



RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION STATEMENT

The safe recruitment of staff is the first step in the effective safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our pupils. On Track Education is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. It is recognised that this can only be achieved through sound procedures, good inter-agency co-operation and the recruitment and retention of competent, motivated employees who are suited to, and fulfilled in the roles they undertake.

On Track Education recognises the value of, and seeks to achieve a diverse workforce which includes people from different backgrounds, with different skills and abilities. On Track Education is committed to ensuring that the recruitment and selection process is conducted in a manner that is systematic, efficient, effective and promotes equality of opportunity. Selection will be on the basis of merit and ability, assessed against the qualifications, skills and competencies required to do the job. On Track Education will uphold its obligations under law to not discriminate against applicants.

On Track Education will implement robust recruitment procedures and checks for appointing staff and volunteers to ensure that reasonable steps are taken not to appoint a person who is unsuitable to work with children, or who is disqualified from working with children, or does not have the suitable skills and experience for the intended role.

The following pre-employment checks will be required:

- receipt of at least two satisfactory references, one from most recent employer*
- verification of the candidate's identity
- a satisfactory enhanced DBS check (including barred list information)
- verification of the candidate's mental and physical fitness for the post
- verification of qualifications
- verification of professional status where required e.g. QTS status (unless properly exempted)
- the production of evidence of the right to work in the UK
- a check for a teacher prohibition order
- a check for a section 128 direction (for management positions)
- online searches may be conducted on shortlisted candidates to help identify any issues that are publicly available

NB It is illegal for anyone who is barred from working with children to apply for, or work in our schools in any voluntary or paid capacity.

- On Track Education will contact current and previous employers, if an applicant is shortlisted, as part of pre-appointment checks. In exceptional circumstances, where you have good reason not to want your referees to be contacted prior to interview, you should set out your reasons with your application form. On Track Education will liaise with you and where they agree to defer in such cases, referees will be contacted immediately after interview and before an offer of employment is made.
- If the person has lived or worked outside the UK, further checks will be carried out, including overseas criminal record checks and obtaining a letter of professional standing from the professional regulating authority in the relevant country or countries

On Track Education will take up any discrepancies or anomalies in the information provided or issues arising from references at interview.

On Track Education will contact current and previous employers of those applicants.

On Track Education will keep and maintain a single central record of recruitment and vetting checks, in line with the statutory requirements.

On Track Education requires all staff and volunteers who are convicted or cautioned for any offence during their employment to notify the school, in writing of the offence and penalty.

All posts within On Track Education are exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and therefore all applicants will be required to declare spent and unspent convictions, cautions and bind-overs, including those regarded as spent and have an Enhanced Criminal Records Disclosure. You can obtain independent, confidential advice on which cautions or convictions that must be disclosed by contacting the following agencies:

NACRO: <https://www.nacro.org.uk/criminal-record-support-service/>

UNLOCK: <https://www.unlock.org.uk/advice-support>

A previously issued Criminal Records Disclosure Certificate will only be accepted in certain restricted circumstances. On Track Education is committed to ensuring that people who have been convicted are treated fairly and given every opportunity to establish their suitability for positions. Having a criminal record will not necessarily be a bar to obtaining a position. This will depend on the background, nature and circumstances of the offence(s).