

Provider Access Policy

Weaverham High School



Approved by:	Governing Body	Date: 8 th October 2025
Last reviewed on:	September 2025	
Next review due by:	September 2026	
School link	Jennie Walsh (Careers Lead)	SLT Link: G. Makin

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

The Baker Clause (Provider Access Legislation – PAL – January 2023) stipulates that schools must allow colleges and training providers access to every student in years 8-13 to discuss non-academic routes that are available to them. 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 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 6 encounters schools must offer to all pupils in years 8 to 13

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, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 9
- 2 encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 10 or 11)
 - All pupils must attend
 - Encounters can take place any time during year 10, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 11
- 2 encounters for pupils during the 'third key phase' (year 12 or 13)
 - Pupils can choose to attend
 - Encounters can take place any time during year 12, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 13

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 and inclusive and well-sequenced encounters for *all* pupils. Further development of these encounters will be key in meeting the demands of the increased Gatsby Benchmark 6 (Experiences of Workplaces) criteria (outlined in DfE statutory guidance 'Careers and Access for Education and Training Providers', May 2025).

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

We will also utilise meaningful live online engagement to facilitate provider access and meaningful encounters.

3. Student entitlement

All students in years 8 to 13 at Weaverham High School 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, e.g., through activities and events such as options events, assemblies, Apprenticeship Fairs, Aspiring Futures Evening and bespoke employer visits
- 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 **Jennie Walsh (Careers Coordinator)**.

Telephone: **01606 852120 (Ext 221)**

Email: jennie.walsh@weaverhamhighschool.com

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. The table below highlights these opportunities with technical/vocational provider access meeting all statutory requirements (please see CEIAG policy for information on full Careers programme and provision for Y7-11).

	AUTUMN TERM	SPRING TERM	SUMMER TERM
YEAR 8	Careers Aspirations evening for pupils, parents and technical providers – market stall event giving overview of local, regional and national opportunities and skills requirement	Technical / Vocational Course interaction booked with WVR college to take place in January National Careers Week: Employer / FE / UTC College Assembly Presentations (all progression routes) National Careers Week: Employability Skills workshop, Post 14/16/18 pathways, Qualifications Framework and Labour Market Info	Technical/vocational tasters at local colleges & training providers

	AUTUMN TERM	SPRING TERM	SUMMER TERM
YEAR 9	Technical / Vocational Course interaction booked with CITB to take place in Nov/Dec Pre-Options Assembly – ‘What the Future Holds’ Tutor group opportunities - employability skills	Technical / Vocational Course interaction booked with TTE Ltd to take place in January Aspiring Futures event for pupils, parents and technical providers – market stall event giving overview of local, regional and national opportunities and skills requirement Key Stage 4 options event – Training Provider presence National Careers Week: Employer / FE / UTC College Assembly Presentations (all progression routes) National Careers Week: Linking Curriculum To Careers: Labour Market Info, Post 16 progression routes, Job types, Skills required LIFE Curriculum: Employment Rights, Qualifications Framework, Employment Rights	

	AUTUMN TERM	SPRING TERM	SUMMER TERM
YEAR 10	Technical / Vocational Course interaction booked with CCSW to take place in Nov/Dec Post-16 technical education options assembly with Further Education Colleges Life Curriculum – Post 16/18 Pathways, Health & Safety in the Workplace Aspiring Futures event for pupils, parents and technical providers – market stall event giving overview of local, regional and national opportunities and skills requirement Assembly and tutor group opportunities - employability skills Y10 Work Experience launch 1:1 Guidance Interviews - Careers adviser - applications	Technical / Vocational Course interaction booked with Stellantis to take place in January Technical/vocational tasters at local college/s, training providers Aspiring Futures event for pupils, parents and technical providers – market stall event giving overview of local, regional and national opportunities and skills requirement National Careers Week: Apprenticeship Fair – including local, regional and national technical/vocational providers National Careers Week: Employer / FE / UTC College Assembly Presentations (all progression routes) LIFE Curriculum - Work experience preparation, CV development, Interview top tips 1:1 Guidance Interviews - Careers adviser - applications	Work experience preparation sessions Work experience Technical/vocational tasters at local college/s, training providers 1:1 Guidance Interviews - Careers adviser - applications

	AUTUMN TERM	SPRING TERM	SUMMER TERM
YEAR 11	Y11 Bespoke Pupil interaction with CCSW Vocational/Technical courses LIFE Curriculum: Actioning Aspirations – Post 16/18 pathways, Applications Post-16 provider assemblies and open evenings Post-16 applications support - in conjunction with all FE providers	Aspiring Futures event for pupils, parents and technical providers – market stall event giving overview of local, regional and national opportunities and skills requirement Post-16 interviews with colleges and providers Apprenticeships – support with applications Work experience preparation, CV development, Interview top tips National Careers Week: Employer / FE / UTC College Assembly Presentations (all progression routes) National Careers Week: Post 16/18 Qualifications Assemblies and signposting Post-16 applications support	Confirmation of post-16 education and training destinations for all pupils

- Please contact our careers adviser (Amy Mayor) or careers coordinator (Jennie Walsh) to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

Jennie Walsh: jennie.walsh@weaverhamhighschool.com

Amy Mayor – amy.may@mploysolutions.co.uk

4.3 Granting and refusing access

We aspire to offer a variety of opportunities for providers to access all year groups. Provider access is both welcomed and will be accommodated at every opportunity. Examples of access points are:

- Assemblies (daily 9.30-9.55am)

- Aspiring Futures Evening (November 5.30pm-7.30pm)
- National Apprenticeship Week
- National Careers Week

Access will only be refused in instances of facility/staff unavailability and/or if the offer is deemed unsuitable in relation to pupils' aspirations and intended destinations.

4.4 Safeguarding

Our safeguarding/child protection 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.

4.5 Premises and facilities

Providers can access a range of venues ranging from classrooms to larger presentation spaces (hall, sports hall, drama studio) that contain audio and visual devices

Arrangements for facility use can be arranged via Jennie Walsh (careers coordinator)

jennie.walsh@weaverhamhighschool.com

5. Examples of Current providers

Previously, we have invited a range of providers from the local, regional and national areas to speak to our pupils. Examples of such are:

- Amazing Apprenticeships
- Cheshire West and Chester Apprenticeship and Inclusive Employment Coordinator
- TATA Chemicals
- Barrett Homes
- Castle Green Homes
- Wright Build
- iPet network
- Cygnet Texkimp
- RMG Management
- CITB
- Airbus
- Reaseheath College
- Warrington and Vale Royal College
- Cheshire College South and West
- Priestly College
- Stellantis
- Cheshire Fire and Rescue
- Education and Semi Professional Football Academy
- British Army
- Royal Navy
- Abbey Crafts and Saddlery
- Weavervale Housing Trust
- Cheshire Farm Machinery
- The Deafness Support Network
- Hays Travel
- TTE Training
- Radio Northwich

- Vanilla in all seasons
- Women in Nuclear/ LEEP consulting

6. Pupil destinations

Latest Destinations Data indicates 97% of school leavers were engaged in Further Education, Employment and Training:

Headline destinations were:

- Sir John Deanes Sixth Form College
- Warrington Vale Royal College
- Priestly College
- Cheshire College South and West
- Reaseheath College
- Apprenticeships
- Employment (with training)

Latest destinations data indicates that 4% of students moved into a post-16 work based apprenticeship.

In line with our career's strategy, the school reviews annual destinations data and uses findings to inform careers related information and guidance. The school also carries out an internal audit of intended destinations within Years 10 and 11 to inform relevant provision, as well as an ambitions audit in Y7-11 to identify potential career sector pathways.

7. Complaints

Any complaints related to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk

8. Links to other policies

Safeguarding/child protection policy

Careers guidance policy

Curriculum policy

Complaint's policy

9. Monitoring arrangements

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students are monitored by Jennie Walsh (careers coordinator).

This policy will be reviewed annually by Jennie Walsh and Gary Makin (Assistant Headteacher). At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing body.