



**The Westminster  
School**

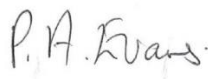
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[www.thewestminsterschool.co.uk](http://www.thewestminsterschool.co.uk)

**2023/24**

# **School Provider Access Policy**

Building foundations and providing opportunities to create confident, aspirational, and independent members of our community.

Approved by Governing Body on:	<b>13/06/2024</b>
Signed by Chair of Governors:	
Head Teacher:	<b>O M Flowers</b>
Lead Personnel:	<b>B Taylor</b>
Date of Review:	<b>13/06/2025</b>

## The Westminster School Provider Access Policy

### Rationale

High quality careers education and guidance in school or college is critical to young people's futures. It helps to prepare them for the workplace and community life by providing a clear understanding of the world of work including the routes to jobs and careers that they might find accessible, engaging and rewarding. It supports them to acquire the self-development and career management skills they need to achieve positive employment destinations. This helps pupils to choose their pathways, improve their life opportunities and contribute to a productive and successful economy. As the number of apprenticeships and supported internships rises every year, it becomes increasingly important that all young people have a full understanding of all the options available to them post-16 and post-19 including wider technical education options.

### Commitment

The Westminster School is committed to ensuring there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access pupils, for the purpose of informing them about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships. The Westminster School is fully aware of the responsibility to set pupils on the path that will secure the best outcome which will enable them to progress in education and work. That means acting impartially, in line with the statutory duty, and not showing bias towards any route, be that academic or technical. The Westminster School endeavours to ensure that all pupils are aware of all accessible routes to skills and are able to access information on technical options and apprenticeships (*The Department of Education, July 2021: "Baker Clause": supporting pupils to understand the full range of education and training options, and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023*).

### Aims

The Westminster School's policy for Access to other education and training providers has the following aims:

- To develop the knowledge and awareness of our pupils of all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships.
- To support young people to be able to learn more about opportunities for education and training outside of school before making crucial choices about their future options.
- To reduce drop out from courses and avoid the risk of pupils becoming NEET (Young people not in education, employment or training).

### Pupil entitlement

The Westminster School fully supports the statutory requirement for pupils to have direct access to other providers of further education training, technical training and apprenticeships. The school will comply with the new legal requirement to put on at least six encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships. At The Westminster School all pupils in years 8-13 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 events, assemblies and group discussions and taster events;

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- to understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses

### How?

The school will meet this new legislation by providing students with the possible following activities:

- Careers Fairs (in school or in the community)
- Visits to the workplace (preferably for organisations that offer inclusive apprenticeships)
- Employer visits to school which include information on apprenticeships
- Careers Assemblies
- Virtual presentations
- Breakfast events
- Speed networking conferences
- Focussed careers advice and mentoring

### Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader (Deputy Head) Headteacher and school governors based on current good practice guidelines by the Department for Education

### Links with other policies

It supports and is underpinned by key school policies including those for Careers, Child Protection, Equality and Diversity, and SEND

### Equality and Diversity

Access to other providers is available and promoted to allow all pupils to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. The Westminster school is committed to encouraging all pupils to make decisions about their future based on impartial information

### Management of provider access requests

A provider wishing to request access should contact:

Ben Taylor  
Deputy Head Teacher  
The Westminster School  
The Rowley Learning Campus  
Hawes Lane  
Rowley Regis  
B65 9AL

Tel: 0121 5616884 Mob: 07583011890

[Benjamin.taylor@westminster.sandwell.sch.uk](mailto:Benjamin.taylor@westminster.sandwell.sch.uk)

### **Grounds for granting requests for Access**

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers lessons, and Careers or in the curriculum events that The Westminster School is arranging. Pupils may also travel to visit providers as part of the trip or career advice or guidance.

### **Opportunities for access**

A number of events, integrated into the school careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils and/or their parents/carers. Our school careers programme is available on the School website.

Please speak to Mr Ben Taylor to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

Upcoming events are also publicised on the school website and Facebook page. Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at the Careers Resource Centre which is managed by the school librarian

Careers related activities happen throughout the school week but the timetabled can be adjusted to accommodate businesses and apprenticeship providers. These activities can happen during the school day which starts at 8.50am and finishes at 3.05pm.

### **Premises and facilities**

The school will make the main hall, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. As above if this is not possible due to restrictions then the school can facilitate virtual events.

The school will also make available AV and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Leader or a member of their team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at the Careers Resource Centre, which is managed by the school librarian.

This information will be made available to our students when and how we feel it is appropriate.

### **Live/Virtual events**

The Westminster School 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 parents may be invited to attend the events to meet the providers.

### **Management**

The Careers Leader coordinates all provider requests

### **Safeguarding**

Our safeguarding/child protection policy outlines the school's procedure for checking the identity and suitability of visitors. A copy of this policy can also be found on our website.

### **Complaints Procedure**

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to Ben Taylor, Deputy Head Teacher

### **Monitoring, Review and Evaluation**

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Senior Leadership Team and governors

### **Appendix**

#### **Previous Providers who have been invited into school to date**

The school have been very proud to partner with the following organisations who have given advice and guidance around careers (including apprenticeships)

Department for Work and Pensions

Ground Control

A F Blakemore

DPD

Marston's Brewery

Chartwells

Mitie

Graham Construction

McDonalds

Sandwell College

Specialist colleges (Glasshouse, QAC)

#### **Student Destinations**

Below is an overview of destinations of students from the schools Post 16 cohort for the academic year 2022/23

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