



Woodkirk Academy
&
The Sixth Form @ Woodkirk Academy

Woodkirk Academy provider access policy statement

Under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997 and the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022 we have a duty to provide pupils in Years 8-13 with access to providers of post-14, post-16 and post-18 education and training. This policy statement sets out how we manage access requests from these providers.

What are pupils entitled to?

Pupils in Years 8 to 13 are entitled to:

- Learn more about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities, as part of a careers programme which informs pupils of the full range of education and training options available to them at each transition point,
- Hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities on offer, for example, technical education and apprenticeships – this can be achieved through options evenings, assemblies, group discussions, and taster events, and
- Understand how to apply to the full range of academic and technical courses available to them.

All pupils in Years 8 to 13 will receive at least six encounters with accredited providers of technical education and apprenticeships. These encounters will be divided accordingly:

- During the first key phase (Year 8 to Year 9) all pupils must attend two mandatory sessions by accredited providers,
- During the second key phase (Year 10 and 11) all pupils must attend two mandatory sessions by accredited providers, and
- During the third key phase (Year 12 and Year 13) there will two sessions by accredited providers – these will be optional for pupils to attend.

What opportunities are provided to allow access to pupils?

Via our school careers programme, we offer providers numerous opportunities throughout the school year to speak to pupils and/or their parents.

These sessions will be scheduled during the school's main opening hours.

The school offers the six provider encounters that are legally required – these are marked with bold text below – and a number of additional events.

Our annual schedule of events is as follows:

Year 8	Destinations Day	University Visits	'Themed' weeks
Year 9	Destinations Day	National Careers Week	National Apprenticeship Week
Year 10	Destinations Day	Taster Days	'Themed' weeks
Year 11	Destinations Day	Guest Speaker Talks	'Themed' weeks
Year 12	Destinations Day	Work Experience	Guest Speaker Talks
Year 13	Destinations Day	UK University & Apprenticeship Search Fair	Guest Speaker Talks

During these sessions, at a minimum, providers will be given enough time to:

- Share information about the provider and the approved technical qualifications and apprenticeships they offer,
- Explain what career routes these qualifications and apprenticeships could lead to,
- Provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with that provider, and
- Answer pupils' questions.

Which providers have previously been invited to the school?

In previous terms and academic years, the school has invited the following providers to speak to pupils:

- The ASK Programme,
- Ahead Partnership,
- University of Bradford, Huddersfield, Leeds Trinity and Leeds Beckett,
- Leeds City College, Leeds College of Building, Wakefield College,
- Department for Work and Pensions – Civil Service,
- Depuy Synthes, ITV, Kirk Newsholme, Leeds United Football Club,
- Marie Lees Public Relations, Textiles Training, Buzz Design, Sulzer,
- Gordons LLP, Schroders Personal Wealth, Mitie and Lloyds Bank, and
- Public sectors including Army, Police, NHS, Fire Service and Active Leeds.

Last year, our Year 11 pupils moved on to a range of providers in the local area after finishing school.

48% went to colleges, 46% stayed on at Sixth Form, 2% joined an apprenticeship scheme and 4% gained employment.

Last year, our Year 13 pupils moved on to a range of providers in the local area after finishing school.

55% went to university, 17% joined an apprenticeship scheme, 21% gained employment, and 5% decided on a gap year.

Who should providers contact to discuss events and options?

Providers can speak to our careers team to discuss possible attendance at relevant events.
Email: careers@woodkirk.leodis.org.uk Telephone: 0113 887 3558

Our [Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy](#) sets out the school's approach to allowing providers into school to speak to our pupils.

What are the rules for granting and refusing access requests?

Access will be granted providing it is targeted to appropriate student groups. We look for providers with a particular focus on vocational qualifications and apprenticeships. Access may be refused if:

- Our students already have access to similar events or information,
- The event you plan would not fit into our school timetable, and/or
- Our facilities would not support the event planned.

What can providers expect once a request has been accepted?

Once we have approved a provider, we will work with them to identify the best method for providing access to our pupils.

We will make the school hall, classrooms and private meeting rooms available to host discussions between providers and pupils. We will also make presentation equipment, such as projectors and televisions, available to providers.

Arrangements will be discussed in advance between our careers team and a nominated member of the provider's team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus and other relevant course literature at the reception desk.

How are complaints regarding provider access managed?

If you have a complaint relating to the school's provider access arrangements, you can raise it in line with the school's [Complaints Procedures Policy](#) or you can contact The Careers and Enterprise Company directly on provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk

Approval and review

This policy statement was approved January 2023.

The next review will take place on January 2024.

Signed:  Chair of Governors

Signed:  Governor with responsibility for Careers

Signed:  Principal