**Disqualification under the Childcare Act**

**Background Information**

The Department for Education has recently published a revision to the ‘Keeping Children Safe in Education’ document and has emphasised the requirement to ensure that no one is employed in primary education\* who is disqualified for working with children under the **Childcare (Disqualification) Regulations 2009** <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/disqualification-under-the-childcare-act-2006>

\*(actually the guidance talks about working with children under the age of 8 but schools are assuming that in a primary school you may be called upon to work with such children even if your daily timetable does not engage with them)

The DfE has advised us that ensuring trainee teachers are not disqualified under these regulations is the role of the training provider.

In addition to those matters which would be picked up by enhanced DBS checks these regulations disqualify teachers under a range of other criteria and you are advised to read the document in full to gain a clear understanding of these.

**What you need to do**

Whilst we are expecting further guidance on this, the current advice requires us to ask you to check the following:

Please read the **Childcare (Disqualification) Regulations 2009** (Guidance) <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/disqualification-under-the-childcare-act-2006>

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| Are you included on the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Children’s Barred List? | Yes/No | If Yes: If you are on this list then you will not be eligible to register for the PGCE course at the University of Exeter, nor indeed on any such course elsewhere. |
| Have you been cautioned or convicted of any offences against a child? | Yes/No | If your answer is **Yes** to any of these questions then you are disqualified from working with Children under the age of 8. HOWEVER you may be entitled to apply for a waiver from this disqualification from Ofsted:  You should contact [admissionspolicy@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:admissionspolicy@exeter.ac.uk) who will ask for some appropriate details and will refer your case to Ofsted.  You should read this guidance ( <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/applying-to-waive-disqualification-early-years-and-childcare-providers>) and then, unless the guidance specifically says a waiver would not be granted in your case, it is **your responsibility** to **apply for a waiver**.  If you are in school at the time of reading this information and have answered yes to any of the questions you should stop attending the school immediately and contact the Partnership Office ([exeterpartner@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:exeterpartner@exeter.ac.uk)) for further advice. |
| Have you been cautioned or convicted of any violent or sexual offences against an adult? | Yes/No |
| Have you committed any of the offences specified in these regulations? See Appendix A (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/disqualification-under-the-childcare-act-2006>) | Yes/No |
| **If you have children**:  Have your children at any time been taken into care?  Have your children been, at any time, the subject of a child protection order? | Yes/No |
| **Caring for other children:**  Has a court order been made, at any time, in respect of a child under your care?  Have you ever been refused registration or had registration cancelled in relation to childcare or a children’s home or have you ever been disqualified from private fostering? | Yes/No |
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| Have you committed an offence overseas which would constitute an offence regarding disqualification under the 2009 Regulations if it had been done in any part of the United Kingdom. | Yes/No |

**If the answer to *all* of these questions is no you can sign the self-declaration form. If the answer to *any* of these questions is yes you must contact** [**admissionspolicy@exeter.ac.uk**](mailto:admissionspolicy@exeter.ac.uk) **immediately.**

**IN ADDITION: IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT IF ANY OF THESE CIRCUMSTANCES ALTER AT ANY POINT DURING THE COURSE, YOU INFORM** [**exeterpartner@exeter.ac.uk**](mailto:exeterpartner@exeter.ac.uk) **IMMEDIATELY.**