



William Henry Smith School and Sixth Form

Provider Access Policy

Policy Details

Status:	In-house
Frequency of review:	Annual
Lead member of staff:	Karl Adamski
Responsibility of:	Adele Greenleaf
Last reviewed:	Summer 2025
Next Review Date:	Summer 2026
Policy Number:	SES13

1.0 Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to pupils at 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 and follows the guide outlined by the eight Gatsby benchmarks.

2.0 Pupil Entitlement

All pupils in years 7-13 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, group discussions and taster events;
- to understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses
- From Y7-13 six encounters with approved practitioners of apprenticeship and technical education (KS3-5).

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.

Encounters with Further and Higher Education at WHSS.

WHS students will encounter several meaningful experiences with a range of Post-16 and Post-18 learning opportunities.

All year 10 students and upwards will attend College taster sessions and open days. These will be local to where they live and local to WHS. Evidence is all on each of our students' individual tracker sheets completed on Compass+.

All year 10/11 students will have meetings with Apprenticeship providers at these colleges.

Those for whom it is appropriate will attend a Huddersfield University Visit in September/October.

Kirklees Apprenticeship Event (John Smiths Stadium) – February each year

SEND Careers event (The Leeds Arena) - June each year

Whole school Careers event in July – Various employers from a wide variety of Industries

Year 10/11 visit to National Manufacturing Day event. Lots of employers including JV Controls.

Year 7-11 – Assemblies throughout the year including Calderdale College on Apprenticeships and Traineeships, Fashion designers, National Mountain rescue.

Yr 5 to 11 – Meeting with employers from Lloyds bank – Money matters day

Yr 5 to Yr 13 – Meeting with employers for Math's/STEM Day – met with employers from Space VR, Electricians and an animation team.

Yr 5 – yr13 – Meeting with employers for Careers Day – met with employers from a drone company, football, rugby, cheerleading, police, CSI, Animatronics, Printers.

Senior Assemblies throughout last year – We have had an Apprentice from Kirklees College Apprenticeship scheme and a talk from Appris Manufacturing and Engineering Apprenticeship provider.

Previous providers

In previous terms/years, we have invited the providers from the local area to speak to our students.

Destinations of our pupils

2022/23	14 different qualifications/levels on offer (Functional Skills quals available 4 times this year)
	100% of students entered achieved an Entry Level qualification in Step upto English, Maths, ICT or Science.
	57% of students entered achieved a Level 1 qualification in ICT
	83% of students entered achieved a Functional Skills L1 qualification in English or Maths
	34% of students entered achieved a Functional Skills L2 qualification in English or Maths
	93% of students entered achieved a GCSE qualification in Maths, English or Art
	100% of students entered achieved a BTEC qualification in Digital Media

Our year 11 students either move to a range of providers in the local area after school or onto our Specialist College to continue their education.

3.0 Management of provider access requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Karl Adamski, Telephone: 01484 710123; Email: karl.adamski@whsfoundation.org.uk

Opportunities for access

A number of events, integrated into the school careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils and/or their parents/carers.

Please contact the Careers Leader to identify the most suitable opportunity for you:

adele.greenleaf@whsfoundation.org.uk

4.0 Premises and facilities

The school will make the barn, 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 Leader or a member of their team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature.