



# Provider Access

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Aquinas Church of England Education Trust





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## Provider Access Statement

**Rye College** is committed to high-quality careers education for all our children and young people. Under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997 and the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022 we have a duty to provide students in Years 8-11 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 students entitled to?

Students in Years 8 to 11 are entitled to:

- Learn more about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities, as part of a careers programme which informs students 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 options evenings, assemblies, group discussions, and taster events.
- Understand how to apply to the full range of academic and technical courses available to them.

All students in Years **8 to 11** will receive at least **four** encounters with accredited providers of technical education and apprenticeships. These encounters will be divided accordingly:

- During the first key phase (Year 8 to Year 9) all students must attend two mandatory sessions by accredited providers
- During the second key phase (Year 10 and 11) all students must attend two mandatory sessions by accredited providers

### What opportunities are provided to allow access to students?

Via our school careers programme, we offer providers numerous opportunities throughout the school year to speak to students and/or their parents.

These sessions will be scheduled during the Academy's main opening hours.

The Academy offers the six provider encounters that are legally required – these are marked with bold text below – and several additional events.

Our annual schedule of events is as follows:

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Year 8		<b>Careers Fair – Bexhill College, East Sussex College Group, Local employers who offer apprenticeships e.g. General Dynamics, Focus SB, RX</b>	Employability workshop



		<b>Architects, The Mermaid Inn, British Army</b>	
<b>Year 9</b>		<b>Careers Fair – Bexhill College, East Sussex College Group, Local employers who offer apprenticeships eg General Dynamics, Focus SB, RX Architects, The Mermaid Inn, British Army</b>  ASK Apprenticeships assembly and Q+A  Freshers Fortune (University of Brighton)	
<b>Year 10</b>		ASK Apprenticeships assembly and Q+A	<b>Progression Morning – East Sussex College Group, Plumpton College, Bexhill College, Hadlow College, DV8, Ashford College, General Dynamics, the Mermaid Inn, RX Architects, Focus SB, Let's do Business</b>  Work Experience
<b>Year 11</b>	Assemblies and Q+A by Post-16 providers  <b>ASK Apprenticeships assessment centre</b>		

During these sessions, at a minimum, providers will be given enough time to:

- Share information about the provider and the approved technical qualifications and apprenticeships they offer.
- Explain what career routes these qualifications and apprenticeships could lead to.
- Provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with that provider.
- Answer students' questions.

### **Which providers have previously been invited to the academy?**

In previous terms and academic years, the Academy has invited the following providers to speak to students:



- ASK Apprenticeships
- East Sussex College Group
- Bexhill College
- Plumpton College
- Hadlow College
- Ashford College
- DV8
- University of Brighton
- General Dynamics
- Focus SB
- RX Architects
- The Mermaid Inn

Last year, our Year 11 students moved on to a range of providers in the local area after finishing school.

- 34% A Levels
- 25% Level 2
- 19.5% Other level 3
- 9% T Level
- 9.5% Level 1
- 3% Other

### **Who should providers contact to discuss events and options?**

Providers can speak to our Careers Leader, Mrs. D. Starkey, to discuss possible attendance at relevant events.

Our **Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy** sets out the Academy's approach to allowing providers into school to speak to our students.

### **What are the rules for granting and refusing access requests?**

We will grant access requests that meet the following criteria:

- Relevant safeguarding checks have been passed.
- The access request is aligned to the Academy's careers programme.
- Provides a meaningful encounter for our students.
- Can be arranged at an agreed and appropriate time in the school calendar.
- Helps to raise the aspirations of our students.
- Provides students with relevant information and options at key transition points.

We will refuse any access request that:

- Are not appropriate as the need is being met elsewhere in the careers programme.



- Raises safeguarding concerns.
- Provides imbalanced or conflicting views.
- Is not considered to be in the best interest of our students or is not relevant to the intended audience.
- Conflicts with other events on the school calendar.

### **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 students.

We will make the **school hall, classrooms, and private meeting rooms** available to host discussions between providers and students. We will also make presentation equipment, such as **projectors and televisions**, available to providers.

Arrangements will be discussed in advance between our Careers Leader and a nominated member of the provider's team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus and other relevant course literature with the **school librarian** at the **school library**.

### **How are complaints regarding provider access managed?**

If you have a complaint relating to the Academy's provider access arrangements, you can raise it in line with the trust's **Complaints Policy** or you can contact The Careers and Enterprise Company directly on [provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk](mailto:provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk).