Provider Access

POLICY

Rednock School
Where everyone matters



Date of Ratification: September 2026
Date of Review: September 2027
Responsibility of: Will Sanders, Head of Life Skills & Careers

Provider Access

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1. Aims

This policy 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

2. Legislation and statutory guidance

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 below).

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

This is outlined in section 42B of the Education Act 1997, the Skills and Post-16 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 policy shows how our school complies with these requirements.

2.1 Defining a meaningful encounter

Rednock School is committed to providing meaningful encounters with education and training providers to all students.

One meaningful encounter is defined as one session between pupils and one provider.

In-person encounters are preferred, however if these are not possible, Rednock School will accept live online engagement that meets our safeguarding policy.

2.2 The 6 meaningful encounters that schools must offer to all students in Years 8 to 13

First phase (Year 8 and 9)	February Careers Fair	February Careers Fair
Second phase (Year 10 and 11)	February Careers Fair	Apprenticeship & Recruitment Fair
Third phase (Year 12 and 13)	Apprenticeship & Recruitment Fair February Careers Fair	Apprenticeship & Recruitment Fair February Careers Fair

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

3. Student entitlement

All students in Years 8 to 13 at Rednock School are entitled to:

- Find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities as part of our careers programme. This is taught through Life Skills lessons and the tutor programme, and 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, e.g. through activities and events such as options events, and assemblies.

- Understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

4. Management of provider access requests

4.1 Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact the Head of Life Skills and Careers, Will Sanders (william.sanders@rednockschool.org.uk). He can also be reached by telephoning the school on 01453 543618.

4.2 Granting and refusing access

Access to students may be granted during assemblies, tutor periods, off-timetable enrichment days, options events, during Life Skills lessons for Years 8-11 and through the SIxth Form Life Skills programme. The current model is to be invited to one of the careers events detailed in section 2.2.

Access may be refused for reasons of practicality, for example, if the time requested clashes with another school event or with an examination period.

4.3 Safeguarding

The identity and suitability of visitors will be checked in line with Rednock School's Safeguarding Policy.

Education and training providers will be expected to adhere to this policy.

4.4 Premises and facilities

Rednock School will make the main hall, classrooms and private meeting rooms available for discussions between providers and students, as appropriate to the number of students involved.

The school will make available the necessary resources to support provider presentations, such as audiovisual resources. This will be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Head of Life Skills & Careers.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature with the Head of Life Skills & Careers, who will make this information available to students.

5. Complaints

Any complaints relating to provider access can be raised following Rednock School's complaint's procedure, which can be found in the Complaints Policy.

6. Links to other policies

- Curriculum Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Complaints Policy

7. Monitoring arrangements

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students are monitored by the Headteacher.

This policy will be reviewed annually by Will Sanders, Head of Life Skills & Careers. At every review, the policy will be approved by the Governing Body.