



NATIONAL
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
ACADEMY

Provider Access Policy Statement

March 2026

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Associated documents:			
Links to:			
Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy Careers Guidance Policy Curriculum Policy Complaints Policy			

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1 Introduction

1.1 The National Church of England Academy Provider Access Policy

This revised Provider Access Policy outlines National Academy's approach to ensuring that all students are well-informed about the full range of education, training, and career pathways available to them. In line with statutory duties and our commitment to equality, we have reviewed the impact of this policy to ensure it supports all students and staff fairly, without disadvantage to any protected group.

1.2 Policy Statement on Provider Access

This document sets out the arrangements for education and training organisations to engage with students at National Academy. Its purpose is to ensure that students receive impartial, comprehensive information about technical education, apprenticeships, and all other post-16 and post-18 options. The policy reflects our responsibilities under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997, the July 2021 "Baker Clause" guidance, and the Provider Access Legislation introduced in January 2023.

1.3 Rationale

High-quality careers education is essential for empowering young people to make confident, informed decisions about their futures. By understanding the breadth of training routes, employment sectors, and qualifications available, students are better equipped to progress successfully into further study, apprenticeships, and employment. As technical pathways expand—including T-Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications—students must be given clear, fair access to these opportunities.

1.4 Commitment

National Academy is committed to ensuring that a variety of training and education providers are able to speak directly with students. Our aim is to present all pathways impartially, without prioritising academic routes over technical ones or vice versa. We work to ensure every student can explore all options that lead to higher-level skills and meaningful careers.

1.5 Aims

Our Provider Access Policy aims to:

- Strengthen students' understanding of all career routes, including apprenticeships and technical qualifications.
- Ensure students can explore external learning and training pathways before making key decisions.
- Support positive transitions and reduce the risk of students becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment, or Training).

2 Student entitlement (DfE Baker Clause)

2.1 All students in years 8-13 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;

- to 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;
- to 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 year 8 to 9 students and two encounters for year 10 to 11 students. For students in year 12 to 13, particularly those that have not yet decided on their next steps, there are two more provider encounters available during this period, which are optional for students to attend.

These provider encounters will be scheduled during the main school hours and the provider will be given a reasonable amount of time. At National C of E Academy this will be a minimum of an assembly slot (20 minutes).

- 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.

2.2 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.

2.3 Previous providers

In previous terms/years we have invited a range of providers to visit the Academy. This included but was not exclusive to providers from Engineering, Manufacturing, Armed Forces and Agriculture.

2.4 Destinations of our students

Last year our year 11 students moved to a range of providers in the local area after school. This included but was not exclusive to; National Sixth Form Centre, Bilborough College, West Nottinghamshire College and Nottinghamshire College.

Last year our year 13 students moved to a range of universities and local employers after school.

3 Management of provider access requests

3.1 Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact our CEIAG Lead at jparker@nationalacademy.org.uk

3.2 Opportunities for access

The school offers the six provider encounters required by law (marked in bold text in the table below) and a number of additional events, integrated into the school careers programme. 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.

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 7	Assembly and tutor group opportunities Enrichment visits can be arranged	Assembly and tutor group opportunities Enrichment visits can be arranged KS3 Parents Evening Careers Week	Assembly and tutor group opportunities Virtual tour of Amazon factory Enrichment day visit
Year 8	Assembly and tutor group opportunities Enrichment visits can be arranged KS3 Parents Evening	Assembly and tutor group opportunities Enrichment visits can be arranged Careers Week	Assembly and tutor group opportunities Enrichment visits can be arranged
Year 9	Assembly and tutor group opportunities Enrichment visits can be arranged CEIAG/PD Day	Assembly and tutor group opportunities Enrichment visits can be arranged KS3 Parents Options Evening Careers Week Enhanced Options Transition	Assembly and tutor group opportunities Enrichment visits can be arranged
Year 10	Assembly and tutor group opportunities Enrichment visits can be arranged	Assembly and tutor group opportunities Enrichment visits can be arranged KS4 Parents Evening Careers Week	Assembly and tutor group opportunities Enrichment visits can be arranged Careers Day
Year 11	Assembly and tutor group opportunities Enrichment visits can be arranged Mock interviews	Assembly and tutor group opportunities Enrichment visits can be arranged KS4 Parents Evening Careers Week Apprenticeship launches	Assembly and tutor group opportunities Enrichment visits can be arranged
Year 12	Enrichment period Assembly and tutor group opportunities University visits	Enrichment period Assembly and tutor group opportunities University visits Careers Week	Enrichment period Assembly and tutor group opportunities University visits UCAS Fair Work Experience
Year 13	Enrichment period Assembly and tutor group opportunities Mock Interviews	Enrichment period Assembly and tutor group opportunities University visits Careers Week	Enrichment period Assembly and tutor group opportunities University visits

Other opportunities could include:

- Skills lessons
- Curriculum-linked careers learning
- PSE career modules
- Guided tutor sessions in Years 7–9
- Access to the Careers Library
- One-to-one appointments with a Careers Advisor
- Work Shadow Days (Years 9 and 10)
- Work Experience (Year 12)
- Careers-focused subject activities
- Industry and sector trips
- Careers fairs and events
- Guest speakers in assemblies

Providers are welcome to discuss suitable options with the Careers Lead.

jparker@nationalacademy.org.uk

3.3 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.

A single encounter is defined as one structured session between a provider and a group of students. National Academy strives to make each encounter purposeful, well-planned, and aligned with Gatsby Benchmark 7 (encounter with further and higher education).

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at the Careers Centre, which is managed by the careers team. The Careers Centre is available to all students at lunch and break times.

3.4 Granting and refusing access

Access to students will be granted when:

- the proposed activity meets the aims and objectives of our curriculum
- the proposed activity will be of benefit to the majority of students who will be involved in the activity
- if student absence from lesson is required in order to facilitate the activity, the Deputy Headteacher for Student Progress agrees that:
 - the activity will be of sufficient benefit to justify the absence

- sufficient notice has been given to enable teachers to adapt their planned learning activities to ensure that students' academic progress is not negatively affected
- there is capacity within the programme to accommodate the provider, considering the overall number of providers who have been accommodated throughout the year
- requests are made which give the academy sufficient notice to arrange rooming, supervision, audio-visual equipment and an adjustment of the planned programme

3.5 Student Entitlement

At National Academy, students in Years 7–13 are entitled to:

- Learn about technical education and apprenticeship options as part of our careers programme
- Hear directly from a range of providers
- Understand how to apply for technical and academic routes

The school is responsible for ensuring the minimum six statutory provider encounters occur during the three key phases.

4.2 Premises and Facilities

National Academy will provide appropriate spaces such as classrooms or the main hall for provider sessions. AV equipment and presentation facilities can be arranged in advance. Providers may also leave promotional materials and prospectuses in the Careers Library.

4.3 Previous Providers

In past years, students have benefited from presentations by:

- Nottingham and Trent university
- Army
- Amazon
- VIA
- Police
- West Notts College
- ATP Aerospace

4.4 Pupil Destinations

Year 11 students have progressed to institutions such as:

- West Notts college
- Bilborough college
- National academy sixth form
- Nottingham college
- NAUAS College
- Brackenhurst campus

Year 13 students have continued to:

- University
- Apprenticeships
- Employment

4.5 Safeguarding

All visitors must comply with National Academy's safeguarding and child protection procedures. Identity checks and risk assessments will be carried out as appropriate.

4.6 Management of Provider Access Requests

Providers wishing to request access should contact:

Mr J Parker

Careers Lead

Telephone: 0115 963 5667

Email: jparker@nationalacademy.sch.uk

We will aim to respond within 48 working hours.

4.7 Complaints

Any concerns about provider access should be raised using the school's Complaints Procedure jparker@nationalacaemy.org.uk or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company at Keiron.Turner@eastmidlands-cca.gov.uk.

4.8 Evaluation

Provider encounters will be reviewed as part of our careers provision. This will include speaking with providers, students and staff.

Review

This policy will be reviewed in January 2027