

Pedmore High School: Provider Access Policy Statement

Ownership: Pedmore High School part of the Invictus Education Trust

Date updated: January 2023

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to 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.

Pupil entitlement

All pupils in years 8 to 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;
- to understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

For pupils of compulsory school age these encounters are mandatory and there will be a minimum of two encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (year 8 to 9) and two encounters for pupils during the 'second keyphase' (year 10 to 11). For pupils in the 'third key phase' (year 12 to 13), particularly those that have not yet decided on their next steps, there are two more provider encounters available during this period, which are optional for pupils to attend.

These provider encounters will be scheduled during the main school hours and the provider will be given a reasonable amount of time to, as a minimum:

- share information about both the provider and the approved technical education qualification and apprenticeships that the provider offers
- explain what career routes those options could lead to
- provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with that provider (including the opportunity to meet staff and pupils from the provider)

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.

Commitment

The Pedmore 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. The Pedmore 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.

The Pedmore 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).

Aims

The Pedmore High School 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 Pedmore High School fully supports the statutory requirement for students 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. This will be done in assemblies, during curriculum time, Careers Fair during the day, Careers Fair in the evening and through PSHE.

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader and Line Manager (Mr G. Lloyd, Headteacher) 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 students to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. The Pedmore High School is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Requests for access

Requests for access should be directed to Miss C. Papadopoulos, Careers Leader. Miss C. Papadopoulos may be contacted by telephone or email, cpapadopoulos@pedmorehighschool.uk, Tel 01384686711

Grounds for granting requests for access

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

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

The Pedmore 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 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

The Pedmore 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.

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 and is responsible to his/her senior management line manager.

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to Miss C. Papadopoulos contacted by telephone or email, cpapadopoulos@pedmorehighschool.uk, Tel 01384686711

Miss C. Papadopoulos will raise the complaint to Mr G. Lloyd Headteacher of The Pedmore High School

Monitoring review and evaluation

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Governors and Invictus Education Trust .

Policy Coordinator: Miss C. Papadopoulos

Policy Reviewed: January 2023

Appendix 1

Providers who have been invited into The Pedmore High School to date include:

Invictus 6th Form
Nova Training
Juniper Training
ASK Apprenticeships
Work Pays
Halesowen College
Dudley College
Newman University
Wolverhampton University
LEMA Engineering
Aston University
Invictus 6th Form
Dudley Sixth
Dudley College
Halesowen College
Sandwell College

Destinations of previous Year 11 pupils from Pedmore High School include:

Invictus 6th Form
Dudley Sixth
Dudley College
Halesowen College
Sandwell College
Kind Edwards VI College
Windsor High School and Sixth Form
Haybridge Sixth Form
Bishop Milner Sixth Form

Last year our year 13 pupils moved to range of providers in the local area after school:

Warwick university
Cambridge university
Oxford University
BCU
Worcester University

Appendix 2

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 8	Careers Fair- presentation in PSHE prior to event followed by interactive market stall during school day with different providers (see above). Information and Q&A re: T-levels and Apprenticeships		
	Employer evening event for pupils, parents – market stall event giving overview of local, regional and national opportunities and skills requirement. Information and Q&A re: T-levels and Apprenticeships		
Year 9	Careers Fair- presentation in PSHE prior to event followed by interactive market stall during school day with different providers (see above). Information and Q&A re: T-levels and Apprenticeships	Meeting with Connexions Career Advisor- 1:1 advice on Y9 Options	MetroAlliance apprenticeship workshops with engineering groups and functional skills classes.
	Employer evening event for pupils, parents – market stall event giving overview of local, regional and national opportunities and skills requirement. Information and Q&A re: T-levels and Apprenticeships	Nova training apprenticeship workshops with Functional Skills group	Higher Education fair for a variety of HE providers including local Further Education colleges
Year 10	Careers Fair- presentation in PSHE prior to event followed by interactive market stall during school day with different providers (see above) Information and Q&A re: T-levels and Apprenticeships	ASK apprenticeships: Post 16 options assembly on T-levels; Apprenticeships and A 'levels.	MetroAlliance apprenticeship workshops with engineering groups and functional skills classes.
	Employer event for pupils, parents – market stall event giving overview of local, regional and national opportunities and skills requirement. Information and Q&A re: T-levels and Apprenticeships	Nova training apprenticeship workshops with Functional Skills group	Higher Education fair for a variety of HE providers including local Further Education colleges
Year 11	Careers Fair- presentation in PSHE prior to event followed by interactive market stall during school day with different providers (see above) Information and Q&A re: T-levels and Apprenticeships	ASK apprenticeships: Post 16 options assembly on T-levels; Apprenticeships and A' levels.	MetroAlliance apprenticeship workshops with engineering groups and functional skills classes.
	Employer event for pupils, parents – market stall event giving overview of local, regional and national opportunities and skills requirement Information and Q&A re: T-levels and Apprenticeships	Meeting with Connexions Career Advisor- 1:1 advice on Post 16 options	
	Employer evening event for pupils, parents – market stall event giving overview of local, regional and national opportunities and skills requirement. Information and Q&A re: T-levels and Apprenticeships	Nova training apprenticeship workshops with Functional Skills group	
	Meeting with Connexions Career Advisor- 1:1 advice on Post 16 options	MetroAlliance apprenticeship workshops with engineering groups and functional skills classes.	
	Sandwell College invited in for the day to conduct series of workshops: Mock interviews; application forms; information and Q&A re: T-levels and Apprenticeships	Higher Education fair for a variety of HE providers including local Further Education colleges	
6th Form	Careers Fair- presentation in PSHE prior to event followed by interactive market stall during school day with different providers (see above)	Higher Education fair for a variety of HE providers including local Further Education colleges	MetroAlliance apprenticeship workshops
	Employer evening event for pupils, parents – market stall event giving overview of local, regional and national opportunities and skills requirement		
	Higher Education fair for a variety of HE providers including local Further Education colleges		