

Policy Statement on Provider Access

Birkenhead Sixth Form College Provider Access Policy

1. Aims

The college is an academic sixth form where the majority of students progress to university.

This policy statement aims to set out the College's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students for the purpose of giving them information about their offer. 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

The College is required to ensure that there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students for the purposes of informing them about approved technical education, qualifications or apprenticeships.

The college must provide a minimum of 2 encounters with technical education or training providers to all students.

The college has 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](#).

This policy shows how the college complies with these requirements.

2.1 The 2 encounters the college must offer to all students

Through the pastoral and careers curriculum, the Student Development Team at the college will comply with the requirement to offer:

- 2 encounters for students during the 'third key phase' (year 12 or 13)
 - Students can choose to attend
 - Encounters can take place any time up to 28 February during their final year.

Where these encounters are on site, they will happen for a reasonable period of time during the standard college day. Any providers will be required 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.

2.2 Meaningful provider encounters

The college is committed to providing meaningful encounters to all students and this includes the option of live online engagement.

3. Student entitlement

All students 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.
- Understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses

4. Management of provider access requests

4.1 Procedure

- A provider wishing to request access should contact **Jo Wood, Careers Leader**
- Telephone: 0151652 5575; Email: jw@bsfc.ac.uk

4.2 Opportunities for access

A number of events, integrated into our careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come into college to speak to students and/or their parents/carers. This includes our Visiting Speakers Programme and Futures Day event.

Please speak to our **Careers Leader, Jo Wood** to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

4.3 Premises and facilities

The College will make classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. The College will also seek to make available any 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 at the Careers Resource Centre, which is managed by the College Learning Resource Centre Manager. The Learning Resource Centre (The Hub) is available to all students throughout the College day.

4.4 Safeguarding

Our safeguarding policy outlines the college's procedure for checking the identity and suitability of visitors. Education and training providers will be expected to adhere to this policy.

5. Previous providers

In previous years, we have invited a wide range of providers to speak to our students, including:

- 360 Systems Limited
- Alder Hey Children's Hospital
- AMF engineering/AMG group
- ARMY CAREERS
- Chester Zoo
- Counterculture
- Everton Football Club
- Haines Watts Wirral Limited
- Hill Dickinson
- Lingo Vino
- Liverpool University Equine Hospital
- Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust
- London School of Economics and Political Science
- Merseyside Police
- North West Ambulance Service NHS Trust
- Northumbria University
- Animation SAE
- St James's Place
- The Lab at Brookes Bell
- The Liverpool Literary Agency
- Unilever

6. Student destinations

<http://www.bsfc.ac.uk/destinationsreport>

7. Complaints

Any complaints related to provider access can be raised following the college complaints procedure or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk

8. Monitoring arrangements

The college's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students are monitored by Jo Wood – Assistant Principal – Student Support.

This policy will be reviewed by Jo Wood every two years

At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing board.