



Provider access policy statement

Tees Valley Education

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Under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997 we have a duty to provide pupils in Years 7-13 with access to providers of post-14, post-16 and post-18 education and training. This policy statement sets out how we manage access requests from these providers.

What are pupils entitled to?

Pupils must be allowed to:

- Learn more about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities, as part of a careers programme which informs pupils of the full range of education and training options available to them at each transition point.
 - Have two encounters during the 'first key phase' (Year 8 or 9)
 - Have two encounters during the 'second key phase' (Years 10 or 11)
- Hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities on offer, for example, technical education and apprenticeships – this can be achieved through options evenings, assemblies, group discussions, and taster events.
- Understand how to apply to the full range of academic and technical courses available to them.

Who handles our access requests?

Any provider wishing to request access should contact the academy and request to speak to our careers leader, emails should have the name of the careers leader in the subject:

- Andrew Smyth
- enquiries@discoveryspecialacademy.org.uk (please include FAO Andrew Smyth, careers leader in the subject)
- 01642 248333

What opportunities are provided to allow access to pupils?

Via our trust careers programme, we offer providers numerous opportunities throughout the school year to speak to pupils and/or their parents. The opportunities we provide are as follows:

- Careers Fairs/Employers Events on at least an annual basis for both students and parents.
- Employers and employee visits into school.
- Visits from colleges/training providers to parent coffee mornings or parents' evenings (by arrangement).
- College visits and speakers.
- Employability and enterprise accreditation built into student learning pathways.
- Opportunities to volunteer through the John Muir Award, Sutton Trust and Duke of Edinburgh Award.
- Vocational based options and a range of enterprise activities
- Assembly times with a focus on careers and enterprise each half term

Who should providers contact to discuss events and options?

Providers can speak to our career's leader, Andrew Smyth (details above), to discuss possible attendance at relevant events.

Our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy sets out the school's approach to allowing providers into school to speak to our pupils.

What can providers expect once a request has been accepted?

Once we have approved a provider, we will work with them to identify the best method for providing access to our pupils.

We will make the academy hall, classrooms and private meeting rooms available to host discussions between providers and pupils. We will also make presentation equipment, such as projectors and televisions, available to providers.

Arrangements will be discussed in advance between our careers leader and a nominated member of the provider's team.

Can providers leave prospectuses for pupils to read?

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus and other relevant course literature with the academy careers leader. These will be made available to students in the resource centre and in classrooms.

Review

This policy statement is reviewed at least annually.