



BLACON
HIGH SCHOOL

ASPIRE BELIEVE ACHIEVE

Careers Provider Access Policy

VISION STATEMENT

We want Blacon High School to be a safe and caring place at the heart of our community, where everyone is valued and supported to aspire, believe and achieve beyond their potential.

Ratified by Full Governing Body: 15th February 2023

Next due for review: February 2024

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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

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: This will be discussed with the provider before the event, to clarify expectations,

- 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 encounters to all pupils.

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

Meaningful live online engagement is also an option at our school.

3. Student entitlement

All students in years 8 to 13 at Blacon 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 and taster events
- 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 Rachel Thomas, Assistant Headteacher

Telephone: 01244 371475

Email: rthomas@blaconhigh.cheshire.sch.uk

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:

Year group	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 8		Careers through PSHE	Group meetings with careers adviser
Year 9	Assembly and tutor group opportunities - employability skills Meeting with careers adviser	Key Stage 4 options event Event with Post-16 provider	No encounters – encounters must have taken place by 28 February
Year 10	Assembly and tutor group opportunities - employability skills Post-16 apprenticeships assembly	Meetings with careers adviser	Work experience – virtual opportunities Technical/vocational tasters at local college/s, training providers
Year 11	Post-16 provider open evenings Meetings with careers adviser Post-16 applications	Post-16 interviews Apprenticeships – support with applications	No encounters – encounters must have taken place by 28 February Confirmation of post-16 education and training destinations for all pupils

These events will run in line with any measures related to public health incidents, including COVID-19.

4.3 Granting and refusing access

Visitors to the school may access students across a variety of times during the school day (8.40am – 3.10pm)

We have assembly time once a week per year group. Assembly time is 8.40am – 8.50am but this can be extended on request.

We can also accommodate half days/full days with an agreed date and number of students and visitors.

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 make use of a variety of facilities here at school, depending on the activity being offered. This will be discussed clearly before the event so all needs are met and understood.

We have a large hall for events with whole year groups – assemblies, for example. The hall has its own interactive whiteboard to show any PowerPoints/videos or other interactive resources. This can be used on request.

All classrooms have an interactive whiteboard and we are able to book out classrooms on request and with a date and time and the amount of students taking part being discussed and agreed on prior to the event.

We can also provide refreshments on prior request.

Providers are welcome to leave promotional material or any other relevant material for us to distribute to the students or they can be given directly to the students.

Please refer to our Health and Safety Policy for information regarding public health guidelines, including COVID-19.

5. Previous providers

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

- CCSW
- Upton High 6th Form
- QPHS 6th Form
- Coleg Cambria / Deeside Sixth
- Christleton High 6th Form
- LLS Sports
- Steven Gerrard Academy
- TTE engineering
- Ask Apprenticeships

6. Pupil destinations

Last year, our year 11 pupils moved to a range of providers in the local area after school:

- CCSW
- Upton High 6th Form
- QPHS 6th Form
- Coleg Cambria / Deeside Sixth

- Christleton High 6th Form
- LLS Sports
- Steven Gerrard Academy

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
- Complaints policy
- Health and safety policy

9. Monitoring arrangements

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students are monitored by Rachel Thomas, Assistant Headteacher

This policy will be reviewed by Rachel Thomas, Assistant Headteacher

At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing board.