

TRAINING PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY

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Next Review Due: May 2025

As part of our focus on diversity and inclusion, BDAT pledges that our policies will seek to promote equality, fairness, and respect for all staff and students. Our policies reflect the BDAT values of inclusion, compassion, aspiration, resilience, and excellence. By working closely with a range of stakeholders, such as our school, union, and HR colleagues, we have ensured that BDAT's policies do not unlawfully discriminate against anybody.

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the Trust's arrangements for managing the access of training organisations and providers to students at the academy for the purposes of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the academy's legal obligations under Section 14 of the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022 and the Baker clause obliging schools to introduce students to technical education under the Technical and Further Education Act 2017.

Student Entitlement

Section 14 of the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022 states that "the proprietor of a school in England ... must ensure that, during each of the first and second key phases of the education of each registered pupil ... on at least two occasions the pupil meets at least one provider to whom access is given (or any other number of such providers that may be specified for the purposes of that key phase ...) and the pupil does not meet exactly the same provider or providers on each of those occasions".

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

Access Requests for External Providers

Procedure

Any providers wishing to request access should contact the named Careers Leader or Head Teacher in the individual academy directly. Grounds for granting and refusing requests for access, will subsequently be discussed. Full academy contact details can be found on the BDAT website:

<http://www.bdat-academies.org/our-academies/>

Opportunities for Access

Throughout the year, academies run a variety of talks, assemblies and events which would be open to external providers. They regularly run ad hoc events, based on requests or suggestions from students or external stakeholders. However, there are a number of events, integrated into academy

programmes, which would be especially relevant to external training providers. These opportunities to go into an academy and speak to students and/or their parents/carers are set out in the individual academy's calendar and displayed on their website.

Providers should contact named Careers Leader or Head Teacher to identify the most appropriate opportunity for their visit.

In relation to the Trust's safeguarding procedures, any external visitors, who are working directly with students, are expected to provide a copy of their DBS documentation and proof of identity by way of their company ID badge/pass. These will be viewed upon arrival at the academy. Without appropriate documentation, providers will not be granted access. Please contact the Safeguarding Lead in the individual academy with any questions. External visitors must follow the processes and procedures laid out in the school's Visitor Policy.

Premises and Facilities

Where possible the academy will make suitable spaces available for providers to interact with students, as appropriate to the activity. It will also make AV and other equipment available, if possible, to support the providers' presentations. Providers requests for facilities and equipment should be discussed and agreed with the Careers Education Independent Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)Co-ordinator prior to the visit.

Students and staff have access to a range of literature and resources. Providers are encouraged to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant information; they may also send these to the CEIAG Co-ordinator, who will be able to add these to the resource bank.

Cause for Concern

If a training provider is struggling to make contact with any academy in BDAT, the provider should contact the MAT by emailing info@bdac-academies.org or calling 01274 909120 and the Trust will facilitate contact. The school should always be contacted as the first point of enquiry.