

Provider Access Policy

Introduction

This policy statement sets out Dixons Broadgreen Academy's arrangements for managing the access of providers to students at the Academy for the purpose 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 year 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 2 2018.

Student entitlement

All students in Years 7 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.
- 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.
- 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.

Previous providers

We are currently in the process of inviting a range of providers in the local area to visit DBA in the current academic year, this section will be updated once those visits have taken place.

Destinations of our students

Last year our Year 11 students moved to range of providers in the local area after school including: KCC, NLA, Rocket Training, Hugh Baird, St Helens College, UTC, Mode College, Greenbank College, Myerscough College, Everton College, Robbie Fowler Academy, Steven Gerrard academy amongst others.

A number of our Year 11 leavers went on to begin apprenticeships in different areas such as early years education, hairdressing and construction.

Last year Year 13 students moved to a range of providers in the local area after school as well as University study. Examples include the University of Liverpool, Liverpool Hope University, University of Central Lancashire, University of Manchester, Manchester Metropolitan University and Liverpool John Moores University.

Management of provider access requests

Procedure

Providers wishing to request access should contact:

Niamh Hanson, Careers Lead DBA_careers@dixonsba.com

Opportunities for access

The school offers the multiple encounters required by law. We will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to students or their parents or carers. Please speak to our Careers Leader to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

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 Resource Centre, which is managed by the school librarian. The Resource Centre 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 found on our school website under policies, alternatively email DBA_careers@dixonsba.com

