

Provider Access Policy

Ellesmere Port Catholic High School



Approved by:	Mrs C. Vile Headteacher
Lead of Review:	Mr M Hughes Assistant Headteacher
Last reviewed on:	May 2023
Next review due by:	July 2024

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:

- Cheshire College South and West
- Wirral Metropolitan College
- Reaseheath College
- TTE
- The NHS
- Chester University
- Northumbria University

Working with local employers

Local employers are encouraged to engage with the schools career programme, particularly (but not exclusively) where Apprenticeships and other Technical qualifications are key to your business. We have worked with a range of employers at EPCHS including:

- Bank of America
- Brownlow Furniture
- CCSW
- Countess of Chester Hospital
- Innospec
- The Russel Taylor Group
- TTE

Destinations of our pupils

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

- School sixth form
- Sixth form college
- Further Education providers
- Full time training
- Apprenticeships

These were spread across the following sectors:

- Managerial and Professional
- Secretarial/Clerical
- Vehicle trades
- A range of other sectors

Last year our year 13 pupils moved to range of providers in the local area and further afield after school including:

- Edge Hill University
- Chester University
- Keele University
- Huddersfield University
- The University of Edinburgh
- Staffordshire University
- Toyota Motor Company
- University of Lancaster
- John Moores University
- The University of Sheffield
- Hertford College, Oxford University
- Cardiff University
- Durham University
- BAE Systems
- Salford University
- Bangor University

- The University of York
- York St John's University

Management of provider access requests

A provider wishing to request access should contact Mike Hughes, Assistant Head for Personal Development by email. M.hughes@epchs.co.uk

Opportunities for access

The school offers the six provider encounters required by law (In bold below) 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.

Key Stage	Year	Provider Type
3	7 – HT5	ITP (NHS)
3	8 – HT4	1 hour presentation from local providers of Apprenticeships and T Levels
3	9 – HT3	Apprenticeship Providers Panel (including employers and training providers)
4	10 – HT2	Attending local careers fair (FE colleges, 6th Forms, Apprenticeship providers)
	10 – HT6	Work experience
4	11 – HT3	Post-16 Trial day (including providers of T Levels and Apprenticeships)
5	12	Aintree Apprenticeships Fair
5	12/13	Ellesmere Port Apprenticeships Fair

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 Library, which is managed by the school librarian. This is available to all pupils at lunch and break times. Providers are also welcome to ask for literature to be shared with Sixth Form students in the Silent Study area.