

Policy Statement on Provider Access

(Statutory Policy)

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For public viewing

Link to other policies:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy



Contents

INTRODUCTION	3
STUDENT ENTITLEMENT	3
MANAGEMENT OF PROVIDER ACCESS REQUESTS.....	3
PROCEDURE.....	3
OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACCESS.....	3
PREMISES AND FACILITIES.....	4
GRANTING AND REFUSING ACCESS.....	4

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the academy's arrangements for managing the access of providers to pupils at the academy for the purposes of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the academy's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

St Wilfrid's Academy seeks to ensure that its students pursue education, training and employment pathways that are most suited to the student. We recognise that in order for students to make informed decisions about pathways, it is important that students hear from a range of education and training providers about the opportunities available to them at each transition point.

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, group discussions and taster events.
- To understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

In accordance with the updated provider access legislation (PAL-Jan 2023), we make a commitment to provide at least six encounters for all their students with local providers of technical education and apprenticeships:

- Two encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (year 8 or 9) that are mandatory for all pupils to attend
- Two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 10 or 11) that are mandatory for all pupils to attend
- Two encounters for pupils during the 'third key phase' (year 12 or 13) that are mandatory for the Academy to put on but optional for pupils to attend

Management of provider access requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact the careers lead, as identified on the academy website.

Opportunities for access

Throughout the year, we run activities or attend events that encourage students to think about their potential career path. A calendar of these events is provided in the careers section of the academy website. In addition, we run assemblies and tutorials throughout the year, which may provide opportunities for external providers to speak to our students. Please contact the careers lead to identify the most suitable opportunity for you to talk to students.

The Academy policy on safeguarding sets out the Academy's approach to allowing providers into the Academy as visitors to talk to our students.

Premises and facilities

The Academy will make an appropriate venue available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. The Academy will also make available AV and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will be discussed prior to the activity.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at the Careers Resource Centre, which is managed by the Academy librarian. The Learning Resource Centre is available to all students at lunch and break times.

Granting and Refusing Access

We will grant access to technical qualifications and apprenticeship providers where it fits in within the aims of our careers programme. There may be circumstances in which we are unable to meet the request of an education or training provider. Examples of such circumstances may include:

- Pressures on teaching or curriculum time restrict opportunities
- Pressures on presentation spaces, for example examinations, restrict meaningful opportunities
- Duplication or repetition of themes that have already been introduced to students
- A provider seeking to promote opportunities that are not technical qualifications or apprenticeships
- The aims of the provider are not compatible with this policy
- Concerns exist as to the quality of education or training provision from this provider

Signed: Mr David Rintoul

Mrs Victoria Michael

Chair of Governors

Principal