



St Cecilia's
R. C. High School

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Provider Access Policy Statement (Baker Clause)

Reviewed: July 2026
Next Review Date: July 2027

St Cecilia's RC High School

Provider Access Policy Statement

Mission Statement

At St Cecilia's RC High School, we are committed to ensuring that all pupils receive high-quality, impartial careers education and guidance which enables them to make informed choices about their future.

In line with our Catholic ethos and statutory duties, pupils are provided with opportunities to learn about the full range of academic, technical and vocational pathways available to them, including apprenticeships, T Levels, further education, higher education and employment opportunities.

This statement sets out the arrangements for managing access to pupils by providers of education and training opportunities in accordance with the requirements of the Education Act 1997 and subsequent amendments.

1. Legal Framework

This statement is issued in accordance with:

- Section 42B of the Education Act 1997
- Technical and Further Education Act 2017
- Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022
- Department for Education Careers Guidance and Access for Education and Training Providers (current version)

The school is committed to fulfilling its statutory duty to ensure that a wide range of education and training providers have opportunities to inform pupils about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships.

2. Pupil Entitlement

All pupils in Years 7–11 are entitled to receive impartial careers education and guidance that enables them to:

- Learn about the full range of progression routes available.
- Understand the opportunities provided by further education, apprenticeships, technical education and higher education.
- Access information about local, regional and national labour market opportunities.
- Make informed decisions about their future education, training and career pathways.

- Hear directly from education, training and apprenticeship providers.

The school is committed to ensuring pupils have access to information about all available pathways and does not promote one route above another.

3. Provider Access Requirements

In accordance with Provider Access Legislation, all pupils in Years 8–11 will receive multiple encounters with approved providers of technical education qualifications and apprenticeships.

The school will provide:

Years 8–9

- At least two encounters with approved providers.

Year 10

- At least two encounters with approved providers.

Year 11

- At least two encounters with approved providers.

These encounters may take place through:

- Assemblies
- Careers fairs
- Employer and provider events
- Curriculum activities
- Group presentations
- Workshops
- Parents' evenings
- Virtual encounters
- Careers enrichment activities

All encounters will take place during normal school hours and will be integrated into the school's wider careers programme.

4. Opportunities for Access

The school offers a range of opportunities throughout the academic year for providers to engage with pupils.

These opportunities may include:

- Careers fairs
- Apprenticeship awareness events
- Technical education presentations
- Further education provider talks
- Employer engagement activities
- Mock interview events
- Curriculum-linked careers sessions
- Enterprise and employability events
- Parent information evenings

Opportunities are planned to ensure pupils receive balanced and meaningful information about a wide range of pathways.

5. Requesting Access

Providers wishing to request access should contact:

Careers Leader

St Cecilia's RC High School
Chapel Hill
Longridge Road
Longridge
Preston
PR3 2XA

Telephone: School Main Reception
Email: School Careers Email Address

The Careers Leader will respond to requests and work with providers to identify suitable opportunities within the school's careers programme.

6. Granting and Refusing Requests

The school welcomes requests from approved providers and will consider all applications fairly.

Access will normally be granted where:

- The request supports pupils' careers learning.
- The provider offers relevant information about education, training or apprenticeship opportunities.
- Appropriate safeguarding requirements are met.
- The request complements the school's careers programme.

Requests may be refused where:

- Safeguarding requirements are not met.
- The request duplicates provision already planned.
- The timing conflicts with examinations, assessments or significant school events.
- The proposed activity is not considered suitable for the age group involved.
- The request does not support the aims of the school's careers programme.

Where possible, alternative arrangements may be offered.

7. Facilities Available to Providers

The school will make reasonable facilities available to providers, which may include:

- Classrooms and meeting spaces
- Assembly facilities
- Audio-visual equipment
- Internet access where appropriate
- Presentation equipment
- Staff support where required
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Providers will be expected to comply with all safeguarding, health and safety, visitor management and data protection procedures.

The school reserves the right to supervise all provider interactions with pupils.

8. Safeguarding

The safety and wellbeing of pupils is paramount.

All visitors must:

- Comply with the school's safeguarding procedures.
- Sign in through reception.
- Wear visitor identification where required.
- Be accompanied by staff where appropriate.
- Follow all school safeguarding and health and safety requirements.

Any concerns arising during a visit must be reported immediately in accordance with school procedures.

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

Provider access forms part of the school's wider Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) programme.

The effectiveness of provider encounters will be evaluated through:

- Pupil feedback
- Provider feedback
- Gatsby Benchmark reviews
- Compass+ assessments
- Destination data analysis
- Governor monitoring

- This information will be used to continuously improve careers provision.

10. Complaints

Any complaints regarding provider access should be made in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

Providers who are dissatisfied with a decision regarding access should initially contact the Careers Leader.

Where concerns remain unresolved, providers may follow the school's formal complaints procedure.

11. Review

This Provider Access Policy Statement will be reviewed annually by the Careers Leader, Headteacher and Governing Board.

The statement is published on the school's website and will be updated in response to changes in legislation, statutory guidance or school practice.