## INTERVIEWING

# FOR CULTURE FIT

## WILL THE PERSON BEING INTERVIEWED BE A GOOD CULTURAL FIT?

## **KEY POINTS**

TO COVER DURING THE INTERVIEW

## COMMUNICATION

#### How organisations communicate reflects culture.

- Formal vs informal.
- Email vs face-to-face.
- Group meetings vs quick catch-ups.
- In the interview ask for effective and ineffective communication examples.
- Clarify experiences and expectations.

## **POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

- Is conformance with formal policies expected?
- Is non-conformance tolerated? And by how much?
- Can top performers take short-cuts?

Cultural fit is about alignment of commonly held beliefs and behaviours. During the interview probe on previous organisations working practices. Is your environment the most suitable for the potential employee?

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

Loud. Quiet. Conservative. Outgoing.

- Different environments suit different people.
- Talk about preferences.
- Go for a walk around.

Where the candidate has been interviewed may be different to the general working area.

Check suitability before day 1.

## TECHNOLOGY

• Is your technology best practice or catch-up?

Candidates will have defined attitudes and expectations.

Uncover these during the interview to optimise cultural alignment and future success.

## **REWARDS & RECOGNITION**

#### Different people are motivated by different reward structures.

- Ask about prior experiences.
- Explore wants, needs, desires.
- What works for them? What doesn't?

Be clear about what you are realistically offering and what's required to achieve it.

## **DECISION MAKING**

#### Is your organisation's decision making rational or emotional?

- How important are facts vs feelings?
- How many stakeholders are involved?
- How are disagreements resolved?
- Is there a process? Or is it chaotic?
- Top-down or consensus?

Ask about prior experiences and preferred style to reach and implement decisions.

## **EMPLOYEE MORALE**

#### Are you accurately describing the energy levels within your organisation to potential candidates?

- High energy, confident, positive, optimistic vs
- Low energy, cautious, negative, pessimistic.

Will there be any surprises on day 1. Is the fit right?

## SOCIETY

#### What's truly important to the candidate?

- Making a difference.
- Advancing healthcare with innovative technology.
- Helping others.

During the interview discuss vision and values. Talk about your organisation's heritage, beliefs, contributions. Paint the future. Check for buy-in. Is the candidate motivated?

### **MEET THE TEAM**

That's the important interview. Share stories. Be informal. Understand expectations. Uncover reasons for wanting to change jobs. Clarify expectations. Talk about motivators, values, beliefs. Check for alignment.

- Ask about prior experiences.
- Explore wants, needs, desires.
- What works for them? What doesn't?

Be clear about what you are realistically offering and what's required to achieve it.

## SOCIAL

What's the new employee looking for?

- Similar-aged new friends? Computer games? .
- To join a sports team?
  - Drinks after work?
- A book club?
- Weekend BBQs? .

Social activities are the catalyst for collaborative work place cultures. During the interview ask about after hours interests. Can you offer what's required? Is there a cultural fit?

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