



PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY STATEMENT

January 2023

Next Review: Spring 2028

1. Aims

This policy statement aims to set out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to secondary students within the Trust 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. It sets out:

- Procedures in relation to requests for access
- The grounds for granting and refusing requests for access
- Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access

2. Statutory requirements

Schools are required to ensure that there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students in years 8 to 13 for the purposes of informing them about approved technical education, qualifications, or apprenticeships.

Schools must provide a minimum of 6 encounters with technical education or training providers to all students in years 8 to 13 (see more detail in section 2.1 below).

Schools must also have a policy statement that outlines the circumstances in which education and training providers will be given access to these students.

This is outlined in section 42B of the [Education Act 1997](#), the [Skills and Post-16 Act 2022](#) and on page 43 of guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on [careers guidance and access for education and training providers](#).

3. Delegation

The management of Provider Access Requests is delegated to the Headteacher of each secondary school within the Trust.

The monitoring of outcomes for students in Years 8 to 13 is delegated to the Local Governing Body.

4. Student Entitlement

All students in years 8 to 13 at the Academies are entitled to:

- Find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities as part of our careers programme, which provides information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition point
- Hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships, e.g., through activities and events such as options events, assemblies and taster events
- Understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses

Below are the details of what each secondary school must offer.

The 6 encounters schools must offer to all students in years 8 to 13

Schools must offer:

- 2 encounters for students during the 'first key phase' (year 8 or 9)
 - All students must attend
 - Encounters can take place any time during year 8, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 9
- 2 encounters for students during the 'second key phase' (year 10 or 11)
 - All students must attend
 - Encounters can take place any time during year 10, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 11
- 2 encounters for students during the 'third key phase' (year 12 or 13)
 - Students can choose to attend
 - Encounters can take place any time during year 12, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 13

These encounters must happen for a reasonable period of time during the standard school day. Schools can continue to provide complementary experiences but encounters outside of school hours will not count towards these requirements.

Schools must ask each provider to provide the following information as a minimum:

- Information about the provider and the approved qualifications or apprenticeships they offer
- Information about what careers those qualifications and apprenticeships can lead to
- What learning or training with the provider is like
- Answers to any questions from students

Meaningful provider encounters

Our Trust is committed to providing meaningful encounters to all students.

1 encounter is defined as 1 meeting/session between students and 1 provider.

Meaningful live online engagement is also an option at our schools.

5. Management of provider access requests

Suggested Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact the designated Careers Lead at the school.

Opportunities for access

A number of events, integrated into the school's careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come into the school to speak to students and/or their parents/carers. This will be published on the School's website.

6. Review

This policy statement will be reviewed every 5 years (or when/if any changes are made to the requirements).

7. Approval & Review

Approved by: Trustees

Next Review: January 2028

Signed: Chair of Trustees