

Westlands Academy: Provider Access Policy

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to students at the school for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the school's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

Student entitlement

All students in Years 7-11 are entitled:

- To find out about vocational 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 vocational education and apprenticeships – through options events, assemblies, group discussions and taster events;
- To understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and vocational courses.

It specifies schools must provide at least six encounters with approved providers of apprenticeships and technical education for all their students:

Two encounters for students during the 'first key phase' (Year 8 or 9) that are mandatory for all students to attend

Two encounters for students during the 'second key phase' (Year 10 or 11) that are mandatory for all students to attend.

Management of provider access requests procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Adam Harewood, Assistant Vice-Principal, at adam.harewood@horizontrust.org.uk or Jan Leonard, Vocational Mentor, at jan.leonard@horizontrust.org.uk

If a provider wishes to raise a complaint then the procedure would be to contact: Stephen Thomas Principal at stephen.thomas@horizontrust.org.uk or telephone on (01642) 883030

Premises and facilities

The academy will make the main hall, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. The school will also make available AV and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. Academy staff will be provided, where required, to support students and providers with any SEMH or SEND support. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit, with the careers leader or a member of their team.

Westlands welcomes external encounters from employers and agencies in the forms of live on line encounters, virtual workshops and virtual tours. Support from external providers are

welcomed in the form of CV workshops, mock interviews and application process. Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature.

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 students and their parents or carers:

Year Group	Event
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutor based activities – Participation in Careers Fairs • PSHE careers based topic. • Guest speakers in assemblies, including ex-students talking about their own success. • External employee encounters supported by the wider curriculum • Personal Development lessons based on careers and employability skills
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutor based activities – Participation in Careers Fairs • PSHE careers based topic. • Guest speakers in assemblies, including ex-students talking about their own success. • External employee encounters supported by the wider curriculum • Personal Development lessons based on careers and employability skills
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutor based activities – Participation in Careers Fairs • PSHE careers based topic. • Guest speakers in assemblies, including ex-students talking about their own success. • External employee encounters supported by the wider curriculum • Personal Development lessons based on careers and employability skills • 1:1 CIEAG meeting with impartial careers advisor. • EHCP Review Meetings for students and their parents/carers to begin thinking about Post 16 Options
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutor based activities – Participation in Careers Fairs • PSHE careers based topic. • Guest speakers in assemblies, including ex-students talking about their own success. • External employee encounters supported by the wider curriculum • Personal Development lessons based on careers and employability skills • 1:1 CIEAG meeting with impartial careers advisor. • EHCP Review Meetings for students and their parents/carers to define Post-16 Options • Stockton Riverside College and Middlesbrough College Taster Day • Open Awards accreditation – Preparation for Working Life which includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Writing a CV

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Application forms and application process ○ Preparing for a job interview ○ Mock interviews. ● Introduction to Post-16 Choices: Review of options including A levels, T levels, vocational studies, apprenticeships, internships, HE and training providers. (where deemed appropriate) ● Vocational accredited option choices – computing, sport & fitness, digital photography, food technology and design technology ● Visits to external careers fairs and events
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tutor based activities – Participation in Careers Fairs ● PSHE careers based topic. ● Guest speakers in assemblies, including ex-students talking about their own success. ● External employee encounters supported by the wider curriculum ● Personal Development lessons based on careers and employability skills ● 1:1 CIEAG meeting with impartial careers advisor. ● EHCP Review Meetings for students and their parents/carers to begin thinking about Post 16 Options ● Stockton Riverside College and Middlesbrough College Taster Day ● Open Awards accreditation – Preparation for Working Life which includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Writing a CV ○ Application forms and application process ○ Preparing for a job interview ○ Mock interviews. ● Introduction to Post-16 Choices: Review of options including A levels, T levels, vocational studies, apprenticeships, internships, HE and training providers. (where deemed appropriate) ● Vocational accredited option choices – computing, sport & fitness, digital photography, food technology and design technology ● Visits to external careers fairs and events ● Youth Opportunities individual CEIAG interviews and application support, if applicable. (previously Youth Direction) ● Youth Opportunities drop-in sessions for advice and support

Close liaison exists with Youth Opportunities (Independent Careers Advisors) with respect to applications to tertiary colleges, apprenticeships, internships and training providers that is supported by in house CEIAG lead who works to deliver guidance and support transitions to new providers and arranges taster sessions. CEIAG sessions are available on request and there is a dedicated information section in the library backed up with a variety of online resources

There currently exists a deep and productive partnership with Tees Valley Combined Authority that has provided funding and support in delivering vocational and careers based lessons and activities.

Previous partnerships and ongoing stakeholders:

- Stockton Riverside College
- Bede College
- Middlesbrough College
- Askham Bryan College
- Skills Academy
- Stockton Sixth Form College
- TTE/NETA
- Shaw Trust
- NACRO
- MPC
- Project Choice
- Job Centre Plus
- Learning Curve
- Tees Valley Learning Provider Network
- Shout Out (employer provider engagement portal)

Destination of previous students is linked to the SOS data; this provides information regarding their next pathway and options to those pre- and post-16.