

Provider Access Policy Statement

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1. Contents

As part of our commitment to provide our students with a full range of Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) we follow the Gatsby Benchmarks. To promote a full range of learning and training opportunities we consider and welcome requests from training and educational providers to speak and work with our students. We may also approach them to inform our careers planning and careers programme.

Every student, whatever their ambitions, should have the opportunity to explore what it is like to learn at the full range of learning providers including colleges, universities, apprenticeships and training providers. By hearing directly from a range of providers, every student can build up a full picture of the options available and consider how the opportunity to study in different ways, and in different environments, might suit their skills, interests and aptitudes. This will lead to better-informed choices and help to reduce the risk of young people dropping out of courses or becoming NEET.

We work in collaboration with Further and Higher education providers, local and national employers in order to maximise the opportunities for our young people to engage with work, training and educational opportunities to expand their view of the working world.

2. Aim

This provider access 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 specific careers, training and education.

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

3. Statutory requirements

Through the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022 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. All maintained schools and academies must provide six encounters with a provider of technical education or apprenticeships.

Schools must also have a 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](#).

This provider access policy statement shows how Weston Secondary School complies with these requirements.

4. Student entitlement

All students in years 7 to 11 at Weston Secondary 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
- Understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses
- Have two encounters with a provider of technical education and apprenticeships during the 'first key phase' (year 8 or 9) that are mandatory for all pupils to attend
- Have two encounters with a provider of technical education and apprenticeships during the 'second key phase' (year 10 or 11) that are mandatory for all pupils to attend.

Schools and providers should work together, and schools must ask each provider to provide information to students that, as a minimum, includes:

- Information about the provider and the approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships that the provider offers
- Information about the careers to which those technical education qualifications or apprenticeships might lead
- A description of what learning or training with the provider is like

- Responses to questions from students about the provider or approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships.

5. Management of Provider Access Requests

a. Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Mr Stephen Robinson, Director Careers Education (SLT link)

Telephone: 02380447820

Email: srobinson@westonsecondary.co.uk

b. 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. In addition, providers of technical education or apprenticeships can also request opportunity to speak in person with students and/or their parents/carers by contacting Director Careers Education to identify the most suitable time and opportunity.

c. Granting and refusing access

Access to students will be granted during the school day and possibly after school if authorised. Access to students will not be given if:

- They are during exam periods
- They clash with other planned school events
- The school is unable to provide staff to support the event
- Rooming or facilities are unavailable due to timetable clashes or other bookings

d. Safeguarding

Our Safeguarding and 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.

e. Premises and facilities

At Weston Secondary School we can provide space for workshops as well as classroom facilities, gym and a multi-purpose hall that include audio and visual devices.

Providers should advise Director Careers Education of their requirements at least 6 weeks in advance of an event.

Prospectuses and other materials can be left with the school to be shared and distributed accordingly.

6. Monitoring arrangements

a. Activity Provider 2022-23

In the year 2022-23 we have invited and worked with the following providers from the local area to speak and work with our students:

Barton Peveril College, BBC, Careers Consultancy, City College, Funky Fit Boxing, In Focus Photography, Itchen College, Mast Mayflower Studios, Mitsubishi, National Oceanography, Solent EBP, Solent University, Southern Universities Network, Southampton City Council, Southampton University, Sparsholt College, Speakers for Schools, Taunton's College, Teach First, The Careers & Enterprise Company, The Royal Navy, Totton College

b. Destination Data Class of 2022

- The percentage of the year 11 cohort staying on in post-16 education has increased.
- The number into apprenticeships and training has dropped slightly.
- The combined number of NEET and unknown young people has decreased.
- 92% of leavers met the RPA (Raising the Participation Age) requirement.

The class of 2022 moved to a range of providers in the local area after school:

The five most popular establishments attended by Year 11 leavers were:

Southampton City College	50.7%
Itchen Sixth Form College	22.4%
Barton Peveril College	13.4%
Richard Taunton's Sixth Form Colleges	4.5%
Sparsholt College	3%

The class of 2022 also attended Eastleigh College, Totton College and others.

c. Management

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students is monitored by the Director of Careers Education.

This policy statement will be reviewed annually and have the approval by the Governing Body and Headteacher.