



Curiosity | Care | Courage | Creativity

King Edward VI School

Provider Access Policy Statement

January 2025

Our Vision:

To be a vibrant learning community nurturing courage, care, curiosity and creativity in every young person, so that they flourish in the world with hope and self-belief.

Version Number:	Version 2
Drawn up by:	Bev Tucker – Deputy Headteacher
Reviewed by:	Bev Tucker – Deputy Headteacher and Curriculum and Standards Committee
Date reviewed:	November 24
Approval by:	Full Governing Body
Date approved:	January 2025
Review Cycle:	1 year
Date of next Review:	January 2026

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the arrangements for managing the access of providers to students at King Edward VI CEVC School for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education and training offer. This complies with the school's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

Student entitlement

All students in Years 7-11 at King Edward VI School are entitled:

- to find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship 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 vocational 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 students during the first key phase (Years 7 to 9) and two encounters for students during the second key phase (Years 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](#).

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

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

- Abbeygate Sixth Form College
- West Suffolk College (WSC)
- WSC Apprenticeship Team
- The AIM Group
- Apprenticeships Suffolk

Destinations of our students

Our 2024 Year 11 leavers moved to a range of providers across our local and regional area after school:

- 59.1% went to Further Education (FE) Colleges

- 34.5% went to Sixth Form Colleges
- 2.1% went to School Sixth Forms
- 1.7% gained an apprenticeship

The remaining 3.8% of our Year 11 cohort were employed or seeking employment with training or repeating their Year 11 learning.

Management of provider access requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact:

Beverley Tucker, Careers Leader

Telephone: 01284 761393 or Email: tk@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk

Tasha Granger, Careers Co-ordinator

Telephone: 01284 761393 or Email: tlg@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk

Granting and refusing access

Our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy outlines the school's procedure for checking the identity and suitability of visitors. Education and training providers will be expected to adhere to this policy, which can be found on our website: [Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy](#).

The school reserves the right to refuse access to any organisations that cannot meet safeguarding or Prevent requirements using the school's procedures. Similarly, if organisations are deemed by the school to be inappropriate to the age group they wish to have access to or the request is deemed unreasonable due to loss of curriculum time and the negative impact this might have on students.

Opportunities for access

The school offers the four provider encounters required by law and several additional events, integrated into the school careers programme (below). We will offer providers an opportunity to connect and engage with students and/or their parents or carers. Although not part of the mandatory offer, we are now providing encounters for Year 7 where appropriate.

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

Year Group	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 8	Interests Employer encounter Q&A	Careers Fair: employer engagement and learning about different career paths Exploring Learning Styles Employer encounter Q&A	Learning about Gender Biases and Career choices Time Management Employer encounter Q&A

Year 9	Interests Skills Employer encounter Q&A	Exploring options in careers, education and training GCSE Options: Information, Advice & Guidance Careers Fair: employer engagement and learning about different career paths Employer encounter Q&A	Self-Advocacy Employer encounter Q&A
Year 10	Explore Learning Styles Understanding employability skills Employer encounter Q&A	Careers Fair: employer engagement and learning about different career paths Study skills and habits Mock Interviews and preparation assembly Exploring options in careers, education and training Employer encounter Q&A	Taster Day at FE College Tour of local Sixth Form College Employer encounter Q&A
Year 11	Post-16 Progression Talks: FE College Sixth Form College Apprenticeships Supporting Post -16 choices & applications FE College Tours Sixth Form College Tour Employer encounter Q&A	Careers Fair: employer engagement and learning about different career paths FE College Tours Sixth Form College Tour Consolidating plans for post-16 pathways Employer encounter Q&A	Consolidating plans for post-16 pathways

Premises and facilities

The school will make the Lower Hall, Performing Arts Centre (PAC), classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity.

The school will also make available audio visual 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 can 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 times and break times.

Complaints

Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk.