



Provider Access Policy

The Governors and staff of Lowton Church of England High School are committed to the provision of a high quality education in a Christian context. We aim to provide a school where we can live out our ethos of Caring, Learning and Succeeding on a daily basis. At the heart of the commitment is the notion of the uniqueness and infinite worth of the individual, that every person is valuable in the eyes of God

This policy has been produced in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 and the Special Educational Needs Disability Act 2001, the SEND Code of Practice 2014 and the Children and Families Act 2014. It has been reviewed in accordance with all other school policies and related Acts.

Approved by: Headteacher

Date effective from	February 2023
Date of next review	July 2024
Status	Statutory
Person responsible	Gemma Rullo
Version	4.0

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school’s arrangements for managing the access of providers to pupils 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 obligation under the Technical and Further Education Act 2017, which inserts Section 42B into the Education Act 1997 and The Department of Education, July 2021: “Baker Clause” and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023).

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

Lowton Church of England 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 Lowton Church of England 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 Lowton Church of England 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

Lowton Church of England 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

Lowton Church of England 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, Enrichment Day workshops, Careers Fairs and Drop-In sessions during National Apprenticeship Week, National Careers Week, in addition to providers attending careers events at school.

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Coordinator C Ashton, Careers Lead G Rullo, Governor Link – Careers R Jessop and Headteacher K Larkin 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 Lowton Church of England High School is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Management of provider access requests

Procedure: A provider wishing to request access should contact Mrs Clare Ashton

Contact Details: Telephone Number 01942 767040.

Email: ashtonc@lowtonhs.wigan.sch.uk

Requests for access

Requests for access should be directed to C Ashton, Careers Co-ordinator. C Ashton may be contacted by telephone or email, Ashtonc@lowton.wigan.sch.uk, Tel 01942 767040.

Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers or Career Insight lessons, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that The Lowton Church of England High School is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with Lowton Church of England High School, for example through partnerships with the Liverpool Empire Theatre, Access/Insight trips and Masterclasses in a provider setting.

Premises and facilities

Lowton Church of England 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 Lowton Church of England 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. Information is made available via the school website – Careers page for parents.

Management

The Careers Co-Ordinator C Ashton co-ordinates all provider requests and is responsible to her line manager Miss Gemma Rullo.

Complaints:

If you wish to raise a complaint about this Policy or the application of it, please use our Complaints Policy. Found on the school website.

Monitoring & Review:

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Senior Leadership Team.
Policy Coordinator: Miss Gemma Rullo.

Appendix:

Providers who have been invited into Lowton Church of England High School to date include:

Winstanley College
St John Rigby
Priestley College
Wigan & Leigh College
Warrington & Vale Royal College
Bolton College
Bolton Sixth Form
Alliance Learning
Gt Manchester Learning Provider Network (GMLPN)
Waterside Training Ltd
Wigan Warriors College
Wigan Athletic Trust
Myerscough
TMP College
GKTS Training Services
Future Skills at Media City
Eccles Sixth Form College
City Skills, Salford
Worsley College
Pendleton Sixth Form College
St Helens College

Destinations of previous pupils from Lowton Church of England High School include:

Winstanley College
Wigan & Leigh College
St John Rigby College
Priestley
Salford College
Pendleton Sixth Form College

Wigan Warriors Academy College

Worksop Sports College

Runshaw College

Carmel College

Warrington & Vale Royal College

Myerscough

St Helens College

Rease Heath College