



Wolgarston High School **Provider Access Policy**

To be reviewed: Annually

Amendments

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to pupils at the school for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the school's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997, The Department of Education, July 2021: "Baker Clause" and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023).

Rationale

High quality careers education and guidance in school or college is critical to young people's futures. It helps to prepare them for the workplace by providing a clear understanding of the world of work including the routes to jobs and careers that they might find engaging and rewarding. It supports them to acquire the self-development and career management skills they need to achieve positive employment destinations. This helps students to choose their pathways, improve their life opportunities and contribute to a productive and successful economy. As the number of apprenticeships rises every year, it becomes increasingly important that all young people have a full understanding of all the options available to them post-16 and post-18 including wider technical education options such as T-Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications.

Commitment

Wolgarston is committed to ensuring there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students, for the purpose of informing them about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships. Wolgarston is fully aware of the responsibility to set students on the path that will secure the best outcome which will enable them to progress in education and work and give employers the highly skilled people they need. That means acting impartially, in line with the statutory duty, and not showing bias towards any route, be that academic or technical. Wolgarston endeavours to ensure that all students are aware of all routes to higher skills and are able to access information on technical options and apprenticeships (The Department of Education, July 2021: "Baker Clause": supporting students to understand the full range of education and training options, and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023).

Aims

Wolgarston's policy for Access to other education and training providers has the following aims:

To develop the knowledge and awareness of our students of all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships.

To support young people to be able to learn more about opportunities for education and training outside of school before making crucial choices about their future options.

To reduce drop out from courses and avoid the risk of students becoming NEET (Young people not in education, employment or training).

Student Entitlement

Wolgarston fully supports the statutory requirement for students to have direct access to other providers of further education training, technical training and apprenticeships.

The school will comply with the new legal requirement to ensure students have had at least two encounters, in each Key Stage, with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships.

This will be done through: -

- Assemblies
- Providers attending careers events at school
- Providers at another Feeder school, where the Key Stage is split.
- Work Experience where the placement is a provider.
- Enterprise Day

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Deputy Head (Careers) supported by the Careers Enterprise Hub, based on current good practice guidelines by the Department for Education.

Equality and Diversity

Access to other providers is available and promoted to allow all students to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships.

Wolgarston is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Requests for access

Requests for access should be directed office@wolgarston.staffs.sch.uk, for the attention of the Careers Leader.

Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, and Careers events that Wolgarston is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of a trip to be organised in partnership with Wolgarston. 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. The Resource Centre is available to all students at lunch and break times.

Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access.

Wolgarston will provide an appropriate room, Lecture Theatre or assembly hall to be agreed. All rooms have computers, projectors and screens provided. Computer rooms can also be arranged.

Live/Virtual encounters

Wolgarston uses live online encounters with providers where appropriate, and these may be broadcast into classrooms or the school assembly hall. Technology checks in advance will be required to ensure compatibility of systems. We currently access Speakers for Schools encounters.