



Mount Carmel RC High School

Provider Access Policy

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Next Review: July 2026



Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to pupils at the school for the purposes 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, commonly known as the "Baker Clause."

Student entitlement

Students in years 8-13 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 evenings, assemblies and group discussions and taster events.
- To understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

Per the January 2023 update to the statutory guidance for schools, all schools must offer:

- Two encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (year 8 or 9) that are mandatory for all pupils to attend, to take place any time during year 8 or between 1 September and 28 February during year 9.
- Two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 10 or 11) that are mandatory for all pupils to attend, to take place any time during year 10 or between 1 September and 28 February during year 11.

We are committed to offering this as a minimum, but aim to exceed this and offer encounters with a wide variety of local post-16 providers; including technical education and apprenticeship providers, school sixth-forms, colleges, and sixth-form colleges.

Management of provider access requests

In line with The Technical and Further Education Act 2017 which inserts section 42B into the Education Act 1997 and came into force on 2 January 2018, providers wishing to access pupils other than at events which are already embedded in the careers programme, should request access from Mr Chris Barratt, Raising Aspirations Coordinator on 01254 233458 or via email at the following address: careers@mountcarmelhigh.lancs.sch.uk

Opportunities for access

Access may be granted in the form of assemblies; drop-ins or information stands during students' social times or at school events which are deemed relevant by the Raising Aspirations Coordinator; or lessons where a visiting speaker complements the pupils' curriculum. Taking pupils from timetabled lessons will be kept to minimum, particularly at KS4. Decisions to grant or refuse access are taken based on such aspects as timing, relevance to key decision-making points and whether information

has already been given by another provider, and are subject to approval from the Headteacher. All providers are invited to attend Parents' Evenings should they wish, and should contact the Raising Aspirations Coordinator to arrange this.

Premises and facilities

The school will make the main hall, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. The school will also make available AV and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Raising Aspirations Coordinator.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature to be made available to pupils via form tutors, who keep a central collection of careers literature relevant to their year group in form rooms. Any such literature may also be posted to the school for the attention of the Raising Aspirations Coordinator, who will distribute to students if it is deemed to be relevant and appropriate. There is no guarantee that literature which is sent by email will be distributed physically due to the cost of printing such literature, however it will be forwarded to pupils' school email addresses and/or parents where appropriate.