



Shireland CBSO Academy

# Provider Access Statement

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## Aims

This statement aims to set out our school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students for the purpose of giving them information about their offer. It sets out:

- Procedures in relation to requests for access
- The grounds for granting and refusing requests for access
- Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access

## Statutory requirements

Schools are required to ensure that there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students in years 8 to 13 for the purposes of informing them about approved technical education, qualifications or apprenticeships.

Schools must provide a minimum of 6 encounters with technical education or training providers to all pupils in years 8 to 13 (see more detail in section 2.1 below).

Schools must also have a statement that outlines the circumstances in which education and training providers will be given access to these pupils.

This is outlined in section 42B of the [Education Act 1997](#), the [Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022](#) and on page 43 of guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on [careers guidance and access for education and training providers](#).

This statement shows how our school complies with these requirements.

### The 6 encounters schools must offer to all pupils in years 8 to 13

Schools must offer:

- (At least) 2 encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (year 8 or 9)
  - All pupils must attend
  - Encounters can take place any time during year 8, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 9
- (At least) 2 encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 10 or 11)
  - All pupils must attend
  - Encounters can take place any time during year 10, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 11
- (At least) 2 encounters for pupils during the 'third key phase' (year 12 or 13)
  - Pupils can choose to attend
  - Encounters can take place any time during year 12, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 13

These encounters must happen for a reasonable period of time during the standard school day. Schools can continue to provide complementary experiences, but encounters outside of school hours won't count towards these requirements.

Schools must ask each provider to provide the following information as a minimum:

- Information about the provider and the approved qualifications or apprenticeships they offer
- Information about what careers those qualifications and apprenticeships can lead to
- What learning or training with the provider is like
- Answers to any questions from pupils

### **Meaningful provider encounters**

Our school is committed to providing meaningful encounters to all pupils.

1 encounter is defined as 1 meeting/session between pupils and 1 provider. Meaningful encounters should include:

- Clear information on next steps for pupils to take towards engaging with this career/education pathway
- Opportunities for pupils to engage with experts in the career/provision/phase being discussed
- Equality of access for all young people to this information
- Opportunities for young people to address misconceptions and ask questions about the career/provision/phase being discussed

Meaningful live online engagement is also an option at our school.

### **Pupil entitlement**

All pupils in years 8 to 13 Shireland CBSO Academy are entitled to:

- Find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities as part of our 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 activities and events such as options events, assemblies, taster events, Focus Days, and curriculum lessons
- Understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses

### **Management of provider access requests**

#### **Procedure**

A provider wishing to request access should contact our careers leader, Asha Kailey.

Telephone: 0121 818 4620

Email: [akailey@scbso.shirelandcat.net](mailto:akailey@scbso.shirelandcat.net)

## **Opportunities for access**

A number of events, integrated into our careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to students and/or their parents/carers:

- At KS3 (Years 7, 8, and 9), pupils receive regular careers lessons embedded into their curriculum learning alongside assemblies, and workshops in the form of off-timetable 'Focus Days' where providers can request to run activities for one or more year groups
- At KS4 (Years 10 and 11), pupils continue to receive careers-oriented assemblies, and have a work experience placement. Post-16 providers will also be welcomed to discuss options including academic and vocational training and apprenticeships
- At KS5 (Years 12 and 13), pupils have weekly 'Futures' sessions, exploring options and skill development for success post-18. They also have a work experience placement, and post-18 providers, trainers, and employers will be welcomed to contribute to this

If appropriate, we will also be prepared to discuss off-site opportunities and educational visits.

Please speak to our Careers Leader to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

## **Granting and refusing access**

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers lessons, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that Shireland CBSO Academy is arranging.

Requests may be refused if:

- They impinge on student's preparation for public or internal exams
- They clash with other planned school event
- The school is unable to provide staff to support the event
- Rooming is unable to be found due to timetabling clashes

## **Safeguarding**

Our safeguarding/child protection policy is available on request, and outlines the school's procedure for checking the identity and suitability of visitors. All visiting education and training providers will be expected to adhere to this policy.

## **Premises and facilities**

Shireland CBSO Academy will provide an appropriate room or assembly hall to be agreed. All rooms have projectors and screens provided. Students also all have access to their own laptop. The Careers Leader 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 an appropriate member of academy staff who will facilitate.

## Previous providers

In previous years we have invited the following providers from the local area to speak to our pupils:

- City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra
- TUI
- West Midlands Police
- West Bromwich Albion Foundation
- The Salvation Army
- G.A.P Entertainment
- Royal Navy
- The 21 Pirates
- BIMM
- Birmingham Hippodrome
- Department for Work and Pensions
- Laney (part of the Headstock Group)
- British Army Music

## Pupil destinations

Our first cohort of Year 13 pupils will graduate in Summer 2026, and our first cohort of Year 11 pupils will graduate in Summer 2028, at which point we will record pupil destinations in line with current guidance.

## Complaints

Any complaints related to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure (available by contacting [info@scbso.shirelandcat.net](mailto:info@scbso.shirelandcat.net)) or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via [provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk](mailto:provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk)

## Links to other policies

This statement links to the following policies:

- Careers guidance policy
- Child protection and safeguarding policy
- Complaints policy
- Curriculum overview (careers)

## Monitoring arrangements

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to pupils are monitored by Asha Kailey (Careers Lead).

This statement, the information included, and its implementation will be monitored by the SPC and reviewed annually.