

Policy Statement on Provider Access

Provider Access Policy Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to the school for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the school's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

Management of provider access requests

Pupil entitlement

All pupils in years 8 to 13 are entitled:

- to find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeships opportunities, as part of a careers programme which provides information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition point;
- to hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships – through options events, assemblies and group discussions and taster events;
- to understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

For pupils of compulsory school age these encounters are mandatory and there will be a minimum of two encounters for pupils during Key stage 3 (year 8 to 9) and two encounters for pupils during key stage 4 (year 10 to 11).

For pupils in year 12 to 13, particularly those that have not yet decided on their next steps, there are two more provider encounters available during this period, which are optional for pupils to attend.

These provider encounters will be scheduled during the main school hours and the provider will be given a reasonable amount of time to, as a minimum:

- share information about both the provider and the approved technical education qualification and apprenticeships that the provider offers
- explain what career routes those options could lead to
- provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with that provider (including the opportunity to meet staff and where possible pupils from the provider) and answer questions from pupils.

At this event there were also opportunities to engage with Employers offering Apprenticeships - including NHS, Computacenter, Liebherr, Airbus and GSK. Links have been developed with Tesco who have delivered careers sessions to Year 7 and Year 10.

Opportunities for access

The school offers a comprehensive Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance programme and an overview of this programme can be seen in the School's Careers Policy and Charter which can be viewed on the school website. The existing careers programme overview and strategic careers development plan is reviewed on an annual basis and the granting or refusing of access will be made in line with these documents.

Please speak to our Careers Leader or Careers Advisers to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

The school will make a suitable space available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. The school will also make available ICT and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Leader or a member of their team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature with the Careers Team.

Complaints

A provider wishing to raise a complaint in relation to access should do so in writing to the Careers Leader and this will be dealt with by the School Leadership Team in line with the schools complaints policy.

Management of provider access requests

The school offers the six provider encounters required **by law** and a number of additional events, integrated into the school careers programme.

We will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils or their parents or carers.