

Provider Access Policy 2025-2026 (Updated 05/01/2026)

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. This complies with the schools legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997, updated in the 'Skills for Jobs' White Paper published in January 2023.

Pupil entitlement

All pupils in years 8 to 13 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;
- To hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships – through options events, assemblies, group discussions and 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' (year 8 to 9) and two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 10 to 11). For pupils in the 'third key phase' (year 12 to 13), particularly those that have not yet decided on their next steps, there are two more provider encounters available during this period, which are optional for pupils to attend.

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 pupils.

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:

- BBC – Apprenticeships

- ASK – Apprenticeship support
- Nestle' – Apprenticeships
- Home Office/Civil Service - Apprenticeships
- Airbus – Apprenticeships
- Armed Forces – Apprenticeships
- Air-Products
- Aldi
- NHS
- Wirral Metropolitan FE College
- LLS Sports Academy
- Steven Gerrard Academy
- Reesetheth Agricultural College
- LIPA
- Birkenhead Sixth Form
- Liverpool Life Science

In 2025-2026, we have so far added:

- Scottish Power
- Chester Zoo
- Jaguar Land-Rover (JLR)
- His Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service (HMCTS)

Going forward, we will continue to build meaningful partnerships with a variety of further education and higher education establishments, as well as consolidating and developing our relationships with local and national business organisations (see below).

Working in partnership with the Department for Education (DfE) and the Careers and Enterprise Company (CEC – Liverpool City Region), we have been working on the '**Equalex Pilot Project**' to help to deliver the objective (as per the revised Gatsby Benchmark GB6 from September 2025) of providing two weeks' worth (50 hours) of meaningful experience of the workplace to our students (from Year 7 through to Year 11). This places us in an excellent position to develop new partnerships with a wide variety of business organisations.

Destination Data for our pupils – Year 11 (2024-25)

Last year (Sept. 2025) our year 11 pupils moved to a range of providers as detailed below:

Destination	Number of students
St John Plessington	128
Wirral Metropolitan College	58
Birkenhead Sixth Form	17
Apprenticeships	12
City of Liverpool College	10
Cheshire College South and West	9
Reaseheath Ag. College	4
Steven Gerrard Academy	4
TTE (Engineering)	4
Everton College	4
Hugh Baird College	3
Home Educated	3
Wirral Grammar	2
Liverpool Comm. College	2

Liverpool Bus. College	2
Supported by CareerConn./Neet	2
Liverpool Life Science	1
Myerscough College (Preston)	1
Bebington Co-op Academy	1
Moved abroad	1
Moved abroad	1
TOTAL	269

Destination Data for our pupils – year 13 (2024-2025)

Last year (Sept. 2025) our **year 13** pupils moved to a range of providers after leaving sixth form:

DESTINATION	Number of pupils
Liverpool John Moores University	27
Employment	12
University of Liverpool	11
Apprenticeship	8
Edge Hill University	5
University of Chester	3
Manchester Metropolitan University	3
University of York	2
Keele University	2
University of Salford	2
University of Central Lancashire	1
University of Bristol	1
Liverpool Hope University	1
City of Liverpool College	1
Gap year (then possibly N/castle Uni.)	1
Unenrolled	1

TOTAL	81
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Management of provider access requests:

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact:

Les Wellens

Careers Lead – HFCMAT

Via email – leswellens@hfcmat.com

Or contact by phone – 0151 645 5049 – Extension 311

Opportunities for access

The school facilitates at least six ‘training provider’ encounters, during the three ‘key phases’, on a rolling basis, as required by law, as well as a number of additional ‘whole year’ events, integrated into the school careers programme. Examples of these are detailed in the chart below.

Dates for planned events for 2025-2026, where known, are entered in the school calendar and will be added to as the year progresses, dependent on events/activities being sourced and requests agreed.

PLEASE NOTE – PAL policy information and destination data for previous years is also available on our website.

CAREER 2025-202 6	SJP ‘Whole Year’ events				
YEAR GROUP	EVENT	EVENT	EVENT	EVENT	EVENT
YEAR 7	Conway Centre (Anglesey) Residential (Edsential) – talks on pathways and skillsets –comm. Skills, leadership, resilience, team-building - 21 st to 23 rd Jan. 2026	National Apprenticeship Week – a range of w-c 9/2/26 – a range of activities/virtual webinars etc. made available via GC	National Careers Week – w-c 2-3-26 – a range of activities/quizzes/ webinars to provide advice/guidance on future pathways		

YEAR 8	National Apprenticeship Week – a range of w-c 9/2/26 – a range of activities/virtual webinars etc. made available via GC	National Careers Week – w-c 2-3-26 – a range of activities/quizzes/webinars to provide advice/guidance on future pathways	National Careers Challenge/Experience Day - led by 'The inspirational Learning Group' – all day event where students are given a business presentation, set a business challenge and present ideas to peers (winners go to National Finals, Thursday 2 nd of July - Telford) – in school 26/3/26	Careers Fair – over 25+ organisations in main hall – FE/HE and companies providing direct access for students to discuss future pathways/qualifications/future courses 1/5/26	
YEAR 9	National Apprenticeship Week – a range of w-c 9/2/26 – a range of activities/virtual webinars etc. made available via GC	National Careers Week – w-c 2-3-26 – a range of activities/quizzes/webinars to provide advice/guidance on future pathways	Options Evening – all students/parent invited in to discuss option choices – Careers Lead and CareerConnect in attendance to give talks/provide advice/guidance 5/3/26	Careers Fair – over 25+ organisations in main hall – FE/HE and companies providing direct access for students to discuss future pathways/qualifications/future courses 1/5/26	
YEAR 10	HMCTS – Equalex Event 2 hour talk/presentation to whole year group by lawyers/court personnel explaining roles within the court/justice system 3/12/25	National Apprenticeship Week – a range of w-c 9/2/26 – a range of activities/virtual webinars etc. made available via GC	National Careers Week – w-c 2-3-26 – a range of activities/quizzes/webinars to provide advice/guidance on future pathways	Careers Fair – over 25+ organisations in main hall – FE/HE and companies providing direct access for students to discuss future pathways/qualifications/future courses 1/5/26	
YEAR 11	Sixth Form Open Evening – all students and parents invited – universities present, along with CareerConnect, to provide	National Apprenticeship Week – a range of w-c 9/2/26 – a range of activities/virtual webinars etc. made available via GC	National Careers Week – w-c 2-3-26 – a range of activities/quizzes/webinars to provide advice/guidance on future pathways	Careers Fair – over 25+ organisations in main hall – FE/HE and companies providing direct access for students to discuss future pathways/qualifications/future courses 1/5/26	

	information/advice on future choices/courses/pathways – 11/11/26				
YEAR 12	National Apprenticeship Week – a range of w-c 9/2/26 – a range of activities/virtual webinars etc. made available via GC	National Careers Week – w-c 2-3-26 – a range of activities/quizzes/webinars to provide advice/guidance on future pathways	Edge Hill University - Campus Trip – Experience Day - whole year group – all day campus tour/talk – taster session – university life/accommodation visit – 25/3/26	Careers Fair – over 25+ organisations in main hall – FE/HE and companies providing direct access for students to discuss future pathways/qualifications/future courses 1/5/26	National Apprenticeship Show – Liverpool Exhibition Centre – national event showcasing the top apprenticeship companies and opportunities, local and national – TBC
Year 12 cont'd.	UCAS Discovery Day - LEC Visit to LEC to take part in a variety of seminars/workshops covering UCAS and application process 16/6/26	Work Exp. Week – w/c 30/06/26 Full week of work experience (25 hours) sourced by students and signed off by Year team	Careers Pathway Week – July 2026 – exact dates TBC - will include Home Office assembly, and 'Mock Interview' Day – led by external interviewers from business		
Year 13	National Apprenticeship Week – a range of w-c 9/2/26 – a range of activities/virtual webinars etc. made available via GC	National Careers Week – w-c 2-3-26 – a range of activities/quizzes/webinars to provide advice/guidance on future pathways	Careers Fair – over 25+ organisations in main hall – FE/HE and companies providing direct access for students to discuss future pathways/qualifications/future courses 1/5/26	National Apprenticeship Show – Liverpool Exhibition Centre – national event showcasing the top apprenticeship companies and opportunities, local and national – date TBC	

PLEASE NOTE – the full careers programme (detailing all events) for each year group is available on the school website under the ‘careers section’. As well as ‘fixed’ dates, the programme is fluid and events will be added retrospectively also, as new opportunities for collaboration arise.

We will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils or their parents or carers.

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

Premises and facilities

The school will make the main hall, drama studio, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and pupils, 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.

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

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at the Careers Resource Centre, which is managed by the school librarian, or the sixth form ‘careers information’ area. The Resource Centre is available to all pupils at lunch and break times.

Complaints

Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via

provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk

Approval and review

Approved TBC by Governors at Curriculum and Standards Committee

Next review: TBC



Signed: [Eithne Comerford] Vice chair of Governors, Careers link Governor



Signed: [Peadar McLoughlin] Headteacher