

Provider Access Policy

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Date for next review: June 2025

1. 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 by providing a clear understanding of the world of work including the routes to jobs and careers that they might find engaging and rewarding. It supports them to acquire 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.

2. Aims

This policy statement aims to set out our school's arrangements for managing the access of other education and training providers to students for the purpose of giving them information about their offer. It sets out the procedures in relation to requests for access, the grounds for granting and refusing requests for access and details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access. The aims of the policy are:

- 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).

Paget High School uses the Gatsby Benchmarks and the CDI Framework for Careers as a guide to plan our Careers programme. As part of our commitment to informing students of the full range of employment, learning and training pathways available, we would be delighted to receive requests from training, apprenticeships, employers and vocational educational providers to speak to students.

3. Commitment

Paget High 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. Paget High School is fully aware of the responsibility to set students 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.

Paget High School endeavours to ensure that all students are aware of all 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).

4. Student Entitlement

Paget High School fully supports the statutory requirement for students to have direct access to other providers of further education training, technical training and apprenticeships. 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. This will be done in assemblies in National Apprenticeship Week, National Careers Week, on visits, in PSHE, as well as in addition to providers attending Paget High School.

5. Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader and Headteacher based on current good practice guidelines by the Department for Education.

6. Links with other policies

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

7. 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. Paget High School is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

8. Requests for access

Requests for access should be directed to: Miss Megan Claytor, Careers Lead & Assistant Headteacher; m.claytor@paget.staffs.sch.uk; 01283 248800.

9. Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled careers events/workshops, work experience, PSHE lessons and other events that Paget High School is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with Paget High School.

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

Paget High School will provide an appropriate room or assembly hall to be agreed. All rooms have computers, projectors and screens provided. Computer rooms can also be arranged.

The Careers Lead 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.

11. Live/Virtual encounters

Paget High 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.

12. Monitoring review and evaluation

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

Policy Coordinator: M. Claytor

Policy Reviewed: June 2024