
INVICTUS

Education Trust



Provider access policy statement



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1. Aims

This policy statement aims to set out our school’s arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students for the purpose of giving them information about their offer. It sets out:

- Procedures in relation to requests for access
- The grounds for granting and refusing requests for access
- Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access

2. Statutory requirements

Schools are required to ensure that there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students in Years 8 to 13 for the purposes of informing them about approved technical education, qualifications or apprenticeships.

Schools must provide a minimum of 6 encounters with technical education or training providers to all pupils in Years 8 to 13 (see more detail in section 2.1 below).

Schools must also have a policy statement that outlines the circumstances in which education and training providers will be given access to these students.

This is outlined in section 42B of the [Education Act 1997](#), the [Skills and Post-16 Act 2022](#) and on page 43 of guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on [careers guidance and access for education and training providers](#).

This policy shows how our school complies with these requirements.

2.1 The 6 encounters schools must offer to all pupils in Years 8 to 13

Schools must offer:

- 2 encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (Year 8 or 9)
 - All pupils must attend
 - Encounters can take place any time during Year 8, and between 1 September and 28 February during Year 9

- 2 encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (Year 10 or 11)
 - All pupils must attend
 - Encounters can take place any time during Year 10, and between 1 September and 28 February during Year 11
- 2 encounters for pupils during the 'third key phase' (Year 12 or 13)
 - Pupils can choose to attend
 - Encounters can take place any time during Year 12, and between 1 September and 28 February during Year 13

These encounters must happen for a reasonable period of time during the standard school day. Schools can continue to provide complementary experiences, but encounters outside of school hours won't count towards these requirements.

Schools must ask each provider to provide the following information as a minimum:

- Information about the provider and the approved qualifications or apprenticeships they offer
- Information about what careers those qualifications and apprenticeships can lead to
- What learning or training with the provider is like
- Answers to any questions from pupils

All students will find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeships opportunities, as part of a careers programme which provides information on a full range of education and training options available at each transition point. A variety of local providers will be invited to speak to all students in each year group and for smaller group work with the students.

2.2 Meaningful provider encounters

Our school is committed to providing meaningful encounters to all pupils.

1 encounter is defined as 1 meeting/session between pupils and 1 provider.

Start early

- Implement a progressive programme that broadens horizons, and scaffolds development of the knowledge and understanding required for students to identify their best next steps, from when students join you.

Be informed by trends and success

- Use destination data and LMI to identify any gaps and implement appropriate intervention.
- Use relevant destinations data and LMI to inform continuous improvement.
- Harness employer and alumni voice through multi-Benchmark approaches where young people can be supported to understand learning opportunities through encounters and experiences of the workplace.

True advocacy

- Grow expertise in all career pathways and opportunities for young people.
- Become an expert in the latest vocational and technical opportunities for young people.

Challenge misconception and assumptions head on

- Consider all stakeholders and their knowledge, understanding and potential misconceptions.

Equity of access to information and understanding

- All pathways for all young people.
- Provide equality of access to information and understanding.

Meaningful live online engagement is also an option at our school.

3. Student entitlement

All students in Years 8 to 13 at Crestwood School are entitled to:

- Find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities as part of our careers programme, which provides information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition point
- Hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships, e.g., through activities and events such as options events, assemblies and taster events
- Understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses

4. Management of provider access requests

4.1 Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Miss J Aston, Careers Lead.

Telephone: 01384686850

Email: jaston@crestwood-s.dudley.sch.uk.

4.2 Opportunities for access

A number of events, integrated into our careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to students and/or their parents/carers:

| | AUTUMN TERM | SPRING TERM | SUMMER TERM |
|---------|---|---|--|
| YEAR 8 | Assemblies with local providers FE providers and employers. | Overview of local, regional and national opportunities and skills requirement delivered during National apprenticeship week/Careers week. Assemblies with local providers FE providers and employers. | Careers workshop Technical/vocational tasters at local college/s, training providers Event for university technical colleges (UTCs) |
| YEAR 9 | Assembly group opportunities - employability skills Meeting with careers adviser Career breakfasts. | Key Stage 4 options event Assemblies with local providers FE providers and employers. Overview of local, regional and national opportunities and skills requirement delivered during National apprenticeship week/Careers week. Career breakfasts. | No encounters – encounters must have taken place by 28 February |
| YEAR 10 | Post-16 technical education options assembly with General Further Education College Life Skills – work experience preparation sessions Assembly and tutor group opportunities - employability skills Career breakfasts | Networking event with providers and employers Technical/vocational tasters at local college/s, training providers Career breakfasts. | Work experience preparation sessions Work experience Technical/vocational tasters at local college/s, training providers |
| YEAR 11 | Post-16 provider assemblies Post-16 apprenticeships assembly Meetings with careers adviser Post-16 applications Career breakfasts. | Post-16 interviews Apprenticeships – support with applications. | No encounters – encounters must have taken place by 28 February Confirmation of post-16 education and training destinations for all pupils |

Please speak to our Careers Lead to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

These events will run in line with any measures related to public health incidents, including COVID-19.

4.3 Granting and refusing access

1. Assemblies.8:45-9:10.
2. Career breakfasts during tutor time 8:45-9:10.
3. PSHE lessons- one session for all year groups once a week (50 minutes).
4. Longer sessions would be possible and we can collapse the timetable for half a day or day if possible.

4.4 Safeguarding

Our safeguarding/child protection policy outlines the school's procedure for checking the identity and suitability of visitors.

Education and training providers will be expected to adhere to this policy.

4.5 Premises and facilities

Providers would have access to classroom with suitable audio and technical equipment for their presentations. The main hall provides seating for a whole year group for assemblies and larger presentations.

To organise and agree to use the facilities please contact Miss J Aston, Careers Lead jaston@crestwood-s.dudley.sch.uk in the first instance.

Local colleges, apprenticeship providers, Universities and employers can leave prospectuses or other material for students to read, please leave for Miss J Aston, Careers Lead.

5. Previous providers

In previous years we have invited the following providers from the local area to speak to our pupils:

Halesowen College

King Edwards Sixth Form College

Dudley College

Wolverhampton University

Birmingham University

Invictus Sixth

Juniper apprentice providers

Nova Training

IN-COMM

NHS

Higgs Solicitors

6. Pupil destinations

Last year, our Year 11 pupils moved to a range of providers in the local area after school:

Halesowen College

Dudley College

King Edwards Sixth form College

Invictus Sixth

A variety of Apprenticeships.

Full time work.

Last year, our Year 13 pupils moved to a range of providers in the local area after school:

A variety of universities.

Apprenticeships.

Full time training.

Full time/part time work.

7. Complaints

Any complaints related to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure <https://www.crestwoodschool.co.uk/policies-statements-guidance> or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk

8. Links to other policies

The following policies can be found on the link below:

- Safeguarding/child protection policy
- Careers guidance policy
- Curriculum policy

<https://www.crestwoodschool.co.uk/policies-statements-guidance>

9. Monitoring arrangements

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students are monitored by Miss J Aston, Careers Lead.

This policy will be reviewed by Miss J Aston, Careers Lead, annually.

At every review, the policy will be approved at Executive level by the Trust Board