Provider Access Policy Statement

STATUS: **Approved**

REVIEW DATE: **September 2024**

"The Academy believes that inclusive practice is central to developing quality teaching and learning. As such, we endeavour to provide a supportive framework that responds to pupils' needs and overcomes potential barriers for individuals and groups of pupils and to ensure that pupils of all abilities and needs are fully included in the life of the school. The ethos of this statement underpins all Oldbury Academy's policies. "

This policy should be read in conjunction with other school policies as/where necessary.

Contents

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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

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.

3. Student entitlement

All students in years 8 to 11 at Oldbury 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 Mrs G Tillotson, Assistant Head Teacher with strategic responsibility for careers.

Telephone: 0121 533 3750

Email: gemma.tillotson@oldburyacademy.org.uk

4.2 Opportunities for access

A number of events, integrated into our careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to students and/or their parents/carers:

	Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term
Year 8	*Assembly and tutor group opportunities - employability skills* *Drop Down Days*	*Assembly and tutor group opportunities* *Drop Down Days* *National Careers Week events*	*Careers workshop* *Drop Down Days*
Year 9	*Assembly and tutor group opportunities - employability skills* *Drop Down Days*	*Year 9 Pathways Event* *National Careers Week events* *Drop down Days*	*Drop down day with Business class/enterprise opportunities* *Employer talks*
Year 10	*Assembly and tutor group opportunities - employability skills* *Drop Down Days*	*Networking event with providers and employers* *Employer talks embedded into assembly programme* *National Careers Week events* *Work experience preparation sessions* *Work experience*	*FE/HE events* *Mock interview event* *Careers fair* *Drop down day*
Year 11	*Assembly on opportunities at 16* *Practise interviews/interview preparation* *Spotlight opportunities*	*Support with applications Mentoring* *Careers Fair*	

Please speak to our Careers Leader, Sara Walker, to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

4.3 Granting and refusing access

Access to students may be granted / refused based on the following (NB this list is not exhaustive and each access request will be considered on a case by case basis). We will always try to provide access wherever possible

- The needs of the students
- The needs of the curriculum
- Timing of the Academy day
- Nature of request from the provider
- Number of requests received from providers
- Number of requests received for a particular cohort of students
- Quality of previous interactions with our students

4.4 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. Please ensure that this policy is read before requesting access. This policy can be found on our website.

4.5 Premises and facilities

Facilities available for providers include:

- Hall space with audio / visual equipment and access to the internet.
- Classroom facilities with projectors or interactive equipment.
- Computer room, if available.

The process for organising and agreeing which facilities can be used should be made when contacting the Careers Leader to identify the most suitable opportunity.

Providers can leave prospectuses or other material for students to read with the member of staff who is supervising the group to distribute at an appropriate time.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following Academy policies, all of which can be accessed via the Academy website:

- *Safeguarding policy*
- *Careers guidance policy*
- *Curriculum policy*

6. Monitoring arrangements

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students is monitored by Mrs G Tillotson, Assistant Headteacher.

This policy will be reviewed annually by Mrs Tillotson and referred to the Head Teacher for approval.