

Safer Recruitment Policy 2020 / 2021



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A. PURPOSE

NIS considers the safety of its students of paramount importance and we make a commitment to protecting the children with/for whom we work.

To this end, and in addition to a Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy in our schools, NIS recognizes the need to ensure, where possible, the safety of our students when we employ and continue to employ, persons responsible for the delivery of teaching and learning, care of students in our schools, or those persons who interact with our students on behalf of the Company.

B. PROCESS

The NIS safer recruitment policy is an essential element in creating and maintaining a safe and supportive environment for all students, staff, and others within the community and aims to ensure both safe and fair recruitment and selection of all staff and volunteers by:

1. attracting the best possible candidates/volunteers to vacancies
2. deterring prospective candidates/volunteers who are unsuitable from applying for vacancies
3. identifying and rejecting those candidates/volunteers who are unsuitable to work with children and young people

NIS is committed to using procedures that deal effectively with those adults who fail to comply with NIS's safeguarding and child protection procedures and practices.

Any abuse against a member of staff will be dealt with in accordance with local guidance or law and will be reported to the relevant local authorities. Will be followed if any member of school staff, volunteer, or contractor has:

- behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child
- possibly committed a criminal offense against or related to a child
- behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates he or she would pose a risk of harm if they work regularly or closely with children

As an employer we are under a duty to refer to the local authorities, any member of staff who is currently living and working or has previously lived and worked in the UAE, following disciplinary investigation, is dismissed or resigns because of misconduct towards a pupil and we may refer any concerns we have before the completion of this process.

C. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

NIS HR Manager will:

- ensure the safe and fair recruitment and selection of staff at the school.
- ensure that appropriate staff at all levels have completed safer recruitment training and repeat this every 5 years.

NIS HR Manager will:

- ensure the school's effective procedures in place for the safe and fair recruitment and selection of staff and volunteers,
- monitor compliance and ensure these do not breach local laws
- ensure that appropriate staff have completed safer recruitment training and repeat this every 5 years

The Principal will:

- ensure the school has effective procedures in place for the safe and fair recruitment and selection of staff and volunteers and that these are reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that they meet local laws,
- ensure that all appropriate checks have been carried out on staff and volunteers in the school
- monitor any contractors and agencies compliance with this document
- promote the safety and well-being of children and young people at every stage of this process

D. PROCEDURE

NIS is committed to safeguarding children and young people. All post holders are subject to appropriate vetting procedures and satisfactory Criminal Background Checks or equivalent covering the previous 10 years of employment history.

All applicants will receive a pack containing the following when applying for a post:

- A statement of the school's commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of the children and young people in our care.
- Job description and person specification
- The NIS Safeguarding Policy
- The NIS Safer Recruitment Policy
- The selection procedure for the post
- The school's whistleblowing policy
- An application form
- Copy of the School's Code of Conduct

Prospective applicants must complete, in full, and return a signed application form. Incomplete application forms will be returned to the applicant where the deadline for completed forms has not passed.

Candidates submitting an application form completed online will be asked to sign the form if called for an interview.

A curriculum vitae will not be accepted in place of a completed application form.

Identification of the Recruitment Panel

At least one member of the Selection and Recruitment Panel will have successfully completed training in safer recruitment within the last 5 years

Shortlisting and References

Candidates will be shortlisted against the person specification for the post.

Two references, one of which must be from the applicant's current/most recent employer where possible, will be taken up before the selection stage so that any discrepancies may be probed during this stage of the procedure (note references should come from the line manager of the previous organization, not a colleague).

References will be sought directly from the referee, and where necessary, will be contacted to clarify any anomalies or discrepancies. Detailed written records will be kept of such exchanges. Where possible references will be requested in advance of the interview.

Where necessary, previous employers who have not been named as referees may be contacted in order to clarify any such anomalies or discrepancies. Detailed written records will be kept of such exchanges.

Referees will be asked specific questions about the following:

- The candidate's suitability to work with children and young people, if applicable · Any substantiated allegations
- Any disciplinary warnings, including time-expired warnings, relating to the Safeguarding of children and young people
- The candidate's suitability for the post.

Reference requests will include the following:

- Applicants current post and salary
- Attendance record
- Disciplinary record

All appointments are subject to satisfactory references, vetting procedures, and criminal background checks.

Invitation to Interview

Candidates called to interview will receive:

- A letter confirming the interview and any other selection techniques
- Details of the interview day including details of the panel members
- A further copy of the person specification
- Details of any tasks to be undertaken as part of the interview process
- The opportunity to discuss the process prior to the interview
- Be asked to provide proof of identity

The Selection Process

Selection techniques will be determined by the nature and duties of the post, but all vacancies will require an interview of short-listed candidates.

Interviews will, where possible, always be face-to-face and may include additional interview techniques such as observation or exercises. Where this is not possible, an initial Skype interview will be conducted, followed by a face-to-face meeting with short-listed candidates.

Candidates will be required to:

- Explain any gaps in employment
- Explain satisfactorily any anomalies or discrepancies in the information available to the panel · Declare any information that is likely to appear on the Criminal Background check or equivalent.
- Demonstrate their ability to safeguard and protect the welfare of children and young people and their ability and willingness to promote the ISP/School core values.

Employment Checks

An offer of appointment will be conditional, and all successful candidates will be required to:

- Provide proof of identity
- Provide Criminal Background Checks or equivalent covering any country they have lived and worked in during the last 10 years.
- Provide proof of professional status
- Provide actual certificates of qualifications
- Complete a confidential health questionnaire (in countries where this is permitted)
- Provide proof of eligibility to live and work in the country of employment

The above must be included in the conditional offer letter clearly stating that failure to comply will result in the offer being withdrawn.

All checks will be:

- Confirmed in writing
- Documented and retained on the personnel file
- Recorded on the school's Single Central Register
- Followed up if they are unsatisfactory or if there are any discrepancies in the information received.

Employment will commence subject to all checks and procedures being satisfactorily completed.

Induction

All staff and volunteers who are new to the school will receive information on the school's safeguarding policy and procedures and guidance on safe working practices which would include guidance on acceptable conduct/behavior. These expectations will form part of new staff members' induction training.

All successful candidates will undergo a period of induction and will:

1. Meet regularly with their induction tutor OR Meet regularly with their line manager
2. Attend appropriate training including generalist child protection training

Contracted Staff

The contracted staff or company will be required to provide a current criminal background check or equivalent for the country they are working in for every member of their staff working in the school or a letter confirming that they have these on file and will be kept updated every three years.