



Provider Access Policy Statement

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Under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997, as of 2 January 2018, we have a duty to provide pupils in years 8-13 with access to providers of post-14, post-16 and post-18 education and training. This policy statement sets out how we manage access requests from these providers.

What are pupils entitled to?

Pupils must be allowed to:

- Learn more about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities, as part of a careers programme which informs pupils of the full range of education and training options available to them at each transition point.
- Hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities on offer, for example, technical education and apprenticeships – this can be achieved through options evenings, assemblies, group discussions, and taster events.
- Understand how to apply to the full range of academic and technical courses available to them.

Who handles our access requests?

Any provider wishing to request access should contact Sophie Donohoe, on 01665 710636.

What opportunities are provided to allow access to pupils?

During and in the aftermath of COVID-19 restrictions, which we acknowledge have impacted on many provider partners, we have adopted a flexible blended approach to allowing access to, recognising that some access and events may be virtual/online and that providers' event timelines may differ compared to previous years. We share opportunities with students via our dedicated careers Google Classroom and promote provider's online events. Providers also have the opportunity to speak to pupils in Years 8-13 during assemblies and PSHE lessons throughout the school year.

Careers planning is part of subject curriculum providing students with knowledge of how knowledge and skills can be applied in careers for more meaningful learning. Via our school careers programme, we offer providers numerous opportunities throughout the school year to speak to pupils and/or their parents, this includes assemblies on workshops on apprenticeships and university from Year 8 upwards. There are also options and parent events that take place in years 9, 11, 12 and 13 at pivotal points in the students' school calendar and these events are marked in the table below. Some events may have a virtual element to allow parents to attend, whilst other events will be added throughout the year.

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Year 8		Careers fair	
Year 9	Aim High Week	Careers fair	

Year 10		Careers fair	Post 16 sessions
Year 11	Assemblies about options post-16 Aim High Week	Careers fair	
Year 12		Careers fair	UCAS parental event
Year 13	Apprenticeship, college and University workshops	Careers fair	

Who should providers contact to discuss events and options?

Providers can speak to Sophie Donohoe on 01665 710636, to discuss possible attendance at relevant events. Our Child Protection and Safeguarding and Guest Speaker policies set out the school's approach to allowing providers into school to speak to our pupils.

What can providers expect once a request has been accepted?

Once we have approved a provider, we will work with them to identify the best method for providing access to our pupils.

We will make the school hall, classrooms and private meeting rooms available to host discussions between providers and pupils. We will also make presentation equipment, such as projectors and televisions, available to providers.

Arrangements will be discussed in advance between our careers leader and a nominated member of the provider's team.

We will grant access requests that meet the following criteria:

- Provide relevant career information to appropriate cohorts.
- All activities involved are risk assessed and agreed with the school.
- Provide a minimum of 3 weeks' notice.
- Can be accommodated within the school calendar and key school priorities.

Can providers leave prospectuses for pupils to read?

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus and other relevant course literature with the reception staff at either site.

Review

This policy statement will be reviewed annually by the careers lead.