

Provider Access Statement

This statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to pupils for the purpose of giving them information about their post-16 options. This is in line with the statutory requirements.

Rationale

Our school supports all pupils who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs. We are committed to ensuring that every young person is fully prepared for their next stage of education, employment or training. We recognise the importance of providing meaningful, accessible and personalised careers guidance, which reflects the individual needs, interests and aspirations of our pupils.

Entitlement

All pupils in Years 8–11 are entitled to:

- Find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities
- Hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including entry requirements and progression routes
- Understand how to make informed applications for the full range of academic and vocational courses

Management of Provider Access Requests

Providers seeking access to speak to our pupils should contact the school office in the first instance. Requests will be considered on an individual basis, taking into account:

- The needs and readiness of the pupils
- Safeguarding considerations
- The appropriateness of the opportunity in supporting positive outcomes

We aim to be flexible and collaborative in facilitating access, where it is in the best interests of our young people.

Opportunities for Access

A number of events and opportunities are integrated into the school's careers programme, which may include:

- Visits from further education colleges and training providers
- Careers-focused assemblies or small group sessions
- Transition planning meetings
- Individual careers guidance interviews

All opportunities are carefully planned and adapted to ensure they are accessible and supportive for pupils with SEMH needs.

Supporting Individual Pathways

As our pupils come from a range of local authorities and counties, we recognise that post-16 pathways will differ depending on where they live. We therefore work closely with families, local authorities and external providers to ensure that each young person is supported to explore and visit appropriate post-16 provisions within their home area. This may include supported visits to local colleges, training providers or specialist provisions to ensure that transitions are well-informed, positive and personalised.

Facilities

The school can provide appropriate spaces for provider visits, along with access to IT and presentation equipment where required. Sessions are typically delivered in small groups or on a one-to-one basis to best meet the needs of our pupils.

Safeguarding

All provider visits are conducted in line with the school's safeguarding and child protection policies. Providers will be expected to adhere to these procedures at all times.

This statement will be reviewed annually to ensure it continues to meet the needs of our pupils and reflects current statutory guidance.