

Provider Access Policy (PAL) - Student Entitlement

All students in Post 16 will participate in a careers education programme that will help them understand their career options and encourage them to reach their full potential in progressing to FE, Higher Education or employment. The programme will enable students to:

- Develop the skills they need to plan and manage their personal development
- Experience the world of work through a work placement, insight event or employer talk
- Be given direct access to employers, training providers and Higher Education institutions (Careers Fair)
- Identify their transferable skills required for the world of work and HE
- Receive high-quality face-to-face information, advice and guidance
- Receive high-quality resources that will help their career decision-making & planning
- Be given personal support with their applications to Higher Education or Employment
- To provide feedback on their views on the quality of the careers programme

A Provider Access Policy ensures that students continue to receive information about all the options available after sixth form, not just university.

What it means for Post-16 learners

Students in sixth form should have opportunities to meet and hear from:

- Universities and higher education providers
- Apprenticeship providers
- Further education colleges
- Training organisations
- Employers and industry representatives
- Specialist education and employment support services

These encounters help students understand the full range of progression routes available after Year 13.

Why it is important

A Provider Access Policy ensures that Post-16 students can:

- Compare university, apprenticeship and employment pathways.
- Learn about higher and degree apprenticeships.
- Understand labour market opportunities.
- Meet providers directly and ask questions.
- Make informed decisions about their next steps.

What schools and sixth forms must do

Schools and sixth forms should provide opportunities for external providers to engage with students through:

- Careers fairs
- Apprenticeship events
- Employer talks
- University presentations
- Workshops and drop-in sessions
- Skills and employability events

For (Years 12–13), provider encounters should be available, particularly for students who have not yet made decisions about their future plans.

The Provider Access Policy gives students the right to hear from colleges, universities, apprenticeship providers, training organisations and employers so that they can understand all of their options after sixth form and make informed choices about their future.

At Post 16 we have a commitment to ensuring every student has meaningful encounters with a range of education, training and employment providers before leaving Year 13.