# **Walton High: Provider Access Policy**



#### 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.

#### **Student Entitlement**

All students 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 students 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 students during the 'second key phase' (year 10 to 11). For students 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 students 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 students from the provider)
- answer questions from students

#### Meaningful provider encounters

One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between students and one provider. We are committed to providing meaningful encounters to all our young people using the <a href="Making it meaningful checklist">Making it meaningful checklist</a>.

Meaningful online engagement is also an option, and we are open to providers that are able to provide live online engagement with our students.

# **Previous providers**

In previous terms/years we have invited the following providers from the local area to speak to our students: please note this is not an exhausted list.

Acorn Childcare, Ernest and Young, Premier Education, MK College, AMEY, Mears, The Institute of Technology, University of Coventry, University of Hertfordshire, Soccer Assist, The Parks Trust, RAF, Royal Navy, Bedford College Group, Moulton College, Army, Dance Box Studios and Niftylift.

### **Destinations of our pupils**

Last year our year 11 students moved to a range of providers in the local area after school:

A large proportion of our students stayed at Walton High for Post 16 courses, some of our students decided to study at other Sixth Form providers these included Denbigh, Hazeley and Oakgrove. Other students moved onto local colleges including MK College, Moulton College, Shuttleworth College and Thesham to study a variety of courses. Alternative providers our students moved onto include Soccer Assist, Arts 1, Fashion Retail Academy and Leon Barnett Football Academy. We had a small number of students secure apprenticeships which included Redbull Racing.

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

A large proportion of our students went onto University to study a variety of subjects including Law, Medicine, Engineering, Computer Science and Business. Please note this is not an exhausted list. Our students were also successful in securing apprenticeships at L3 and degree level with a number of local employers including Network Rail, Clipper Logistics, Santander, Taylor Wimpey and Childbase. A small number of our students went on to further education or have decided to take a gap year. Some of our students have moved onto employment including Mercedes Benz Finance and Nationwide Building Society.

## Management of provider access requests

### **Procedure**

A provider wishing to request access should contact Mrs Donna Montague, Head of Education to Employment via careers@mket.org.uk or by calling 01908 677954

## **Opportunities for access**

The school offers the six provider encounters required by law (marked in bold text) and a number of additional events, integrated into the school careers programme. We will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils or their parents or carers.

If you would like to engage with our Post 16 students in Years 12 and 13, as an alternative we offer an Employer Pop Up session, this allows Employers to showcase their offer within our Post 16 centre. These are at fixed times 12.50 - 14.00 but can be any day Monday to Friday subject to availability. Please note we have two campuses and would like employers to attend both where possible.

Please speak to our Head of Education to Employment to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

Year 8	Speakers	Provider	Assembly topic
Assembly to be used for	1.Solus	Thatcham Research	Importance of STEM
all Year groups.		College	subjects. Apprenticeships
	2. Walton High	Walton High	Sixth Form/T levels
	Year 8 – All students attend the annual Careers Fair – Brooklands Campus and		
	Walnut Tree Campus. This is timed to inform GCSE options choices. **		
	WorkTree – All students take part in a virtual employer engagement event run by		
	WorkTree. Employers can sign up to support these events <u>here</u>		
Year 9			
	1.Mercedes Benz Finance	University of Birmingham	Skills/Qualities employers
		City/Northampton	look for. Apprenticeships
Year 10			
	1.University of Oxford	Oxford	Applying to a competitive University
	2.Ask Apprenticeships	Information session only	Understanding Apprenticeships
		e part in a virtual employer el gn up to support these events	
Year 11			
	1.MK College	MK College	Vocational courses/T levels
	2.University of Hertfordshire	University of Hertfordshire	Why do people go to University?
	Year 11 – All students attend the annual Careers Fair - Brooklands Campus and Walnut Tree Campus. **		
Year 12 and Year 13			
Students have the option to attend.	1.University of Oxford	Oxford	Applying to a competitive University
	2.Institure of Technology	MK College HE	Digital Technology courses
Employers welcome to host stands within our	3.University of Hertfordshire	University of Hertfordshire	Degree Apprenticeship vs University
Post 16 centre following	4.Mercedes Benz	University of	Degree apprenticeship
assemblies.	Financial Services	Northampton	Business Management
	5. <b>FCDO</b> – Foreign and	Bedford College and	Various apprenticeships
	Commonwealth	London South Bank	L2 to degree level.
	Development Office	University	
	6. University of East Anglia	University of East Anglia	Which Higher education
	711-5	Hadronath of Co.	course is right for me?
	7. University of Coventry	University of Coventry	How does Student Finance work?
	Year 12 and Year 13 – All students are able to attend the annual Careers Fair -		
	Brooklands Campus and Walnut Tree Campus. **		

<sup>\*\*</sup> If you are an employer or provider who would like to take part in one of our Careers events please email our Head of Education 2 Employment Mrs Montague – <a href="mailto:careers@mket.org.uk">careers@mket.org.uk</a>

Our Career Fairs offer the opportunity for providers to showcase their offer to students. In 2023 the following providers have requested attendance:

MK College Box Dance Studios

Bedford College Arts1

Moulton College

Northampton College

Soccer Assist

The Christian Foundation

ITT Partnership

Institute of Technology

MK Dons SET

University of Northampton

University of East Anglia

University of Coventry

Cranfield University

The British Army

The Royal Air Force

#### **Premises and facilities**

The school 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. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Leader or a member of their team.

Meaningful online engagement is also an option and we are open to providers that are able to provide live online engagement with our students.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at the Careers Library, which is managed by the Careers Team. The Careers Library is available to all students at lunch and break times.

### **Complaints:**

Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk

# **Approval and review**

Approved: November 2023

Signed: Sharon Alexander Principal

Signed: Chair of Governors

Next review: September 2024