



# Fairfield High School Provider Access Policy

This policy is reviewed annually to ensure compliance with current regulations

Approved/reviewed by	
Principal	
Date of next review	September 2026

## Introduction

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, to enable students to make fully informed rational education and career pathway decisions. This complies with the school's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

We believe in building strong relationships with local sixth forms and colleges, apprenticeship providers, universities, and employers. Our careers programme includes many opportunities for external providers to talk to and interact with students and their parents, ensuring they are aware of vocational and technical pathways and opportunities as well as academic ones.

Members of staff are regularly sent information to ensure that they are up to date in their knowledge of the full range of post16 opportunities available to students.

## Pupil Entitlement

All students in Year 7-13 are entitled:

- To find out about technical educational 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 a variety of methods including options events, assemblies, group discussions, taster events.
- To understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

**For pupils of compulsory school age these encounters are mandatory and there will be a minimum of two encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (Years 8 to 9) and two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (Years 10 to 11).**

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 pupils from the provider)
- answer questions from students

## Meaningful Provider Encounters

One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between pupils and one provider. We are committed to providing meaningful encounters to all pupils using the [Making it meaningful checklist](#).

Meaningful online engagement is also an option, and we are open to providers that are able to provide live online engagement with our pupils.

### **Previous Providers**

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

- City of Bristol College
- SGS College
- St. Brendan's
- Western Training Provider Network (WTPN)
- Boomsatsuma
- Access Creative

### **Management of provider access requests – Procedure**

A provider wishing to request access should contact:

Name	Kelly Thomas
Job Title	Careers Leader
Tel	0117 9527177
Email	<a href="mailto:kathomas@fairfield.excalibur.org.uk">kathomas@fairfield.excalibur.org.uk</a>

### **Opportunities for Access**

All providers are welcome to contact us to discuss how they would like to support and contribute to careers provision for our students. Several events integrated into the school careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils and/or their parents/carers including:

Assemblies, Employer/Employee Talks, Mock Interviews, Mentoring, Post-16 Options. Other opportunities granted on request in line with student availability and the school calendar. Please visit our careers page to access our full Careers Learning Journey, that identifies all careers events, activities and learning opportunities for each year group. The programme is updated annually.

Any provider taking part in an existing careers event/activity or new one will be supported by our teaching staff throughout their visit and not left unattended. We will discuss space requirements with providers and make available appropriate IT and other resources to support presentations. We can promote and distribute details of careers and apprenticeship literature and vacancies to all relevant students and parents through email/parentmail or promotion in our Weekly Briefings.