



Hope Wood Academy Provider Access Policy:

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the arrangements for managing the access of providers to young people at Hope Wood Academy for the purposes of providing information about their education or training offer.

It is increasingly important that all young people have a full understanding of the options available to them in their future post 16 and post 19.

Commitment

Hope Wood Academy is committed to ensuring there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access young people, for the purpose of informing them about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships. Hope Wood Academy is fully aware of the responsibility to set young people on the path that will secure the best outcome which will enable them to progress in education and work and give employers the highly skilled people they need. That means acting impartially, in line with the statutory duty, and not showing bias towards any route, be that academic or technical.

Hope Wood Academy endeavours to ensure that all young people are aware of all relevant routes to higher skills and are able to access information on technical options and apprenticeships.

(The Department of Education, July 2021: "Baker Clause": supporting students to understand the full range of education and training options, and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023).

Young person entitlement

All young people are entitled:

- To find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities, as part of the 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 regarding technical education and apprenticeships – through options evenings, assemblies, careers workshops and taster events.
- To understand how to make applications for technical courses and apprenticeships.

- All young people are entitled to have access to encounters and to learn about technical education and or apprenticeships as relevant to their study programme and individual needs and aspirations.
- Young people will receive information through events such as National Apprenticeship Week and Careers week as well as positive role models through Alumni events.

Development of the policy

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader Louise Snowdon and Executive Head, Adele Pearson, based on current good practice guidelines by the Department for Education.

Links with other policies

This policy supports and is underpinned by key school policies including those for Careers, Child Protection, Safeguarding Adults, Equality and Diversity, and SEND.

Equality and Diversity

Access to other providers is available and promoted to allow all students to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. Hope Wood Academy is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Management of provider access requests

Procedure

Requests for access should be directed to Louise Snowdon Careers Leader and may be contacted by telephone or email lsnowdon@ascenttrust.org

03339991454

Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers or Skills for Independence lessons, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that Hope Wood Academy is arranging.

Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access

Hope Wood Academy will provide appropriate rooms for organised events to be agreed. All rooms have access to laptops, projectors and screens provided. Computer rooms can also be arranged. The Careers Leader or Careers Adviser will organise this, working closely with the provider to ensure the facilities are appropriate to the audience. Appropriate safeguarding checks will be carried out. Providers will be met and supervised by a member of the Careers Team who will facilitate.

Live/Virtual encounters

Hope Wood Academy will consider live online encounters with providers where requested, and these may be broadcast into classrooms or the school assembly hall. Technology checks in advance will be required to ensure compatibility of systems.

Parents and Carers

Parental involvement is encouraged, and families may be invited to attend the events to meet the providers.

Management

The Careers Leader coordinates all provider requests and is responsible to his/her senior management line manager.

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to Louise Snowdon Careers Lead who will raise the complaint to Adele Pearson, Executive Headteacher of Hope Wood Academy.

Monitoring review and evaluation

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Senior Leadership team and is attached as an appendix to the CEIAG Policy approved by Trustees.

Policy Coordinator: Louise Snowdon – Careers Lead

Approval and review

Approved: June 2024 by Adele Pearson (Executive Head Teacher)

Next review: June 2025

Appendix

Providers who have been invited into Hope Wood Academy to date include:

Sunderland College

Springboard Futures

Springboard Training Provider

Gateshead College

ESPA

East Durham College

DurhamWorks

New College Durham

Destinations of previous pupils from Hope Wood Academy include:

Project Choice

Gateshead College

Sunderland College

East Durham College

Springboard Futures

ESPA

Pathways Peterlee

Social Care Provision- Innovations