

PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to 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.

Safeguarding/Granting access:

The safety of our students and staff is paramount so checking visitor's identity and their suitability is stringently done. Our safeguarding policy can be found on the Oakfield website and sets out our expectations. Anyone entering the school on ANY site will be expected to always adhere to it.

Student entitlement

All Students in years 8 to 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;
- hear from a range of Local and National 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.

For Students of compulsory school age these encounters are mandatory and there will be a minimum of two encounters for year 8 to 9 Students and two encounters for year 10 to 11 Students.

These provider encounters will be scheduled during the main school hours and the provider will be given a reasonable amount of time to, as a minimum:

- Share information about both the provider and the approved technical education qualification and apprenticeships that the provider offers
- Explain what career routes those options could lead to
- Provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with that provider (including the opportunity to meet staff and Students from the provider)
- Answer questions from Students.



Meaningful provider encounters

One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between Students and one provider. This encounter can also include meaningful online engagement

Destinations of our Students

Students of compulsory school age (pre-16) return to their main registered school. Year 11 learners progress to a range of post-16 providers across the county or may move directly into employment.

Management of provider access requests

A provider wishing to request access should contact Sarie-Marais Crowcroft, Careers Lead, Sarie.Crowcroft@leics.gov.uk 07561299043

Opportunities for access

The school offers the four provider encounters required by law and will have a number of additional events, integrated into the school careers programme. We will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to Students.

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

Premises and Facilities The school's different sites will make classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and Students, as appropriate to the activity. The school will also make available AV and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Leader or a member of their team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at the Careers Office, which is managed by the Careers Leader and SLT. The Careers office is available to all Students throughout the day.

Complaints:

Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure

Approval and review: Feb 2026

Approved: Richard Doyle, Head of Secondary

Approved [awaiting ratification] by Governors at Curriculum and Standards