



Teaching  
Regulation  
Agency

# **Mr Jamie Wheeler Professional conduct panel outcome**

**Panel decision and reasons on behalf of the  
Secretary of State for Education**

**July 2024**

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## Professional conduct panel decision and recommendations, and decision on behalf of the Secretary of State

**Teacher:** Mr Jamie Wheeler  
**Teacher ref number:** 1560420  
**Teacher date of birth:** 14 February 1991  
**TRA reference:** 20752  
**Date of determination:** 1 July 2024  
**Former employer:** [REDACTED] (“the School”)

### Introduction

A professional conduct panel (“the panel”) of the Teaching Regulation Agency (“the TRA”) convened on 1 July 2024 by virtual means, to consider the case of Mr Jamie Wheeler.

The panel members were Mr Peter Ward (lay panellist - in the chair), Ms Jo Palmer-Tweed (teacher panellist) and Dr Sian Rees-Evans (lay panellist).

The legal adviser to the panel was Mrs Luisa Gibbons of Eversheds Sutherland (International) LLP.

The presenting officer for the TRA was Ms Yasmin Omotosho of 7BR Barristers Chambers instructed by Kingsley Napley LLP solicitors.

Mr Wheeler was not present and was not represented.

The hearing took place in private and was recorded.

## Allegations

The panel considered the allegations set out in the notice of proceedings dated 16 April 2024 as amended pursuant to a decision of the panel as set out in the preliminary applications section below.

It was alleged that Mr Wheeler was guilty of having been convicted of a relevant offence, in that:

1. On 3 April 2023, he was convicted of:
  - a. Six counts of assault a boy under 13 by touching, contrary to section 7 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003;
  - b. Eight counts of offender of any age cause/incite a boy under 13 to engage in sexual activity – no penetration, contrary to section 8(1) of the Sexual Offences Act 2003;
  - c. Two counts of adult meet a boy under 16 years of age following grooming, contrary to section 15 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003;
  - d. Five counts of make indecent photograph/pseudo-photograph of a child, contrary to section 1(a) of the Protection of Children Act 1978
  - e. One count of possessing a paedophile manual, contrary to section 69(1) of the Serious Crime Act 2015.

In the absence of any response from the teacher, the allegations are not admitted.

Mr Wheeler has not admitted that he is guilty of having been convicted of a relevant offence.

## Preliminary applications

### Application to exclude the public

The presenting officer applied to exclude the public from the hearing pursuant to paragraph 5.85(iii) of the Teacher misconduct: Disciplinary procedures for the teaching profession May 2020 (the “Procedures”). The allegation relates to a series of serious offences, and there is a concern about the risk of the children concerned being identified. The presenting officer made representations that during the criminal proceedings, the police had strict reporting restrictions in place to protect the identity of the children involved.

No representations were made by Mr Wheeler as he was absent from the hearing.

The panel considered whether excluding the public for a limited period of the hearing or the granting anonymity would suffice to fulfil the purpose of the exclusion. However, the panel considered that the circumstances of the offence may lead to the identification of

the children, and that in those circumstances it would be impracticable to admit and exclude the public as the hearing proceeded. The panel decided to accede to the application to protect the interests of children, and that those interests outweighed any other competing interests.

The panel's decision, in due course, would be announced in public fulfilling the public interest considerations of declaring and upholding standards in the profession.

### **Application to proceed in Mr Wheeler's absence**

The panel considered whether this hearing should continue in the absence of the teacher.

The panel was satisfied that TRA had complied with the service requirements of paragraph 19(1) (a) to (c) of the Teachers' Disciplinary (England) Regulations 2012, (the "Regulations").

The panel was also satisfied that the notice of proceedings complied with paragraphs 5.23 and 5.24 of the Procedures.

The panel determined to exercise its discretion under paragraph 5.47 of the Procedures to proceed with the hearing in the absence of the teacher.

The panel took as its starting point the principle from R v Jones that its discretion to commence a hearing in the absence of the teacher has to be exercised with the utmost care and caution, and that its discretion is a severely constrained one. In considering the question of fairness, the panel recognised that fairness to the professional is of prime importance but that it also encompasses the fair, economic, expeditious and efficient disposal of allegations against the professional, as was explained in GMC v Adeogba & Visvardis.

In making its decision, the panel noted that the teacher may waive his right to participate in the hearing. The panel took account of the various factors drawn to its attention from the case of R v Jones [2003] 1 AC1.

The panel noted that a bundle of evidence upon which the TRA intended to rely was sent to Mr Wheeler on 7 March 2024 and was signed for by His Majesty's Prison on 8 March 2024. The panel was informed that no response was received. On 16 April 2024 the notice of proceedings was sent to Mr Wheeler at His Majesty's Prison. The panel has seen a reply slip confirming that Mr Wheeler had received the notice. No response from Mr Wheeler was received. The panel therefore considered that the teacher had waived his right to be present at the hearing in the knowledge of when and where the hearing is taking place.

There was no indication that an adjournment might lead to Mr Wheeler attending the hearing. Such an adjournment would have to be for a period of at least 10 weeks to enable a second notice of proceedings to be served effectively.

Mr Wheeler was not legally represented and he had provided no indication that he wished to be legally represented.

Mr Wheeler has provided no response to the allegations and this was noted by the panel. However, this was a case involving numerous convictions and the panel would be obliged to accept the certificate of conviction as proof of the offence and the facts necessarily implied by the convictions. The panel was also able to exercise vigilance in making its decision, taking into account the degree of risk of the panel reaching the wrong decision as a result of not having heard the teacher's account.

The panel had no explanation from Mr Wheeler as to the reason for his non-attendance.

The panel recognised that the allegations against the teacher are very serious and that there was a real risk that, if proven, the panel would be required to consider whether to recommend that the teacher ought to be prohibited from teaching.

The panel recognised that the efficient disposal of allegations against teachers is required to ensure the protection of pupils and to maintain confidence in the profession. The children involved would likely have an interest in this case concluding in order to move forwards.

The panel noted that there were no witnesses to be called, and therefore the effect of delay on the memories of witnesses was not a factor to be taken into consideration in this case.

The panel decided to proceed with the hearing in the absence of the teacher. The panel considers that in light of:

- the teacher's waiver of his right to appear;
- an adjournment being unlikely to result in Mr Wheeler attending; and
- the serious nature of the allegations,

the public interest of this hearing proceeding within a reasonable time (and giving closure to the families involved) was in favour of this hearing continuing today.

## **Amendment of the allegation**

The presenting officer applied to amend the allegation set out in the notice of proceedings to include the words “You have been convicted of a relevant offence, namely” which had been inadvertently omitted. The panel was told that the omitted words had been included in documents sent to Mr Wheeler on several occasions. The panel has seen a letter dated 7 March 2024 to Mr Wheeler including the omitted words. It was plain to the panel that the omission from the allegation set out in the notice of proceedings was a typographical error.

The panel was told that Mr Wheeler had not engaged with these proceedings at all. The panel considered that Mr Wheeler had waived the right to make representations regarding the amendment. Since Mr Wheeler had not engaged with these proceedings at all, it was unlikely that his defence would have been different had the amendment been made at an earlier stage. The panel decided to amend the allegation as requested.

## **Summary of evidence**

### **Documents**

In advance of the hearing, the panel received a bundle of documents which included:

Section 1: Chronology and list of key people – pages 3 to 5

Section 2: Notice of proceedings and response – pages 6 to 16

Section 3: Teaching Regulation Agency documents – pages 17 to 287

In addition, the panel was provided with the following:

Skeleton argument to exclude the public with appended documents – 57 pages.

Proceeding in absence bundle – 18 pages.

The panel members confirmed that they had read all of the documents within the bundle, in advance of the hearing, together with the skeleton argument bundle and the proceeding in absence bundle.

### **Witnesses**

The panel heard no oral evidence.

## Decision and reasons

The panel announced its decision and reasons as follows:

The panel carefully considered the case before it and reached a decision.

Between 1 September 2016 and March 2022, Mr Wheeler held posts as a class teacher responsible for classes in Years 4, 5 and 6. He was suspended from his role on 18 March 2021 and this post was terminated on 9 March 2022. [REDACTED]

### Findings of fact

The findings of fact are as follows:

The panel found the following particulars of the allegations against you proved, for these reasons:

- 1. On 3 April 2023, you were convicted of:**
  - a. Six counts of assault a boy under 13 by touching, contrary to section 7 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003;**
  - b. Eight counts of offender of any age cause/incite a boy under 13 to engage in sexual activity – no penetration, contrary to section 8(1) of the Sexual Offences Act 2003;**
  - c. Two counts of adult meet a boy under 16 years of age following grooming, contrary to section 15 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003;**
  - d. Five counts of make indecent photograph/pseudo -photograph of a child, contrary to section 1(a) of the Protection of Children Act 1978**
  - e. One count of possessing a paedophile manual, contrary to section 69(1) of the Serious Crime Act 2015.**

The panel was provided with a Certificate of Conviction confirming that Mr Wheeler was convicted of the alleged offences on 3 April 2023 upon his own confession. On 16 May 2023, Mr Wheeler was sentenced to 4 years and 10 months' imprisonment. A sexual harm prevention order 10 years was made and he was required to sign the Sex Offenders' Register indefinitely. An order was also made for the forfeiture of his devices and he was ordered to pay a Victim Surcharge of £170.

The panel accepted the Certificate of Conviction as conclusive proof of both the convictions and the facts necessarily implied by the convictions. The police national computer print-out also confirmed Mr Wheeler's convictions of the above offences.



The panel noted that on the devices seized belonging to Mr Wheeler, there were numerous Category B and Category C videos found depicting two boys [REDACTED]. The activity displayed in those videos constituted the various touching and inciting activities set out in allegation 1.a and 1.b. Meeting up with the boys with the intention of engaging in this activity constituted the conduct set out in allegation 1.c.

With regard to allegation 1.d the panel noted that also on the devices seized belonging to Mr Wheeler, it was found that there were the following images downloaded from the internet.

- 10,752 Category A images including 908 moving images of up to 13 and a half minutes in duration;
- 3705 Category B images including 168 moving images; and
- 20,839 Category C images including 155 moving images.

The images found on Mr Wheeler's devices downloaded from the internet depicted an unknown number of children who had suffered sexual abuse.

The manual referred to in allegation 1.e was discovered on Mr Wheeler's electronic devices and contained numerous chapters on how to groom and then conduct sexual activities with young boys. The activity depicted in the recordings of the two boys indicated the defendant engaging in the type of activity advised in the manual.

## **Findings as to conviction of a relevant offence**

The panel was satisfied that the conduct of Mr Wheeler in relation to the facts it found proved, involved breaches of the Teachers' Standards. The panel considered that by reference to Part 2, Mr Wheeler was in breach of the following standards:

Teachers uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school, by

- treating pupils with dignity, building relationships rooted in mutual respect, and at all times observing proper boundaries appropriate to a teacher's professional position
- having regard for the need to safeguard pupils' well-being, in accordance with statutory provisions
- showing tolerance of and respect for the rights of others
- not undermining ... the rule of law...
- ensuring that personal beliefs are not expressed in ways which exploit pupils' vulnerability or might lead them to break the law

Teachers must have proper and professional regard for the ethos, policies and practices of the school in which they teach, and maintain high standards in their own attendance and punctuality.

Teachers must have an understanding of, and always act within, the statutory frameworks which set out their professional duties and responsibilities.

Mr Wheeler breached the fundamental principles of Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) despite having been provided with regular safeguarding training.

The panel noted that the individual's actions were relevant to teaching, working with children and working in an education setting. Mr Wheeler had engaged in a sophisticated plan to groom children for his own sexual gratification.

The panel noted that the behaviour involved in committing the offences would have been likely to have had an impact on the safety and/or security of pupils and/or members of the public. His behaviour will have not only had a lasting impact on the boys he abused but also their families [REDACTED].

The panel also took account of the way the teaching profession is viewed by others. The panel considered that Mr Wheeler's behaviour in committing the offences would be likely to affect public confidence in the teaching profession, if Mr Wheeler was allowed to continue teaching.

The panel noted that Mr Wheeler's behaviour ultimately led to a sentence of imprisonment, which was indicative of the seriousness of the offences committed, and which the Advice states is likely to be considered "a relevant offence".

This was a case concerning offences involving:

- sexual activity;
- any activity involving viewing, taking, making, possessing, distributing or publishing any indecent photograph or image or indecent pseudo photograph or image of a child, or permitting any such activity, including one-off incidents; and
- controlling or coercive behaviour.

The Advice indicates that a conviction for any offence that relates to or involves such offences is likely to be considered "a relevant offence".

The panel considered that this case was at the most serious end of the possible spectrum. [REDACTED] Furthermore, he accumulated large quantities of indecent images including significant numbers of moving images that depicted the most serious child abuse to fuel his deep-seated sexual attraction to young boys. He thereby supported an industry which preys upon and sexually exploits children.

The panel took into account that Mr Wheeler pleaded guilty at the Crown Court; that the Trial Judge had acknowledged that he had “expressed remorse” and that he had “taken some steps [himself] to deal with [his] predilections”. The panel found that the seriousness of the offending behaviour that led to the conviction was relevant to Mr Wheeler’s fitness to be a teacher. The panel considered that a finding that these convictions were for relevant offences was necessary to reaffirm clear standards of conduct so as to maintain public confidence in the teaching profession.

### **Panel’s recommendation to the Secretary of State**

Given the panel’s findings in respect of conviction of relevant offences, it was necessary for the panel to go on to consider whether it would be appropriate to recommend the imposition of a prohibition order by the Secretary of State.

In considering whether to recommend to the Secretary of State that a prohibition order is appropriate, the panel had to consider the public interest, the seriousness of the behaviour and any mitigation offered by Mr Wheeler and whether a prohibition order is necessary and proportionate. Prohibition orders should not be given in order to be punitive, or to show that blame has been apportioned, although they are likely to have punitive effect.

The panel had regard to the particular public interest considerations set out in the Advice and, having done so, found a number of them to be relevant in this case, namely, the safeguarding and wellbeing of pupils; the protection of other members of the public; the maintenance of public confidence in the profession; and declaring and upholding proper standards of conduct.

There was a strong public interest consideration in respect of the safeguarding and wellbeing of pupils, given the serious findings of grooming children, making indecent images of children and possessing a paedophile manual.

Similarly, the panel considered that public confidence in the profession could be seriously weakened if conduct such as that found against Mr Wheeler were not treated with the utmost seriousness when regulating the conduct of the profession.

The panel was of the view that a strong public interest consideration in declaring proper standards of conduct in the profession was also present as the conduct found against Mr Wheeler was outside that which could reasonably be tolerated.

There was no evidence of Mr Wheeler’s ability as an educator and in any event, the panel considered that the adverse public interest considerations above outweighed any interest in retaining Mr Wheeler in the profession. His behaviour fundamentally breached the standard of conduct expected of a teacher, and he exploited his position of trust.

The panel considered carefully the seriousness of the behaviour, noting that the Advice states that the expectation of both the public and pupils, is that members of the teaching

profession maintain an exemplary level of integrity and ethical standards at all times. The panel noted that a teacher's behaviour [REDACTED] should be viewed very seriously in terms of its potential influence on pupils and be seen as a possible threat to the public interest.

The panel took further account of the Advice, which suggests that a panel will likely consider a teacher's behaviour to be incompatible with being a teacher if there is evidence of one or more of the factors that begin on page 15. In the list of such factors, those that were relevant in this case were:

- serious departure from the personal and professional conduct elements of the Teachers' Standards;

- the commission of a serious criminal offence, including those that resulted in a conviction or caution, paying particular attention to offences that are "relevant matters" for the purposes of the Police Act 1997 and criminal record disclosure;

- misconduct seriously affecting the education and/or safeguarding and well-being of pupils, and particularly where there is a continuing risk;

- abuse of position or trust (particularly involving vulnerable pupils);

- sexual misconduct, for example, involving actions that were sexually motivated or of a sexual nature and/or that use or exploit the trust, knowledge or influence derived from the individual's professional position;

- any activity involving viewing, taking, making, possessing, distributing or publishing any indecent photograph or image or indecent pseudo photograph or image of a child, or permitting such activity, including one-off incidents;

- failure in their duty of care towards a child, including exposing a child to risk or failing to promote the safety and welfare of the children (as set out in Part 1 of KCSIE)

- violation of the rights of pupils;

- a deep-seated attitude that leads to harmful behaviour;

- dishonesty or a lack of integrity, including the deliberate concealment of their actions or purposeful destruction of evidence, especially where these behaviours have been repeated or had serious consequences, or involved the coercion of another person to act in a way contrary to their own interests;

- collusion or concealment including: any activity that involves knowingly substantiating another person's statements where they are known to be false; failure to challenge inappropriate actions, defending inappropriate actions or concealing inappropriate actions; encouraging others to break rules; lying to prevent the identification of wrongdoing;

Even though the behaviour found proved in this case indicated that a prohibition order would be appropriate, taking account of the public interest and the seriousness of the

behaviour and the likely harm to the public interest were the teacher be allowed to continue to teach, the panel went on to consider any mitigation.

Mr Wheeler's actions were deliberate and entailed a sophisticated level of planning.

There was no evidence to suggest that Mr Wheeler was acting under extreme duress, e.g. a physical threat or significant intimidation.

There was no evidence that prior to the matters for which he was convicted he had demonstrated exceptionally high standards in his personal and professional conduct or of having contributed significantly to the education sector.

The panel saw evidence that showed Mr Wheeler had produced one of the videos depicting the two boys on 20 February 2021 [REDACTED].

Mr Wheeler adduced no testimonial statements attesting to his character.

The panel noted that it had been acknowledged at the time of sentencing Mr Wheeler that he pleaded guilty; that he had expressed remorse; and that he had taken some steps himself to deal with his predilections. Mr Wheeler did not provide any response to the allegations in the present proceedings, nor did he attend the virtual hearing.

The panel first considered whether it would be proportionate to conclude this case with no recommendation of prohibition, considering whether the publication of the findings made by the panel would be sufficient.

The panel was of the view that, applying the standard of the ordinary intelligent citizen, it would not be a proportionate and appropriate response to recommend no prohibition order. Recommending that the publication of adverse findings would be sufficient would unacceptably compromise the public interest considerations present in this case, despite the severity of the consequences for Mr Wheeler of prohibition.

The panel was of the view that prohibition was both proportionate and appropriate. The panel decided that the public interest considerations outweighed the interests of Mr Wheeler. This case involved sexual abuse of children [REDACTED], as well as convictions for his consumption of a large quantity of the most serious indecent images of children. He thereby poses a threat to children. Accordingly, the panel made a recommendation to the Secretary of State that a prohibition order should be imposed with immediate effect.

The panel went on to consider whether or not it would be appropriate for it to decide to recommend a review period of the order. The panel was mindful that the Advice states that a prohibition order applies for life, but there may be circumstances, in any given case, that may make it appropriate to allow a teacher to apply to have the prohibition order reviewed after a specified period of time that may not be less than 2 years.

The Advice indicates that there are cases involving certain conduct where it is likely that the public interest will have greater relevance and weigh in favour of not offering a review period. These cases include:

serious sexual misconduct, e.g. where the act was sexually motivated and resulted in, or had the potential to result in, harm to a person or persons, particularly where the individual has used his professional position to influence or exploit a person or persons;

any sexual misconduct involving a child; and

any activity involving viewing, taking, making, possessing, distributing or publishing any indecent photograph or image or indecent pseudo photograph or image of a child, including one off incidents.

The panel found that Mr Wheeler was responsible for such conduct.

The panel was unable to independently assess Mr Wheeler's insight or remorse as he did not participate in the hearing, nor did he provide written representations. Although it had been acknowledged by the Trial Judge that Mr Wheeler had taken some steps to deal with his predilections, there is no evidence before this panel of any ongoing rehabilitation; how successful it has been; nor any prognosis for the future. There was no evidence before the panel that could indicate that the risk Mr Wheeler poses to children might at some stage be reduced. Furthermore, Mr Wheeler will be on the Sex Offenders' Register for life.

The panel decided that the findings indicated a situation in which a review period would not be appropriate and, as such, decided that it would be proportionate, in all the circumstances, for the prohibition order to be recommended without provision for a review period.

## **Decision and reasons on behalf of the Secretary of State**

I have given very careful consideration to this case and to the recommendation of the panel in respect of both sanction and review period.

In considering this case, I have also given very careful attention to the Advice that the Secretary of State has published concerning the prohibition of teachers.

In this case, the panel has found all of the allegations proven and found that those proven facts amount to a relevant conviction.

The panel has made a recommendation to the Secretary of State that Mr Jamie Wheeler should be the subject of a prohibition order, with no provision for a review period.

In particular, the panel has found that Mr Wheeler is in breach of the following standards:

Teachers uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school, by

- treating pupils with dignity, building relationships rooted in mutual respect, and at all times observing proper boundaries appropriate to a teacher's professional position
- having regard for the need to safeguard pupils' well-being, in accordance with statutory provisions
- showing tolerance of and respect for the rights of others
- not undermining ... the rule of law...
- ensuring that personal beliefs are not expressed in ways which exploit pupils' vulnerability or might lead them to break the law

Teachers must have proper and professional regard for the ethos, policies and practices of the school in which they teach, and maintain high standards in their own attendance and punctuality.

Teachers must have an understanding of, and always act within, the statutory frameworks which set out their professional duties and responsibilities.

The panel was satisfied that the conduct of Mr Wheeler involved breaches of the responsibilities and duties set out in statutory guidance Keeping children safe in education.

The panel finds that the conduct of Mr Wheeler fell significantly short of the standards expected of the profession.

The findings of misconduct are extremely serious as they include a relevant conviction for sexual offences involving children resulting in a sentence of imprisonment.

I have to determine whether the imposition of a prohibition order is proportionate and in the public interest. In assessing that for this case, I have considered the overall aim of a prohibition order which is to protect pupils and to maintain public confidence in the profession. I have considered the extent to which a prohibition order in this case would achieve that aim taking into account the impact that it will have on the individual teacher. I have also asked myself, whether a less intrusive measure, such as the published finding of a relevant conviction, would itself be sufficient to achieve the overall aim. I have to consider whether the consequences of such a publication are themselves sufficient. I have considered therefore whether or not prohibiting Mr Wheeler, and the impact that will have on the teacher, is proportionate and in the public interest.

In this case, I have considered the extent to which a prohibition order would protect children and safeguard pupils. The panel observes that "There was a strong public interest consideration in respect of the safeguarding and wellbeing of pupils, given the

serious findings of grooming children, making indecent images of children and possessing a paedophile manual.” A prohibition order would therefore prevent such a risk from being present in the future.

I have also taken into account the panel’s comments on insight and remorse, which it sets out as follows:

“The panel noted that it had been acknowledged at the time of sentencing Mr Wheeler that he pleaded guilty; that he had expressed remorse; and that he had taken some steps himself to deal with his predilections. Mr Wheeler did not provide any response to the allegations in the present proceedings, nor did he attend the virtual hearing.”

In my judgement, the lack of evidence of full insight and remorse on Mr Wheeler’s part means that there is some risk of the repetition of his behaviour and this presents a significant risk to the future wellbeing of pupils. I have therefore given this element considerable weight in reaching my decision.

I have gone on to consider the extent to which a prohibition order would maintain public confidence in the profession. The panel observes, “Similarly, the panel considered that public confidence in the profession could be seriously weakened if conduct such as that found against Mr Wheeler were not treated with the utmost seriousness when regulating the conduct of the profession.” I am particularly mindful of the finding in this case of a teacher being convicted of sexual offences against children, and the very negative impact that such a finding could have on the reputation of the profession.

I have had to consider that the public has a high expectation of professional standards of all teachers and that the public might regard a failure to impose a prohibition order as a failure to uphold those high standards. In weighing these considerations, I have had to consider the matter from the point of view of an “ordinary intelligent and well-informed citizen.”

I have considered whether the publication of a finding of a relevant conviction, in the absence of a prohibition order, can itself be regarded by such a person as being a proportionate response to the misconduct that has been found proven in this case.

I have also considered the impact of a prohibition order on Mr Wheeler himself. The panel notes that “Mr Wheeler adduced no testimonial statements attesting to his character.” It goes on to record that “There was no evidence that prior to the matters for which he was convicted he had demonstrated exceptionally high standards in his personal and professional conduct or of having contributed significantly to the education sector.”



A prohibition order would prevent Mr Wheeler from teaching. A prohibition order would also clearly deprive the public of his contribution to the profession for the period that it is in force.

In this case, I have placed considerable weight on the very serious nature of the misconduct found by the panel and have noted its view that he continues to pose a threat to children.

I have given less weight in my consideration of sanction therefore, to the contribution that Mr Wheeler has made to the profession. In my view, it is necessary to impose a prohibition order in order to maintain public confidence in the profession. A published decision, in light of the circumstances in this case, does not in my view satisfy the public interest requirement concerning public confidence in the profession.

For these reasons, I have concluded that a prohibition order is proportionate and in the public interest in order to achieve the intended aims of a prohibition order.

I have gone on to consider the matter of a review period. In this case, the panel has recommended that no provision should be made for a review period.

I have considered the panel's concluding comments:

"The panel was unable to independently assess Mr Wheeler's insight or remorse as he did not participate in the hearing, nor did he provide written representations. Although it had been acknowledged by the Trial Judge that Mr Wheeler had taken some steps to deal with his predilections, there is no evidence before this panel of any ongoing rehabilitation; how successful it has been; nor any prognosis for the future. There was no evidence before the panel that could indicate that the risk Mr Wheeler poses to children might at some stage be reduced. Furthermore, Mr Wheeler will be on the Sex Offenders' Register for life."

I have considered whether not allowing a review period reflects the seriousness of the findings and is a proportionate period to achieve the aim of maintaining public confidence in the profession. In this case, factors mean that allowing a review period is not sufficient to achieve the aim of maintaining public confidence in the profession. These elements are the extremely serious nature of the misconduct found, which in my judgment is fundamentally incompatible with working as a teacher, as well as the lack of evidence of full insight or remorse on Mr Wheeler's part and the attendant risk that his behaviour may be repeated in the future.

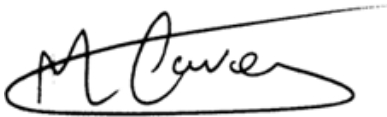
I consider therefore that allowing for no review period is necessary to maintain public confidence and is proportionate and in the public interest.

**This means that Mr Jamie Wheeler is prohibited from teaching indefinitely and cannot teach in any school, sixth form college, relevant youth accommodation or children's home in England.** Furthermore, in view of the seriousness of the allegations

found proved against him, I have decided that Mr Wheeler shall not be entitled to apply for restoration of his eligibility to teach.

This order takes effect from the date on which it is served on the teacher, on the 16 July 2024.

Mr Wheeler has a right of appeal to the King's Bench Division of the High Court within 28 days from the date he is given notice of this order.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Cavey', enclosed within a large, loopy oval flourish.

**Decision maker: Marc Cavey**

**Date: 3 July 2024**

This decision is taken by the decision maker named above on behalf of the Secretary of State.