



ACCEPTABLE CHARACTER REFEREES

Here is a list of acceptable character referees that are suitable for referencing in line with Smile Education's compliance and safeguarding process.

Please note that your character referee must have known you for a **minimum of 3 years** and during the period(s) of your unemployment. Your referee **cannot be a family member or related to you in any way.** Your referee must have at least one of the professions stated on this list. We are unable to accept references from personal email accounts, so please ensure you provide **professional email/contact details.**

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accountant• Administrator (Senior, Department, Medical or Office)• Airline Pilot• Ambulance Care Assistant• Articled Clerk of a limited company (Trainee Solicitor/Trainee Accountant)• Bank/Building Society Worker• Barrister• Broker• Call Handler/Emergency Medical Dispatcher• Care Assistant (e.g., Social Care, Residential)• CEO/Owner of any VAT or Limited registered company or Charity Trust• Chairperson/Director of a limited company• Chemist/Pharmacist (Registered)• Chiropodist/Pharmacist	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Landlord/Proprietor (Professional)• Learning Mentor/Tutor (Professional)• Legal Secretary (e.g., members and fellows of the institutes of Legal Secretaries)• Local Government/Council Officer• Medical Assistant (NHS)• Member of Parliament• Member of Her Majesty's Armed Forces (RAF, Navy, or Army)• NHS Non-Medical Assistant (e.g., clerical/office-based staff, caterers, IT specialists)• Nurse (Registered RN, SEN, or holder of a bachelor's degree in Nursing)• Officer of the Armed Services (active or retired)• Optician• Paramedic• Person with Honours (e.g., OBE, MBE)
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Civil Servant• A commissioner of oaths• Councillor• Dental Nurse• Dentist• Designated Premises Supervisor (e.g., A person with responsibility for supervising a team and/or the running of a business)• Director/Manager of any VAT or Limited registered company or Charity Trust• Driver (Professional – e.g., Bus Driver, Ambulance, HGV, Taxi)• Driving Instructor (Approved)• Doctor/GP (registered)• Please note, unless GP's know you personally outside of their practice, they are unlikely to consent to providing a character referee at all or may charge for this service.• Engineer with professional qualifications• Faith Leaders (e.g., Priest, Imam, Rabbi)• Fire Service Official• Funeral Director• Housing Officer (Local or Senior)• Insurance Agent of a recognised company (full-time) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Photographer (Professional)• Police Officer• Post Office Worker (e.g., Mail Carrier, Customer Service Assistant)• President/Secretary of a recognised organisation• Salvation Army Officer• Social Worker (e.g., Child and Family Support Worker, Mental Health Social Worker, Adult Social Worker)• Solicitor/Lawyer• Surveyor (e.g., Environmental Surveyor, Land Surveyor)• Teacher/Lecturer (Qualified)• Teaching Assistant (Level 3 – 5 qualified)• Trainee Teacher completing Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE)• Trade Union Officer• Travel Agent (Qualified)• Valuers and Auctioneers (fellow and associate members of the incorporated society)• Warrant Officers and Chief Petty Officers (e.g., A rank or category of ranks in the armed forces of many countries) |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Journalist• Justice of the Peace (e.g., Local Magistrate/Judicial Officer) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work Coach/Job Centre Official Staff Member |
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