

Provider access policy statement

Goldington Academy



Approved by: Francis Galbraith

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1. Aims

This 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 their offer.

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

2 Statutory requirements

2.1 General requirements

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.

Schools must also have a policy 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 policy shows how our school complies with these requirements.

2.2 Statutory - Provider Access Legislation (PAL)

All students in Years 7 to 11 at Goldington Academy are entitled to:

Two meaningful encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships during Key Stage 3 (Year 8 or 9).

Two further meaningful encounters during Key Stage 4 (Year 10 or 11).

These encounters are part of our planned careers programme and are designed to provide students with relevant information about technical and vocational options, in line with the Provider Access Legislation (January 2023).

2.3 Meaningful encounter

- Based on DfE guidance, a meaningful encounter is one where students:
- Learn about the provider and the qualifications or apprenticeships they offer.
- Understand potential career paths linked to those qualifications.
- Receive a clear description of what learning/training with that provider is like.
- Have the opportunity to ask questions.

3. Student entitlement

All students in years 7 to 11 at Goldington Academy 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

4. Management of provider access requests

4.1 Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Mr A Lucas, Careers Leader. Email: lucasa@goldington.beds.sch.uk

4.2 Provider opportunities

At Goldington Academy, careers education is delivered through Life Skills lessons, assemblies, form time, curriculum links, and targeted events.

Year 7:

- Introduction to career interests and skills (FSQ, Life Skills)
- **GA Careers Week** (formerly Green Careers Week)
- STEM and subject-specific career links
- Employer talk and author visit

Year 8:

- Careers in the workplace (School Runner activity)
- Life Skills: Life & Work
- **GA Careers Week** and STEM focus
- Employer and provider encounters

Year 9:

- STEM Fair, University Fair (SEN focus)
- Life Skills: Post-16 Pathways
- Work shadowing, PP-targeted guidance
- Careers and Apprenticeships Week activities

Year 10:

- Careers guidance interviews begin
- Labour market info and post-16 exploration
- Talks from universities and apprenticeship providers
- STEM and subject-specific careers
- Post-16 Careers Week (new for 2024–25)

Year 11:

- Post-16 provider assemblies and careers fairs
- Mock interviews
- Further personalised guidance
- Career-linked subject content and destination planning

4.3 Granting and refusing access

Access to students will be refused under the following circumstances:

- On dates of national examinations
- During internal, formalised examinations
- If it is deemed that learning will be impacted (i.e. missing a significant number of lessons)
- During staff training days and school holidays
- Over a weekend, unless an event is specifically arranged for this time period
- Other circumstances that may arise

4.4 Safeguarding

Our safeguarding/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 and sign an agreement upon their initial visit to the premises.

DBS checks should be provided if available. All visitors must report to Reception upon arrival at the school site, bringing a photographic means of identification (e.g. passport, driving licence)

4.5 Premises and facilities

The school will make the main hall, 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 be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Leader or member of the Careers Team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at our Reception desk for the attention of the Careers Leader.

There will be a Resource Centre available to all students at lunch and break times in our school library.

5. Links to other policies

For further information on our policies, please visit the policy area of our website. <http://www.goldingtonacademy.org.uk/Policies-list>

6. Monitoring arrangements

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students is monitored by Mike Birchall, School Business Manager.

This policy will be reviewed annually by Alex Lucas, Careers Leader.

At every review, the policy will be approved by Francis Galbraith, Principal.