Provider Access Policy

Arnold Academy

Approved by:	Arnold Academy Board	**Date:**	March 2023
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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 Year 8 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

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 provide a minimum of 6 encounters with technical education or training providers to all pupils in years 8 to 13 (see more detail in section 2.1 below).

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, the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022 and on page 43 of guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on careers guidance and access for education and training providers.

This policy shows how our school complies with these requirements.

2.1 The encounters schools must offer to all pupils in years 8

Schools must offer:

- 2 encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (year 8 or 9)
    - All pupils must attend
    - Encounters can take place any time during year 8

These encounters must happen for a reasonable period of time during the standard school day. Schools can continue to provide complementary experiences, but encounters outside of school hours won't count towards these requirements.

Schools must ask each provider to provide the following information as a minimum:

- Information about the provider and the approved qualifications or apprenticeships they offer
- Information about what careers those qualifications and apprenticeships can lead to
- What learning or training with the provider is like

- Answers to any questions from pupils

2.2 Meaningful provider encounters

Our school is committed to providing meaningful encounters to all pupils in Year 8.

1 encounter is defined as 1 meeting/session between pupils and 1 provider.

Meaningful live online engagement is also an option at our school.

3. Student entitlement

All students in Year 8 at Arnold 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 local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships, e.g. through activities and events such as options events, assemblies and taster events

  Year 8 Careers Week is held annually at the begin of March to coincide with National Careers Week. We aim to organise events and activities that enable pupils to have encounters with employers, employees and with further and higher education.

4. Management of provider access requests

4.1 Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Clare Purcell, Careers Lead.

Telephone: 01525 616400

Email: cpurcell@arnoldacademy.org.uk

4.2 Safeguarding

Our safeguarding 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.

4.3 Premises and facilities

Providers may use the school hall to deliver assemblies to Year 8 pupils. Audio and visual devices are available. Providers are welcome to leave prospectuses or other materials for the students to read.

5. Complaints

Any complaints related to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure [768258]Pyramid_Schools_Trust_Complaints_Policy.pdf (pyramidschoolstrust.org) or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk

6. Links to other policies

- Safeguarding policy
- Curriculum policy
- Complaints policy

7. Monitoring arrangements

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to Year 8 students are monitored by Clare Purcell, Careers Lead.

This policy will be reviewed by Alison Boston, Deputy Head, every 2 years.

At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing board.