Harbour School Dorset

We are Holistic | Supportive | Determined
School Road | Bovington | Dorset | BH20 6PF

T 01929 508286
E office@harbourschooldorset.com

Technical Education and Apprenticeship Provider Access Policy

Next review: November 2027

Introduction
This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to pupils at the school for the purposes 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 and the subsequent Provider Access Legislation (PAL), which came into force in January 2023.

Student entitlement
Students in years 8-13 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 evenings, assemblies and group discussions and taster events.
- To understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

The school is committed to meeting the requirements of the Provider Access Legislation (PAL). All students in Years 8-13 will have access to a minimum of six encounters with approved providers of technical education qualifications and apprenticeships. These encounters will include opportunities to meet a range of providers, including colleges, apprenticeship providers, universities and employers.

Key Phase	Year Groups	Minimum Encounters
First	Years 8-9	Two mandatory encounters
Second	Years 10-11	Two mandatory encounters
Third	Years 12-13	Two encounters made available to all students

The school will ensure that these encounters are delivered through a range of approved technical education and apprenticeship providers. The same provider will not normally be used more than once within a key phase to meet the statutory minimum entitlement.

Management of provider access requests
Procedure
A provider wishing to request access should contact: Elizabeth Romp, Careers Lead.
Telephone: 01929 508286 Email: e.romp@harbourschooldorset.com

Grounds for granting or refusing access

Access will be given for providers to attend during timetabled Careers or Life lessons, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that Harbour School Dorset is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of a trip to be organised in partnership with Harbour School Dorset.

Requests from providers will be considered by the Careers Lead. Access will normally be granted where activities support the school's careers programme, offer information on approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships, are appropriate to the age and needs of the students, and can be delivered in accordance with safeguarding requirements.

Requests may be declined where the activity duplicates existing provision, the request falls outside the planned careers programme, safeguarding requirements cannot be met, or the timing would significantly disrupt learning or examinations.

Opportunities for access

A range of events and activities may be integrated into the school's careers programme to provide opportunities for providers to engage with pupils and, where appropriate, their parents or carers. Encounters may be delivered in person or through live online sessions where appropriate.

Phase	**Student Group**	**Examples of Provider Access Opportunities**
First Key Phase	Transitions 1 & 2 (Years 8-9)	Provider presentations, careers fairs, employer encounters, workplace visits
Second Key Phase	Options 1 & 2 (Years 10-11)	College visits, apprenticeship providers, employer encounters, careers events, vocational taster activities
Third Key Phase	Choices 1 & 2 (Years 12-13)	Apprenticeship and training providers, supported internship providers, college and university visits, employer encounters
Personalised Provision	Individuals and small groups	Bespoke visits, workplace experiences, provider meetings, apprenticeship information events and employer encounters linked to

		individual aspirations, destinations and support needs

Opportunities are reviewed annually and may vary according to student needs, destination pathways, provider availability and local labour market opportunities. Activities may be delivered through whole-school events, small-group sessions, individual visits, or virtual encounters.

Previous provider engagement
The school has previously invited a range of employers, education providers and apprenticeship organisations including:

- Marshall BMW Bournemouth
- Charles Trent Limited
- National Trust Purbeck
- Sunseeker International Ltd
- Vaspba Drones
- DCM Auto Centres

This list is reviewed annually and is not exhaustive.

Student destinations
Student destinations have included:

- EMA Walled Gardens
- SWRAC
- Coastland College
- Bournemouth & Poole College
- Yeovil College
- Aurora Boveridge College

Destination information is reviewed annually and helps inform future careers provision and provider engagement opportunities.

Safeguarding
The school policy on Child Protection and Safeguarding sets out the school's approach to allowing providers into school as visitors to talk to our students.

Premises and facilities
The school will make the main hall, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and students, 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 Lead or a member of their team. Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature in the Destinations Room, which is managed by the Careers Adviser.

Complaints
Providers who have concerns regarding access arrangements should contact the Careers Lead in the first instance. If the matter cannot be resolved informally, concerns should be raised with Dave Jennings, Assistant Headteacher. Email: d.jennings@harbourschooldorset.com

Complaints will then be managed in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy and escalated where appropriate.

Approval and review
This Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Careers Lead and the Senior Leadership Team.

Policy Coordinator: Elizabeth Romp, Careers Leader
Policy Reviewed: November 2026