the asbestos register (if you have any asbestos). They should always normally be accompanied unless you are happy they are very familiar with the site and can access any area they need to work without access to children.

Contractors, like any other individual, can only apply for a DBS if they are carrying out a regulated activity as set out in the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 as amended by the protection of Freedoms Act 2012.

For clarity the provision of these acts, with regard to what are regulated activities, are set out below.

A. Will the role involve:

Teaching, training or supervising children?

Carrying out the work frequently? (defined as once a week or more often, or on 4 or more days in a 30 day period, or overnight in the same establishment)

Involve the provision of Health Care or Personal Care to a child? (this does not have to be done frequently as defined above)

B. Where will the work be carried out?

In a 'Specified Place'? (including schools, pupil referral units, nursery schools, institutions for the detention of children, children's homes or children centres in England, childcare premises)

AND:

Be done frequently (same definition as above)

Done by the same person engaged in work for or in connection with the purposes of the establishment

Give the employee an opportunity to have contact with children

Exceptions to this group are the following:

Activity by a person contracted (or volunteering) to provide occasional or temporary services (not teaching, training or supervision of children)

Volunteering, under day to day supervision of another person engaging in regulated activity

As contractors are providing temporary services within a school defined as "infrequently" by the Acts they are not eligible to have DBS checks.