

**Education Placement Group Limited and subsidiary companies (the "Education Placement Group")**

**Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement**

**INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**

Slavery and human trafficking remains a hidden blight on our global society. We all have a responsibility to be alert to the risks, however small, in our business and in the wider supply chain. Employees are expected to report concerns and management are expected to act upon them.

We are committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in our supply chains, business partners or any part of our business. Our Anti-slavery Policy reflects this commitment.

**ORGANISATION'S STRUCTURE**

Supply Desk Limited and Just Teachers Limited are providers of recruitment services to the education sector. e-Qualitas Professional Services Limited is a provider of initial teacher training leading to the award of qualified teacher status. The ultimate parent company is Education Placement Group Limited. Education Placement Group Limited has its head office in England. Education Placement Group has over 175 employees and operates mainly in the UK, with an office in Australia.

Education Placement Group has a global annual turnover of around £49.2 million.

**OUR BUSINESS**

Our core recruitment business is sourcing, vetting and introducing to schools qualified teachers and support staff, both for temporary and permanent positions. Specific recruitment sector regulation includes the Conduct of Employment Agencies and Employment Businesses Regulations 2003 (as amended) and the Agency Worker Regulations 2010. Compliance with recruitment sector regulation and legislation is inspected and enforced by the Employment Agencies Standards Inspectorate ("EASI").

Our teacher training business works with a network of schools to provide school-led initial teacher training ("ITT") including Schools Direct and teaching apprenticeships. ITT is strictly regulated by the Department for Education and inspected by Ofsted. The ESFA provides the framework and rules to which the business must comply in relation to the teaching apprenticeship.

We consider that the risk of modern slavery and human trafficking in the education recruitment and initial teacher training sectors is limited due to:

- The level of qualification of the candidates who are supplied to work in schools or who undertake ITT;

- The strict vetting checks required in relation to all candidates who work or train in schools; and
- Sector regulation and inspection by the DfE, Ofsted, EASI and ESFA.

#### **WHO WE WORK WITH**

All of the schools and other education establishments that we work with are known to our staff. All of the candidates that we work with are known to our staff, and are required to go through a rigorous registration process which includes pre-engagement checks.

#### **OUR SUPPLY CHAINS**

Our supply chains include:

- sourcing appropriately qualified and experienced teachers and support staff in the UK and globally (including teachers qualified and trained in Australia);
- placing teaching staff in temporary and permanent positions, mainly in the UK;
- engaging with schools to provide ITT to trainees; and
- engaging with trainees in relation to the provision to them of ITT.

We are committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in our supply chains or in any part of our business. Our Anti-slavery Policy reflects our commitment to acting ethically and with integrity in all our business relationships and to implementing and enforcing effective systems and controls to ensure slavery and human trafficking is not taking place anywhere in our supply chains.

#### **DUE DILIGENCE PROCESSES FOR SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

As part of our initiative to identify and mitigate risk we have in place systems to:

- Identify and assess potential risk areas in our supply chains;
- Ensure that strict identity, right to work, qualifications, referencing and other vetting checks are carried out in relation to all candidates and trainees to whom we provide services, and in relation to all internal employees;
- Ensure that the education establishments with whom we work (mainly schools and academies in the UK) have in place suitable anti-slavery and human trafficking policies and processes.
- Monitor the working conditions, hours of work and pay of our temporary worker candidates and trainees; and
- Encourage the reporting of concerns and the protection of whistle blowers.

After due consideration, we have not identified any significant risks of modern slavery, forced labour, or human trafficking in our supply chain. However, we continue to be alert to the potential for problems.

**SUPPLIER ADHERENCE TO OUR VALUES**

We have zero tolerance to slavery and human trafficking. We expect all those in our supply chain to comply with our values.

Our supply chain compliance is monitored with involvement from the Legal, Compliance and Sales Departments.

**TRAINING**

To ensure a high level of understanding of the risks of modern slavery and human trafficking in our supply chains and our business, we provide training to the relevant members of our staff. All Directors have been briefed on the subject.

This statement is made pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes the Education Placement Group's slavery and human trafficking statement for the financial year ending 31 December 2023.



..... Garry Clarke, Chief Operating Officer

30 June 2024