

**Outcomes  
First  
Group.**

# **Provider Access Policy Statement**

**Wenlock School**



**THE  
WENLOCK  
SCHOOL**

**Careers Lead: Graeme Gildroy**

**Updated September 2025**

## Rationale

High-quality careers education and guidance in school is critical to young people's futures. It helps prepare them for the workplace by providing a clear understanding of the world of work and the various routes to engaging and rewarding careers. It also supports them in acquiring the self-development and career management skills they need to achieve positive employment destinations. This helps students to choose their pathways, improve their life opportunities, and contribute to a productive and successful economy.

As the number of apprenticeships 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-18, including wider technical education options such as T-Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications. This policy has been updated to reflect the latest statutory guidance from the Department for Education, which came into force in September 2025.

## Commitment

The school is committed to ensuring there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students for the purpose of informing them about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships. The school is fully aware of its responsibility to act impartially, in line with the statutory duty, and not show bias towards any route, be that academic or technical. The school will ensure that all students are aware of all routes to higher skills and are able to access information on technical options and apprenticeships as per the Provider Access Legislation.

## Aims

The school's policy for access to other education and training providers has the following aims:

- To develop the knowledge and awareness of our students 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 students becoming NEET (Young people Not in Education, Employment or Training).

## Student Entitlement

The school fully supports the statutory requirement for students to have direct access to other providers of further education, technical training, and apprenticeships. From September 2025, the school will comply with the updated legal requirements by providing at least six structured encounters with technical education or apprenticeship providers between Years 8 and 13. All pupils must attend the encounters in Years 8-11. The six mandatory encounters are to be provided as follows:

- Two encounters in Years 8-9.
- Two encounters in Years 10-11.
- Two encounters in Years 12-13.

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In addition, the school will arrange a week of work experience activities for pupils in Years 7 to 9 and at least one placement in Years 10 to 11.

### **Development, Monitoring and Evaluation**

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader based on current good practice guidelines from the Department for Education. The school will use long-term destination data as part of its evaluation process to ensure the effectiveness of the careers programme. It will also use data on student aspirations and intended destinations to tailor support. The policy will be reviewed in line with the new Ofsted inspection framework and report card, which will be used from autumn 2025.

### **Links with other policies**

This policy 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 students to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. The school is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information. The updated guidance places a particular emphasis on tailoring support to the needs of every young person, especially those with SEND or from disadvantaged backgrounds.

### **Requests for access**

Requests for access should be directed to the Careers Leader, Graeme Gildroy. The school will publish a provider access policy statement on its website, clearly outlining the opportunities for training providers to visit the school and the process they should follow to arrange visits.

### **Grounds for granting requests for access.**

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers or Life lessons, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that the school is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with the school.

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

The school will provide an appropriate room or assembly hall to be agreed. Computer rooms can also be arranged. The Careers Leader 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**

The 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 with systems.

**Parents and Carers**

Parental involvement is encouraged, and parents may be invited to attend events to meet with providers. The new statutory guidance emphasizes embedding parent and carer engagement into the careers programme, recognizing that they are one of the biggest influences on a young person's career choices. The school will share information with parents and carers to help them support their children's career decisions.

**Management**

The Careers Leader coordinates all provider requests and is responsible to the Head of School.

**Monitoring review and evaluation**

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the schools' careers lead.

## Appendix

Providers who have been invited into the school to date include:

- British Army
- Royal Marines
- West Midlands Police
- West Midlands Fire Service
- NHS
- West Midland Ambulance Service
- Dudley College
- Sandwell College
- University of Wolverhampton
- Novo Training
- WorkNLearn
- Sandwell Leisure Trust
- Nova Training
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- Juniper Training
- Avanti West Coast Trains
- Speakers4Schools
- Connexions
- St Johns Ambulance
- Barclays
- Dudley Council

Destinations of previous pupils include:

- Dudley College
- Halesowen College
- Nova Training
- Outcomes First Group
- Stafford Rangers FC
- Shrewsbury College Group
- Warwickshire College Group
- South Staffordshire College

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