



The Bridge Short Stay School

PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY

Lead responsibility for policy	A Stewart Date: May 2023
Approved (Head Teacher)	A Stewart Date: May 2023
Approved (Chair of Management Committee)	P Carrington May 2023
Date policy due for renewal	May 2024

Provider Access Policy

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to 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.

Pupil entitlement

All pupils in years 8 to 11 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.

For pupils of compulsory school age these encounters are mandatory and there will be a minimum of two encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (year 8 to 9) and two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 10 to 11).

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 pupils from the provider)
- answer questions from pupils

Meaningful provider encounters

One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between pupils and one provider. We are committed to providing meaningful encounters to all pupils using the Making it meaningful checklist. Meaningful online engagement is also an option, and we are open to providers that are able to provide live online engagement with our pupils.

Previous providers

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

- Cheshire College South and West
- Reaseheath College
- The Fire Brigade

- Chester Zoo
- Cloughwood Academy
- Sir John Deanes College

Destinations of our pupils

Last year our year 11 pupils moved to range of providers in the local area after school including: Cheshire College South & West; Reaseheath College; Cloughwood Academy and a variety of local workplaces.

Management of provider access requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Chris Wright, Deputy Headteacher, 0151 2453877 enquiries@thebridge.cheshire.sch.uk

Opportunities for access

The school offers the six provider encounters required by law and a number of additional events, integrated into the school careers programme, due to the transient nature of our student population these opportunities operate on a rolling basis so that students have encounters with a variety of providers throughout their time on roll, regardless of their entry and exit date. We will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils or their parents or carers.

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

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Key Stage 3	Workplace visits	Workplace visits Parents evening – college presence	Workplace visits
Key Stage 4	Explore Programme – visits to FE and local workplaces Year 11 Careers Advisor interviews Work Experience CEC Careers Fair	Year 11 Careers Advisor interviews Post 16 interviews Work Experience	Year 11 Careers Advisor interviews Work Experience

Premises and facilities

The school will make classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and pupils, as appropriate to the activity. The school 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.

Meaningful online engagement is also an option and we are open to providers that are able to provide live online engagement with our pupils. Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature to be shared across tutor groups which will be available in registration, break and lunchtimes.

Complaints:

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