

St Bede's Catholic College



Provider access policy statement

Contents

1. Vision	2
2. Aims	2
3. Statutory requirements	2
4. Student entitlement	Error! Bookmark not defined.
5. Management of provider access requests	4
6. Previous providers	5
7. Student destinations	Error! Bookmark not defined.
8. Complaints	5
9. Links to other policies	5
10. Monitoring arrangements	6

1. Vision

St Bede's Catholic College is committed to supporting students to discern their calling in life. Provider access is part of each student's process of discovering God's will and direction for their life.

2. Aims

At St Bede's Catholic College we aim to provide all students from year 8 to 13 with meaningful opportunities to explore a wide range of future options.

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

St Bede's aims to:

- Develop knowledge and awareness among our students of all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships
- Support students in learning more about opportunities for education and training outside of school, before they make crucial choices about their future options
- Reduce drop-out from courses and avoid the risk of students becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training)

3. 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 students 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
- Education and Skills Act 2008
- The School Information (England) Regulations 2008
- (DfE) on careers guidance and access for education and training providers.
- The Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022
- Guidance from the Department for Education

This policy shows how our school complies with these requirements.

3. Student entitlement

All students in years 8 to 13 at St Bede's Catholic College are entitled to:

- Find out about further education training, 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
- Have a minimum of 6 encounters with providers

These encounters must happen for a reasonable period of time during the standard school day.

As a school we can provide complementary experiences but encounters outside of school hours won't count towards these requirements.

We offer our students the encounters set out above, in line with the requirements'

Access to providers is available and promoted to allow all students to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. We are committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Students in year 8 and 9

All students in these year groups are offered:

- 2 encounters with education and training providers
 - All students must attend
 - Encounters can take place any time during year 8, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 9

Students in year 10 and 11

All students in these year groups are offered, as a minimum:

- 2 encounters with education and training providers
 - All students must attend
 - Encounters can take place any time during year 10, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 11

Students in year 12 and 13

All students in these year groups are offered, as a minimum:

- 2 encounters with education and training providers
 - Students can choose to attend
 - Encounters can take place any time during year 12, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 13

3.1 Meaningful encounters with providers

Our school is committed to providing meaning encounters for all students.

A meaningful encounter:

- Is where the student can explore what it is like to learn, develop and succeed in that environment
- Involves meeting both staff and learners/trainees
- Has a clear purpose
- Is underpinned by learning outcomes that are appropriate to the needs of the student
- Involves a 2-way interaction between the student and the provider
- Includes information about the provider, such as their recruitment and selection processes, the qualifications that provider offers and the careers these could lead to
- Describes what learning or training with the provider is like
- Is followed by opportunities for the student to reflect on the insights, knowledge or skills gained through the encounter

4. Management of provider access requests

4.1 Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Mrs Bartlett-Cosway, Careers Development Officer

Telephone: 01173772200

Email: bartlett-coswayk@stbcc.org

4.2 Information we ask from providers

As a school we ask each provider to provide the following information for our students:

- Information about your provision and the approved qualifications or apprenticeships you offer
- Information about what careers those qualifications and apprenticeships can lead to
- What learning or training with you is like
- Answers to any questions from students

4.3 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:

	AUTUMN TERM	SPRING TERM	SUMMER TERM
YEAR 8	Event for university technical colleges (UTCs)	Employer event for students and parents/carers – market stall event giving overview of local, regional and national opportunities and skills requirements	Careers workshop Technical/vocational tasters at local college/s, training providers
YEAR 9	Assembly and tutor group opportunities – employability skills Meeting with careers adviser	Key Stage 4 options event	No encounters –encounters must have taken place by 28 February
YEAR 10	Post-16 technical education options assembly with a general further education college Life Skills – work experience preparation sessions Assembly and tutor group opportunities – employability skills	Networking event with providers and employers Technical/vocational tasters at local college/s, training providers	Work experience preparation sessions Work experience Technical/vocational tasters at local college/s, training providers
YEAR 11	Post-16 provider open evenings Post-16 apprenticeships assembly 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 students
YEAR 12	Higher education (HE) fair Post-18 assembly – apprenticeships	Small group sessions: future education, training and employment options Meetings with careers adviser	Technical/vocational tasters at local college/s, training providers
YEAR 13	Post-18 assembly – with higher and degree apprenticeship providers Workshops – HE and higher apprenticeship applications	Meetings with careers adviser Assembly and small group opportunities – employability skills	No encounters –encounters must have taken place by 28 February Confirmation of post-18 education and training destinations for all students

Please speak to Mrs Bartlett-Cosway to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

4.4 Live online encounters

We will consider requests for live online encounters with providers, which may be broadcast into classrooms or the school assembly hall. We will need to carry out technology checks in advance to make sure systems are compatible.

4.5 Granting and refusing provider access requests

Each access request will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

We will grant access requests where there is opportunity for a positive contribution to our careers programme

4.6 Safeguarding

Our safeguarding/child protection policy outlines the school's procedure for checking the identity and suitability of visitors. You can find the policy on the college website.

Education and training providers will be expected to adhere to this policy.

4.7 Premises and facilities

- We will make the main hall, lecture theatre, classrooms or meeting rooms available for discussions (during term time) between the provider and students as appropriate to the activity. We will also make available, where possible, AV/Digital equipment to support provider presentations.
- Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospects or other relevant careers literature at St Bede's Catholic College.
- Providers will be met and supervised by a member of staff who will facilitate their visit.

5. Working with parents and carers

We aim to involve parents and carers in our careers programme and welcome your attendance at encounters with providers in school.

If you would like to speak to the school about encounters with providers, please contact [role] at [contact details].

We also welcome feedback from parents and carers to help improve our offer of encounters with providers.

6. Previous providers

In previous years we have invited the following providers from the local area to speak to our students: SGS College, City of Bristol College, Weston College, Boomsatsuma, Access Creative College and OnSite.

7. Student destinations

Last year, our year 11 students moved to a range of providers after school:

- Click [Year 11 Destinations](#)

Last year, our year 13 students moved to a range of providers after school:

- Click [Year 13 Destinations](#)

8. Complaints

Any complaints related to provider access can be raised following the college [complaints procedure](#) or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk

9. Links to other policies

- [Safeguarding/child protection policy](#)
- [Careers guidance policy](#)
- [Complaints policy](#)
- [SEND policy](#)

10. Monitoring arrangements

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students are monitored by Mr Derek O'Rourke.

This policy will be reviewed by the Principal every two years.

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

Approved June 2025
To be reviewed June 2027