

Oliver House School

Provider Access Statement



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Contents

1. Aims
2. Statutory requirements
3. Learner entitlement
4. Management of provider access requests
5. Working with parents and carers
6. Onward Destinations
7. Complaints

1. Aims

At Oliver House School we aim to provide all learners from year 8 onwards 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 learners 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 provider who is given access

As a school we aim to:

- Develop knowledge and awareness among our learners of all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships
- Support learners in learning more about opportunities for education and training outside of school, before they make crucial choices about their future options
- Reduce the number of students who are unable to move on to future placements due to being insufficiently prepared, ensuring they have the skills, confidence and support needed for successful transition and avoid the risk of learners becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training).

2. Statutory requirements

Schools are required to ensure that students in Years 8 to 14 have opportunities to engage with a range of education and training providers for the purpose of informing them about approved technical education pathways, qualifications and apprenticeships. In addition, learners should experience meaningful encounters with a broad range of other relevant providers - including educational providers, training providers, residential care settings, supported living settings, social care settings and day provision providers - so they can explore and understand the most appropriate and aspirational pathways available to them.

Schools must provide a minimum of six encounters with technical education or training providers to all learners in Years 8 to 14, where this is appropriate to their individual needs. In addition, schools must ensure that learners have meaningful encounters with a broad range of other relevant providers - including educational providers, training providers, residential care settings, supported living settings, social care settings and day provision providers, so that each learner is fully informed about the breadth of future pathways available to them.

Schools must also have a provider access 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 provider access statement shows how our school complies with these requirements.

3. Learner entitlement

All learners in years 8 to 14 at Oliver House School 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.
- In addition, schools must ensure that learners have meaningful encounters with a broad range of other relevant providers - including educational providers, training providers, residential care settings, supported-living settings, social-care settings and day-provision providers, so that each learner is fully informed about the breadth of future pathways available to them.
- Hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer.
- 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 learners the encounters set out above, in line with the requirements.

Access to providers is available and promoted to allow all learners to access information and gain experiences of other providers of further education, options for the future and apprenticeships where relevant. We are committed to encouraging all learners to make informed decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Meaningful encounters with providers

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

A meaningful encounter:

- Is where the learner can explore what it is like to learn, develop and succeed in that environment
- Is an opportunity for the learner to develop skills with the support of familiar staff
- Involves meeting both staff and learners
- Ensures information is communicated in a way that meets the learner's individual needs
- This involves staff who know the learner best supporting communication with providers, ensuring they have a clear and accurate understanding of the learner's needs
- Has a clear purpose that is communicated to and understood by the learner
- Is underpinned by learning outcomes that are appropriate to the needs of the learner
- Is fully supported by familiar staff who know the learner best and can help them understand and self-regulate.
- Involves a 2-way interaction between the learner 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 learner to reflect on the insights, knowledge or skills gained through the encounter

4. Management of provider access requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact:

Lisa Sharrock, Headteacher

Telephone: 01257 220011

Email: lisasharrock@AsprisCS.co.uk

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
- Information about your residential or supported living setting and the opportunities available to learners.
- Information about your social care and day provision services, including the opportunities available to learners.

Opportunities for access

We actively involve learners in this process wherever appropriate, encouraging them to take part in applications, express their interests and help identify new opportunities they would like to explore. We listen carefully to their preferences, strengths and aspirations, and use this information to source experiences and events that align with their needs, interests and future pathways.

Please speak to our Careers Lead, Elaine Burt, should you wish to receive any further information on events.

Safeguarding

Our safeguarding/child protection policy outlines the school's procedure for checking the identity and suitability of visitors.

"Aspris Schools and colleges have different types of visitors, those with a professional role i.e., educational psychologists, social workers etc. those connected with the building, grounds maintenance, children's relatives or other visitors attending an activity in school such as a sports day. All visitors who are there in a professional capacity check ID and be assured that the visitor has had the appropriate DBS check (or the visitor's employers have confirmed that their colleagues have appropriate checks)."

You can find the policy and further information on our school website.

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

Premises and facilities

We will provide an appropriate room, along with any equipment required to support the provider in delivering their visit effectively; specific arrangements will be agreed in advance. Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or any relevant literature with our Careers Lead.

All providers will be met and supervised by a member of staff who will facilitate the visit.

To ensure the needs of our learners are fully met, we will:

- Ensure familiar staff who know the learner best are present to support communication, engagement and regulation.
- Provide any reasonable adjustments required, such as visual supports, alternative communication methods, quiet spaces, or adapted resources.
- Share relevant information with providers - appropriately and with consent - so they understand the learner's needs, strengths and preferred ways of engaging.
- Adapt the format, pacing or environment of encounters where necessary to ensure that all learners can access the experience meaningfully and safely.

5. Working with parents and carers

We aim to actively involve parents and carers in our careers programme and warmly welcome their attendance at provider encounters held in school. We communicate upcoming events through letters home, emails, and updates shared via the school newsletter and website.

Each year, we hold Annual Reviews during which we create or update transition plans, discuss the careers programme, and explore options and encounters relevant to each learner's needs and aspirations. In addition, all learners are offered a careers interview with an independent careers adviser, with guaranteed interviews in Years 8, 11 and 14. These interviews provide tailored guidance and support for learners, their families and carers as they prepare for their next steps.

If you would like to speak to the school about encounters with providers, please contact Elaine Burt – Careers Lead.

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

We welcome feedback via email and will send out surveys to gain parent/carer input and support.

6. Learner destinations

Last year, our year 14 learners moved to a range of providers after school:

- Arden College
- Mercury College, Hesley Group

7. Complaints

Any complaints related to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure which is on the school website.

8. Links to other policies

All other policies are available on our school website including:

- Safeguarding/child protection policy
- Careers policy
- Curriculum policy
- Complaints policy
- Equality and Diversity policy
- SEND policy