

## **Blackpool Aspire Academy - Provider Access Policy Statement**

Under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997, as of 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018, we have a duty to provide pupils in years 7-11 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 open evenings, assemblies, parents' evenings, group discussions, and taster events.
- Understand how to apply to the full range of academic and technical courses available to them.

Access will be granted to providers who can support these entitlements.

### **Who handles our access requests?**

Any provider wishing to request access should contact our Careers Lead, Darren Ewart, on 01253 353 155 or via email on: [d.ewart@aspire.fcat.org.uk](mailto:d.ewart@aspire.fcat.org.uk)

### **What opportunities are provided to allow access to pupils?**

Via our school careers programme, we offer providers numerous opportunities throughout the school year to speak to our pupils and/or their parents/carers. These include: regular assemblies; lunchtime drop ins; lesson visits; taster events; parents' evenings. Further details of our careers programme are published annually on our website. Please speak to our Careers Lead to identify a suitable opportunity.

The school policy on safeguarding sets out the school's approach to allowing providers into school as visitors to talk to our students.

### **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 Lead and a nominated member of the provider's team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature for our Careers section in the library, which is managed by our Careers Lead.

**This policy will be reviewed annually. Last reviewed September 2025.**