

Provider Access Statement Updated June 2023

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangement for managing the access of providers to pupils at the school with the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education and training offer.

This complies with the school's legal obligations under section 42B of the Education Act 1997 and includes 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

Nova Hreod Academy 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. Nova Hreod Academy 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.

We endeavour 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

Nova Hreod Academy's 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

Nova Hreod Academy 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, in addition to providers attending careers events or group discussions or providing taster events.

All pupils in years 8 to 13 are entitled to understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses and must have:-

- 2 encounters during years 8 to 9 that are mandatory for all students to attend
- 2 encounters during years 10 to 11 that are mandatory for all students to attend
- 2 encounters during years 12 to 13 that are mandatory for the school/college to put on, but optional to attend

These provider encounters will be scheduled during the main school hours and the provider will be given 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 options these career routes could lead to
- Provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with that provider
- Answer questions from pupils

Meaningful Provider Encounters

One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between pupils and one provider. Meaningful online live engagement is also an option where access may be an issue.

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Team, Senior Leadership Team and 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. Nova Hreod Academy 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 Thomas Unwin, Assistant Principal - Character, t.unwin@novahreodacademy.org.uk or Ursula Gawthorn, Careers Adviser, u.gawthorn@novahreodacademy.org.uk

Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers or Life lessons, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that Nova Hreod Academy is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with Nova Hreod Academy/United Learning.

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

Nova Hreod Academy will provide an appropriate meeting room, theatre or hall, to be agreed in advance. Computer rooms, AV and specialist equipment can also be arranged if needed. 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/Prospectuses

Nova Hreod Academy will consider live online encounters with providers where requested, and these may be broadcast into classrooms or the theatre/hall. Technology checks in advance will be required to ensure compatibility of systems. Providers are welcome to leave prospectuses or other relevant literature for distribution to students, as appropriate.

Parents and Carers

Parental involvement is encouraged, and parents may be invited to attend the events to meet the providers.

Management

The Careers Leader and Careers Adviser coordinate all provider requests and are responsible to the headteacher.

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to the clerk to the governors, Trish Grimes email: Trish.Grimes@swindon-academy.org

Trish Grimes will raise the complaint to the headteacher, Nick Wells.

Monitoring review and evaluation

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Senior Leadership Team.

Policy Reviewed: June 2023

Appendix

Providers who have been invited into Nova Hreod Academy to date include:

ASK Apprenticeships / New College / Cirencester College / SSE plc / Great Western Hospital/NHS / Green Labyrinth / Army / RAF / Arval / BMW / Study Higher / Bath University / Reading University / Police / Whitehouse Ross / TE Connectivity

Destinations of previous pupils from Nova Hreod Academy include:

New College / Cirencester College / UTC / Green Labyrinth / United College Sixth Form / C6 / City of Bristol College / GWA / RWB / Army / RAF / Lackham College / Hungerford Town FC