



Provider Access Policy

2022-24

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1. Introduction

1.1 This policy statement sets out the College's arrangements for managing the access of providers to the College for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the College's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

2. Learner Entitlement

2.1 All students in post 16 education 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 and group discussions and taster events
- to understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses

2.2 Students on 16-19 study programmes, particularly those that have not yet decided on their next steps, should have access to two provider encounters during this period, which are optional for students to attend.

2.3 Provider encounters will be scheduled during the main college 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 students from the provider)
- answer questions from students.

3. Meaningful Provider Encounters

3.1 One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between learners and one provider. We are committed to providing meaningful encounters to all learners using the [Making it meaningful checklist](#).

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

3.3 Previous Providers

3.3.1 In previous terms/years we have invited the following providers from the local area to speak to our students:

- Manchester Metropolitan
- UCLAN
- RAF
- NHS Southport & Ormskirk Hospital
- Police
- Navy
- Sefton Council
- Fletchers
- AMPEV
- Tower Heating
- Pleasureland
- McDonalds Southport
- Career Connect
- The Prison Service
- Chapelhouse Motors

3.4 Student Destinations

3.4.1 The College is committed to identifying and reporting on student destinations and celebrates the success of our students, Last year our 16-19 study programme students progressed to a range of providers in the local area after college including:

- NHS
- Mencap
- Emmersive Interactive
- Tattoo Piercing Academy
- Tower Heating
- Busy Bees Nursery
- RAF
- Jaguar Land Rover
- Ford
- Southport Master Lock and Safe
- Merseyside Police
- Kids Planet
- Camel Lairds

4. Management of Provider Access Requests

4.1 Procedure

- 4.1.1 A provider wishing to request access should contact Rachael Brownhill, Head of Studies, rbrownhill@southport.ac.uk.
- 4.1.2 The College offers the necessary provider encounters required by law and several additional events, integrated into the college careers programme as detailed here; [Careers Calendar 22-23](#)
- 4.1.3 We will offer providers an opportunity to come into college to speak to students or their parents or carers.
- 4.1.4 Please speak to our Careers Leader to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

4.2 Premises and Facilities

- 4.2.1 The College will make the main sport halls, lecture theatres, classrooms, or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. The College 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.
- 4.2.2 Meaningful online engagement is also an option, and we are open to providers that are able to provide live online engagement with our students.
- 4.2.3 Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at the Student Hub or one of the Study Hubs. These areas are available to all students during College opening hours.

5. Complaints

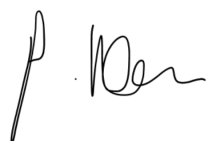
- 5.1 Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised following the College's complaints procedure or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk

6. Other Relevant Documents

- 6.1 The following College documents provide links to this policy:
 - Careers Education Policy

7. Approval

- 7.1 In accordance with Provider Access Legislation, this policy is signed by;



Signed: [Paul Walker] Chair of Governors
Principal

[Michelle Brabner]