

## Provider Access Policy

### Policy Statement

This policy statement sets out Dixons Fazakerley Academy's arrangements for managing the access of providers to students at the Academy for the purposes of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education act 1997 (the 'Baker Clause').

Introduced as an amendment to the Technical and Further Education Act 2017, the Baker Clause states that schools must allow training providers and colleges access to all students in years 7 - 13 to discuss non-academic routes that are available to them. It is expected that by doing so this will help address the UK's productivity challenges and address skills shortages experienced across several sectors of the economy. This regulation has been enforced since January 2nd 2018.

The Department for Education's Statutory guidance for governing bodies, school leaders and school staff sets out the expectations of schools which includes:

- Every school must ensure that there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access all students in year 7 to year 13 for the purpose of informing them about approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships.
- Every school must publish a policy statement setting out their arrangements for provider access and ensure that it is followed.

### Student entitlement

Students in Years 7 – 11 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;
- Hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships – through options evening's, assemblies and group discussions and taster events;
- 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 students during the 'first key phase' (year 7 to 9) and two encounters for students during the 'second key phase' (year 10 to 11).

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 students using the Making it meaningful checklist:

<https://resources.careersandenterprise.co.uk/resources/making-it-meaningful-benchmark-7>

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

## Management of Provider Access requests

Any provider who wishes to request access to the Academy should email: [jollerton@dixonsfa.com](mailto:jollerton@dixonsfa.com)

All requests should be emailed at least 6 weeks prior to an expected planned session date and should include:

- The proposed format, timings and duration of the planned session
- The number of staff from the provider's organisation who propose to visit
- Any support requirements needed from the academy

The academy will make a suitable space available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. The school will also make available ICT and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed, in advance of the visit, with the Careers Lead or a member of the academy.

