



Fortismere Provider Access Statement

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.

1. Aims

Fortismere aims to provide all pupils 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 pupils for the purpose of giving them information about their offer.

As a school, we aim to:

- Develop knowledge and awareness among our pupils of all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships
- Support pupils 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 pupils becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training)

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

Schools must also have a policy statement that outlines the circumstances in which education and training providers will be given access to these pupils.

This is outlined in:

- Section 42B of the [Education Act 1997](#)
- [Education and Skills Act 2008](#)
- [The School Information \(England\) Regulations 2008](#)
- The [Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022](#)
- 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.

3. Pupil entitlement

All pupils in Years 8 to 13 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.
- Understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses
- As a school, we can provide complementary experiences but encounters outside of school hours will not count towards these requirements.

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

Pupils in Year 8 and 9

All pupils in these year groups are offered:

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

Pupils in Year 10 and 11

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

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

Pupils in Year 12 and 13

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

- 2 encounters with education and training providers
 - Pupils 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 meaningful encounters for all pupils.

A meaningful encounter:

- Is where the pupil 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 pupil
- Involves a 2-way interaction between the pupils 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 pupils 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 Mr M Renner, Careers Lead, Telephone 0208 365 4400 Email: mrenner@fortismere.org.uk Ms A Andreou, Careers Advisor, Telephone: 0208 365 4448 Email: aandreou@fortismere.org.uk

4.2 Information we ask from providers

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

- 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 pupils

4.3 Opportunities for access

There are a number of events, integrated into our careers programme, that offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils and/or their parents/carers.

These include:

- Assemblies and information events for key year groups (Years 8–13)
- A PSHE /Careers lesson
- A Careers Fair
- Options events (Year 9 and Year 11)
- Parents' Evenings

Please speak to our Careers Lead, Mr Renner 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 procedure for checking the identity and suitability of visitors. Education and training providers will be expected to adhere to this policy. Providers who cannot supply the required documentation will not be granted access.

4.7 Premises and facilities

Where possible the school will make Halls, classrooms or meeting rooms available for providers to meet with students, as appropriate to the activity. The school will also try to make audio-visual and other specialist equipment available, if possible, to support provider presentations. Requests for facilities and equipment should always be discussed and agreed with the Careers Advisor or Careers Lead in advance of the visit.

Providers can supply copies of literature or information to the Careers Advisor who will make this available to our students

Providers will be met and supervised by a member of staff who will facilitate their visit. A security badge will be provided.

5. Working with parents and carers

We aim to involve parents and carers in our careers programme. This will be either through a letter home and/or Parentmail with a focus on work experience support.

We also welcome feedback from parents and carers to help improve our offer.

6. Links to other policies

- Safeguarding/child protection policy
- Careers guidance policy

7. Monitoring arrangements

The arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students are monitored by Mr Renner, Ms Andreou (Careers Advisor) and Ms Herrero (Assistant Head)

Policy statement date: October 2025
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