



PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY

July 2026

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Review led by: Theo Walker

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1. Aims

The Provider Access policy 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 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](#).

This policy shows how our school complies with these requirements.

3. Learner Entitlement

All students at our school 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

These encounters are mandatory and there will be a minimum of two encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (years 8 to 9) and two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (years 10 to 11).

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 pupils from the provider)
- answer questions from pupils.

4. Meaningful Provider Encounters

One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between pupils and one or more providers. We are committed to providing meaningful encounters to all pupils using the [Making it Meaningful Checklist](#). Meaningful online engagement is also an option, and we are open to providers that are able to provide live online engagement with our pupils.

5. Previous Providers

In previous terms and academic years, we have invited a range of local and national providers to speak with our pupils and support their understanding of post-16 pathways, higher education, apprenticeships, and careers. These have included:

- Local colleges and sixth form providers including Joseph Chamberlain Sixth Form College, Cadbury Sixth Form College, and South & City College Birmingham.
- Apprenticeship providers and training organisations including Make UK, Creative Alliance, TDM (The Development Manager), JTL Training and Nova Training
- The RAF Careers Team
- Employers and industry representatives including the Royal Air Force, [BMW Group UK](#) and [BAE Systems](#).
- The Money Charity
- Universities and higher education outreach teams including Keble College (University of Oxford), University College Birmingham (UCB) and other regional universities.
- Local employers and business representatives
- Public sector organisations including the NHS and emergency services
- Armed Forces representatives
- Independent careers advisers and guidance professionals

This list is not exhaustive and continues to grow as we develop our employer and education partnerships to provide pupils with a broad range of meaningful encounters with providers.

6. Destinations of our pupils

- 88% of pupils sustained education, employment or training after Key Stage 4 in 2023, demonstrating that the majority of pupils successfully progress to positive post-16 destinations.
- The proportion of pupils entering sustained education increased from 72% (2022) to 80% (2023), indicating improved progression into further education and training.
- 78% of disadvantaged pupils sustained education, employment or training, with sustained education increasing from 68% to 74%, demonstrating improving outcomes for disadvantaged pupils.
- Sustained apprenticeships for disadvantaged pupils increased from 0% to 4%, reflecting improved awareness and uptake of alternative post-16 pathways.

- Destination data demonstrates that pupils are prepared effectively for future education, employment or training.

7. Management of Provider Access Request

7.1. Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Richard Evans, Careers Leader.

Telephone: 0121 483 2890

Email: postbox@tgbs.co.uk

7.2. Opportunities for access

A number of events, integrated into our careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to students and/or their parents/carers. Please speak to our Careers Leader to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

7.3. Granting and refusing access

We will always try to grant access wherever possible but may refuse based on the following criteria. Please note this list is not exhaustive and each request will be considered on a case by case basis.

- Nature of the request from provider
- The needs of the students
- The needs of the curriculum
- Number of requests received from provider
- Number of requests received for a particular cohort of students
- Timing of the academic day
- Availability in our calendar
- Quality of previous interactions with our students
- Failure to pass safeguarding checks
- Safety of our pupils, staff and visitors.

7.4. Safeguarding

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

Providers will only be permitted to take photographs of events if they have agreed this with the Careers Leader in advance and adequate time has been given to make appropriate permission checks.

Please see our Safeguarding Policy [here](#)

7.5. Premises and facilities

Depending on the nature of the session, providers will have access to presentation rooms or

classrooms with audio/visual equipment, projectors or interactive whiteboards. Organisation of these facilities will take place when you contact the Careers Leader about your proposed session.

Providers will be asked to send a copy of any presentation slides or materials to the Careers Leader 24 hours in advance of the session. The use of USB sticks is not possible.

Providers can leave materials such as prospectuses for the students to read but we kindly ask that this is agreed with the Careers Leader first. Such materials will be assessed for their suitability.

7.6. Complaints:

Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure.

8. Monitoring Arrangements

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to pupils is monitored by Richard Evans, Careers Leader.

This policy will be reviewed annually by Richard Evans, Careers Leader and Theo Walker, Head of School.