



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: Governors

Date effective from	July 2025
Date of next review	June 2026
Status	Statutory
Person responsible	G Beattie- Rullo
Version	5.0

Introduction and Rationale

Name of School: Provider Access Policy Statement
(To include The Department of Education, July 2021: “Baker Clause” and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023)

Ownership: Lowton Church of England High School

Date updated: July 2025

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.

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.

Aims

The 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).

Pupil Entitlement

The Lowton Church of England High School fully supports statutory requirements for pupils to have direct access to other providers of further education training, technical training and apprenticeships. The school will comply with the new legal requirements to put on at least six encounters with provider 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.

The 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).

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Coordinator C Ashton, Careers Lead G Beattie-Rullo and Headteacher J Galbriath 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: Requests for access should be directed to Mrs C Ashton, Careers Coordinator

Contact Details: Telephone Number 01942 767040.
Email: ashtonc@lowtonhs.wigan.sch.uk

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.

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

The 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 and Parent Portal.

Management

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

Monitoring & Review:

This policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Senior Leadership Team. Policy Coordinator: G Beattie-Rullo.

Policy Reviewed: July 2025

To be Reviewed: June 2026

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to G Beattie-Rullo, email: RulloG@lowtonhs.wigan.sch.uk.

G Beattie-Rullo will raise the complaint to J Galbraith, Headteacher of Lowton Church of England High School.

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 Community Trust
Myerscough College
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
UTC Warrington
The ARK
The Growth Company
Elysium
Jamm Studios

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

Winstanley College
Wigan & Leigh College
St John Rigby College
Priestley
Salford City College
Eccles College
Bolton Sixth Form
Bolton 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
TMP College
Fir Tree CIC
Fix It
The ARK