



Careers Provider Access Policy

Date of Policy
Date of Review

July 2025
July 2026

To develop students' knowledge, understanding and skills relevant to life in a rapidly changing world

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to students at the school for the purpose 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. 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 8-13 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.

Student entitlement

All students in years 7-11 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 events, assemblies and group discussions and taster events;
- to understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

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

Management of provider access requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact:

Miss Vanessa Booth Careers Leader

Email: v.booth@westlancspcss.lancs.sch.uk

Telephone: *01695 575486*

Opportunities for Access

A number of events, integrated into the school 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, Miss V Booth, to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

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

Premises and facilities

The school will make the common room, classrooms or a private office room available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Leader Miss Booth.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature with the Careers Leader, Miss Booth and make available to all students.

What are the rules for granting and refusing access requests?

At The Acorns School, we focus on providing key information at specific times and offer opportunities to students to attend a range of career and further education talks, whilst ensuring that they receive at least two presentations from external providers during the first term of Year 11.

All providers' requests for access will be considered, however, access may not be granted if the timing is inappropriate or causes disruption to the school calendar and student learning. An alternative opportunity may be offered.

How are complaints regarding provider access managed?

If you have a complaint relating to the school's provider access arrangements, you can raise it in line with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy or you can contact The Careers and Enterprise Company directly on provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk.

Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed annually.