



Red Marsh School 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 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.

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). For pupils in the 'third key phase' (year 12 to 13), particularly those that have not yet decided on their next steps, there are two more provider encounters available during this period, which are optional for pupils 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 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:

- Blackpool and the Fylde College
- Myerscough College

Provider Access Policy

- DFN Project Search (Supported Internships)
- Victrex

Destinations of our pupils

Last year our year 13 pupils moved to a range of providers in the local area after school, statistics can be found on our school website at <https://www.redmarsh.lancs.sch.uk/Sixthform/student-destinations>

Management of provider access requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Samantha Grice, Preparing for Adulthood (Careers) Leader at 01253 868451 or s.grice@redmarsh.lancs.sch.uk

Opportunities for access

The school offers the six provider encounters required by law (**marked in bold text**) and a number of additional events, integrated into the school careers programme. 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.

Years 8 and 9	Employability skills e.g. functional skills- English, Mathematics, PSHE, Computing Building awareness and aspirations of future opportunities through PSHE curriculum. Encounters with employers/ work places. Personalised discussion at annual reviews regarding future opportunities and transition plan i.e. Sixth Form provision, supported living, work providers, social care providers, transition social workers. Encounters with Blackpool and the Fylde College/ Myerscough College/ DFN Project Search either as a presentation in school or visiting the campus.
Year 10 and 11	Networking event with providers and employers (Opportunities Fair) for post Key Stage 5 options. Personalised discussion at annual EHCP reviews Sixth Form taster sessions Employability skills e.g. functional skills- English, Mathematics, PSHE, Computing Discrete work related learning is delivered as part of the curriculum, this includes; Access to a range of work places to explore different career options Encounters with HE providers who deliver courses linked to the careers explored within the lesson.
SIXTH FORM Year 12, 13 and 14	Networking event with providers and employers (Opportunities Fair) for post Key Stage 5 options. Work experience placements, including an interview with our work experience contact. Small group sessions; opportunities for volunteering, discussion with work experience provider.

Provider Access Policy

	Employability skills e.g. functional skills- English, Mathematics, PSHE, Computing Skills for a 'Healthier Lifestyle' e.g. shopping and meal preparation. Higher education taster sessions; links with local colleges where students can participate in different courses over a period of time e.g. hair and beauty, construction, animal care etc.
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Premises and facilities

The school will make the main hall, 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 at the Careers Resource Centre, which is managed by the school librarian. The Resource Centre is available to all pupils at lunch and break times.

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

Links to other policies

- Safeguarding/ Child protection policy
- Preparing for Adulthood (Careers)
- Teaching and Learning policy

Monitoring arrangements

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers are monitored by Samantha Grice, Preparing for Adulthood (Careers) Subject Leader.

This policy will be reviewed by the SLT annually. At every review, the policy will be approved by the Teaching, Learning and Curriculum Committee.

Evaluation of this policy.

This policy is evaluated annually as part of the school's review procedures.

Policy	
Reviewed	January 2025
To be reviewed	January 2026