



Provider Access Policy

Policy Lead:	Assistant Headteacher (EA)
Last Review Date:	September 2026
Next Review Date:	September 2028
Approval needed by:	Headteacher



THE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

Revisions Log

Date	Pages/Whole Document	Description of Change	Origin of Change (e.g. Routine Update, request for Review)
4.9.22	Page 2	Career lead details updated	Change to job roles
4.9.22	Page 3	Premises and Facilities to include LRC	Routine update
1.9.26	whole	General updates to reflect guidance	Routine update

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students for the purpose of giving them information about their education or training offer.

This policy complies with the school's statutory duties under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997 and reflects current Department for Education guidance relating to provider access and the Baker Clause.

Student Entitlement

All students in Years 7 to 11 are entitled to:

- Find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities as part of the school's careers programme.
- Hear from a range of local and national providers about opportunities available to them, including apprenticeships, T Levels, technical qualifications, further education, higher education and employment routes.
- Understand how to make applications for a full range of academic and technical courses.
- Participate in meaningful encounters with approved education and training providers.
- Receive impartial careers information and guidance that enables informed decisions about future pathways.

Meaningful provider encounters may be delivered in person or virtually where appropriate.

Management of Provider Access Requests

Procedure

Education and training providers wishing to request access should contact:

Emily Abberley

Careers Leader

The Oaks Academy

Email: eabberley@theoaksacademy.co.uk

All requests should include:

- Provider name and contact details
- Intended audience/year group

- Proposed activity or presentation
- Desired dates and times
- Any equipment or facilities requirements

The school aims to respond to provider requests within 10 school days.

Grounds for Granting or Refusing Access

Access will normally be granted where the activity:

- Supports the school's careers programme.
- Provides impartial information about progression routes.
- Enhances students' understanding of available opportunities.
- Meets safeguarding and health and safety requirements.

Access may be declined where:

- The request does not support student career development.
- There are unavoidable timetable or organisational constraints.
- The content is considered promotional without sufficient educational value.
- Safeguarding requirements cannot be met.

The school will make reasonable efforts to identify alternative opportunities where possible.

Safeguarding

All visitors are expected to comply with the school's safeguarding, child protection, visitor management and health and safety procedures.

Where appropriate, providers will:

- Report to reception on arrival.
- Sign in using the school's visitor procedures.
- Wear visitor identification.
- Be accompanied by a member of staff where required.
- Comply with any DBS requirements determined by the school.

Opportunities for Access

A number of events, integrated into the school careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come into the Academy to speak to pupils/and or their parents/carers. These include:

- Parent Evenings
- Year 11 Raising Aspirations evening
- Progression events, college presentations and apprenticeship information sessions
- Options guidance and technical education presentations
- Curriculum enhancement activities and employer engagement

- Regular career related assemblies
- Careers awareness activities and employer encounters
- PSCH lessons
- Mock Interviews
- Personal Development 'collapsed' days

Facilities for Providers

The school will make available, where appropriate:

- Assembly and presentation spaces.
- Classrooms and meeting rooms.
- Audio-visual and presentation equipment.
- Opportunities to distribute relevant careers information.

Providers will have the opportunity to speak with students, either independently or alongside members of staff, where this supports the aims of the careers programme.

Monitoring and Review

The Careers Leader is responsible for monitoring the implementation and effectiveness of this policy.

The policy will be reviewed every two years, or sooner if required following changes to legislation, statutory guidance or school practice.