

Provider Access Statement

2026-2027

Approved by:	Governors
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Responsible for review:	AHT – Personal Development

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1. Aims

This policy statement aims to set out our school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students for the purpose of giving them information about their offer. It sets out:

- o Procedures in relation to requests for access
- o The grounds for granting and refusing requests for access
- o Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access

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 students in years 8 to 13 (see more detail in section 2.1 below).

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

This is outlined in section 42B of the [Education Act 1997](#), the [Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022](#) and on page 43 of 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.

2.1 The Six Encounters

Schools must offer:

- 2 encounters for students during the 'first key phase' (year 8 or 9)
- All students must attend
- Encounters can take place any time during year 8, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 9
- 2 encounters for students during the 'second key phase' (year 10 or 11)
- All students must attend
- Encounters can take place any time during year 10, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 11
- 2 encounters for students during the 'third key phase' (year 12 or 13)

- Students can choose to attend
- Encounters can take place any time during year 12, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 13

These encounters must happen for a reasonable period of time during the standard school day. Schools can continue to provide complementary experiences, but encounters outside of school hours won't count towards these requirements.

Schools must ask each provider to provide the following information as a minimum:

- Information about the provider and the approved qualifications or apprenticeships they offer
- Information about what careers those qualifications and apprenticeships can lead to
- What learning or training with the provider is like
- Answers to any questions from students

Our school will comply with this requirement through...

2.2 Meaningful Provider Encounters

- Our school is committed to providing meaningful encounters to all students.
- 1 encounter is defined as 1 meeting/session between students and 1 provider.
- Meaningful live online engagement is also an option at our school.

3. Student Entitlement

All students are entitled to:

- o Find out about 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
- o 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 and taster events, careers fair attendance and other opportunities
- o Understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses

4. Management of provider access requests

A provider wishing to request access should contact The School Careers Leader.

Telephone: 01795582500 ext=4076

Email: c.tolley@ekcss.org

4.2 Opportunities for Access

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

Year	Specific Careers Focus
7 Skills and dreams	Students to complete a skills audit in their Character Education lessons to identify their strengths and create meaningful goals for areas for development. Year 7 will focus on what their aspirations and dreams are, building a 'road map' towards their future career.
8	Students will be supported in working on their employability skills such as oracy and teamwork through the character education curriculum. Year 8's

Oracy and teamwork	curriculum includes an anti bullying project where they will work in groups to produce presentation materials together.
9 Pathways and options	Inspirational assemblies will be delivered by subject staff to prepare students for their option choices to ensure students are aware of the links between option choices and careers. Students will complete the options process by reviewing their skills audit and in a one to one meeting with their mentor and parent.
10 Work experience	Character education curriculum will focus on employability skills, CV writing, interviewing, etc. Students to attend mock interviews and receive feedback, preparing them for work experience placements. Students to go on work experience placements and be visited by school staff, then complete reflections afterwards for their post-16 applications.
11 Post-16 applications	Students complete their Kent Choices applications with support from their mentors. Selected members of staff to deliver assemblies based on: 'What my degree did for me.' Students will be visited by HE institutions to encourage informed decision making on their futures and provide benchmarks for GCSE goals.

In addition to this all students will attend a careers fair and drop-down careers day annually and will have regular talks from professionals across all industry sectors.

Every year, all students will receive:

- Careers Week Mentoring Programme
 - A week of mentoring time to focus on what different subjects lead to different jobs.
- EKCSS Careers Day and Careers Fair
 - Project based learning that encourages students to link their academic skills and their employability skills together to complete different challenges. Enterprise theme.
 - Students will be able to attend both the Careers Fair and relevant appropriate talks to be exposed to a range of different careers and pathways including apprenticeships, college and university
- Interaction with University/College/Training Providers
 - CCCU partnership will deliver talks/workshops
 - EKC Group workshops via colleges
- Opportunity to meet with a Careers Advisor

Every Key Stage:

- Meeting of the Provider Access Legislation (PAL) via two encounters with apprenticeships and technical education
 - Encounter 1: Careers Fair
 - Encounter 2: Outreach Workshops

EKCSS also fosters positive relationships with several local HE institutions, always seeking opportunities for students to visit college and university campuses and raise their aspirations.

4.3 Safeguarding

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

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

4.4 Premises and facilities

Providers will have access to rooms, specialist equipment e.g. audio and visual devices.

We welcome providers to leave prospectuses or other material for students to read in their own time.

5. Complaints

Any complaints related to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk

6. Links to other policies

- Safeguarding/child protection policy
- Careers guidance policy
- Curriculum policy
- Complaints policy

7. Monitoring Arrangements

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students are monitored by the Senior Leadership Team.

This statement will be reviewed by annually.

At every review, the statement will be shared with the Governing Board and published on the website.