



GREENWOOD ACADEMIES TRUST

Provider Access Policy Statement (PAL)

Access for colleges, training providers, university technical colleges, universities and all other post 16 providers offering technical, vocational and academic routes and apprenticeships

Updated January 2023

This policy statement sets out the arrangements for managing the access of providers to students for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer.

Pupil Entitlement

All students in years 8 to 13 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.

In line with the updated Provider Access Legislation, from January 2023, all schools must provide a minimum of six [meaningful encounters](#) for all students with post 16 providers, as above. This is broken down into key phases: -

1st key phase	Year 8 or 9	Two encounters for students that are mandatory for all to attend
2nd key phase	Year 10 or 11	Two encounters for students that are mandatory for all to attend
3rd key phase	Year 12 or 13	Two encounters that are mandatory for the school to put on but optional for students to attend

These provider encounters will be scheduled during the main school 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 all students, including our most vulnerable and those with additional learning needs.

Management of provider access requests

All requests made by providers should be emailed at least 6 weeks in advance of the expected date of the session.

Granting Requests and Refusal of Requests

Once your request has been submitted, the Academy Careers Lead or Trust Adviser for Careers and Employability will respond to you within 10 working days. All requests will be given due consideration from the designated Careers Lead and Senior Leadership Team.

Once the request has been granted, we will ask you for a range of information to share with our students and parents before the session. This may be a prospectus, letter, presentation to share with students and parents in advance of your session.

This should include: -

- Details of the opportunities you offer including technical education, courses and entry requirements
- What is learning like with your institution?
- How do you prepare students for their best next step on successful completion of your course/training?
- Provide examples of linking courses with careers relating to the labour market and recent positive destinations of students who have completed their learning with you

Requests will be considered against: -

- Clashes with other planned activities or visits.
- Interruption to preparation for public or internal examinations.
- Availability of school staff, space and resources to host the session.
- All requests will also be considered in line with the academy Safeguarding policy. For questions on this policy statement or the wider careers programmes in our academies please do not hesitate to contact us.
- Each Careers Lead will keep a log of all provider requests for access and the outcomes and record on Compass Plus to support the delivery and evaluation of the careers programme.

Opportunities for access

All GAT academies offer the six provider encounters required by law and a number of additional events, integrated into academy careers programmes. We will offer providers an opportunity to come into our academies to speak to students and/or their parents or carers.

DATE OF APPROVAL January 2023