

Provider Access Policy Statement

OUR SCHOOL PRAYER:

What does the *Lord* ask of you?

To act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6vs.8

Introduction

In our school, our Christian vision shapes all we do. All members of the school community are committed to upholding the St Michael's Church of England Christian values:

- to show love, care, and kindness to all in our community
- to value what we have and to share with others
- to enable everyone to achieve their full potential

Under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997 and the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022, we have a duty to provide pupils in Years 8-13 with access to providers of post-14, post-16, and post-18 education and training. This policy statement sets out how we manage access requests from these providers.

What are pupils entitled to?

Pupils in Years 8 to 13 are entitled to:

- learn more about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities, as part of a careers programme that informs pupils of the full range of education and training options available to them at each transition point
- hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities on offer, e.g., technical education and apprenticeships – this can be achieved through options evenings, assemblies, group discussions, and taster events
- understand how to apply to the full range of academic and technical courses available to them

All pupils in Years 8 to 11 will receive at least four encounters with accredited providers of technical education and apprenticeships. These encounters will be divided accordingly:

- during the first key phase (Year 8 to Year 9) all pupils must attend two mandatory sessions by accredited providers
- during the second key phase (Years 10 and 11) all pupils must attend two mandatory sessions by accredited providers

Who handles our access requests?

Any provider wishing to request access should contact our careers leader, Peter Stafford, at 0121 561 6881 or via email at pete.stafford@st-michaels.sandwell.sch.uk.

What opportunities are provided to allow access to pupils?

Via our school careers programme, we offer providers numerous opportunities throughout the school year to speak to pupils and/or their parents.

These sessions will be scheduled during the school's main opening hours.

The school offers the four provider encounters that are legally required for Years 7 – 11 – these are marked with bold text below – and a number of additional events.

Our annual schedule of events is as follows:

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Year 8	STEM Careers Research	PSCE activities	PSCE activities
Year 9	Group sessions on career routes Career websites	Options events	Assemblies Colleges Apprenticeships Business talks
Year 10	PSCE sessions Work experience preparation University visits	Group sessions on career routes PSCE sessions World of work sessions	Tasters Careers Software Work experience FE Talks Local Business speakers
Year 11	1:1 Advice and Guidance sessions College talks Apprenticeship talks	Careers Fair NCS assembly World of work sessions Business speakers	

During these sessions, at a minimum, providers will be given enough time to:

- share information about the provider and the approved technical qualifications and apprenticeships they offer
- explain what career routes these qualifications and apprenticeships could lead to
- provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with that provider
- answer pupils' questions

Which providers have previously been invited to the school?

In previous terms and academic years, the school has invited the following providers to speak to pupils:

- ASK and various local colleges along with various apprenticeship providers

Last year, our Year 11 pupils moved on to a range of providers in the local area after finishing school, including Nova Training, NACRO, Juniper Training, and local colleges.

Whom should providers contact to discuss events and options?

Providers can speak to our careers leader to discuss possible attendance at relevant events. Our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and Visitor Policy set out the school's approach to allowing providers into school to speak to our pupils.

What can providers expect once a request has been accepted?

Once we have approved a provider, we will work with them to identify the best method for providing access to our pupils.

We will make the school hall, classrooms, and private meeting rooms available to host discussions between providers and pupils. We will also make presentation equipment, such as projectors and televisions, available to providers.

Arrangements will be discussed in advance between our career leader and a nominated member of the provider's team.

How are complaints regarding provider access managed?


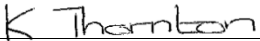

If you have a complaint relating to the school's provider access arrangements, you can raise it in line with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy or you can contact The Careers and Enterprise Company directly at provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk.

Approval and review

This policy statement was approved by the governing board on 26th January 2023.

The next review will take place in January 2026.

Signed by:

 _____	Headteacher	Date: <u>26.01.2023</u>
 _____	Co-Chair of Governors	Date: <u>26.01.2023</u>
 _____	Co-Chair of Governors	Date: <u>26.01.2023</u>

Date adopted	21 st June 2018
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