

THE ASPIRE ACADEMY

PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY

SEPTEMBER 2023 to AUGUST 2024

Signed:



Chair of Governors:

15/09/23

Date:

Signed:



Headteacher:

18.09.23

Date:

AIMS

This policy statement aims to set out our school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to pupils 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 pupils 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 the next section below).

Schools must also have a policy 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 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.

THE SIX ENCOUNTERS SCHOOL MUST OFFER TO ALL PUPILS IN YEARS 8-13

Schools must offer:

- Two encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (Yr8 or Yr9)
 - All pupils must attend.
 - Encounters can take place any time during Yr8, and between 1st September and 31st July during Yr9

- Two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (Yr10 or Yr11)
 - All pupils must attend.
 - Encounters can take place any time during Yr10, and between 1st September and 30th June during Yr11

- Two encounters for pupils during the 'third key phase' (Yr12 or Yr13)
 - Pupils can choose to attend.
 - Encounters can take place any time during Yr12, and between 1st September and 28th February during Yr13

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

The Aspire Academy will ask each provider to consider and prepare this information prior to meeting with pupils. The SEND needs of the pupil groups will also be clearly communicated and discussed with providers before any encounters take place. Providers may leave literature or website addresses to inform any follow-up activities.

MEANINGFUL PROVIDER ENCOUNTERS

The Aspire Academy is committed to providing meaningful encounters to all pupils.

An encounter is defined as one meeting/session between pupils and one provider. Meaningful encounters can take place by a visit, visitor or live online engagement is also an option at our school.

PUPIL ENTITLEMENT

All pupils in years 8 to 11 at The Aspire 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, e.g. through activities and events such as options events, assemblies and taster events
- 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 Lewis Thomas, Director of Lifelong Learning & Operations.

Telephone: 01905 455422, extension 204

Email: lthomas@theaspireacademy.org.uk

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACCESS

A number of yearly events, set out in our Careers Learning Journey, are integrated into our careers and transition programme. These are enhanced by numerous visits and encounters arranged by teachers to meet the needs and aspirations of the pupils in their classes.

Providers are welcome to contact us at any time over the year to request access to one of our planned events or to arrange a bespoke visit.

Careers Learning Journey Years 7 to 11

**THE CAREERS &
ENTERPRISE
COMPANY**

Vision Statement

The Aspire Academy is committed to providing a safe, containing, caring, good humoured and well-disciplined school where strong nurturing relationships and an understanding of childhood trauma and attachment issues are at the heart of everything; a world class Alternative Provision in which we present an environment where all pupils can thrive, grow, heal and achieve through a relentlessly reasonable approach to personal development; opportunities for pupils to build their social capital, resilience, self-esteem and a portfolio of recognised qualifications in order that they may make a positive next-step; all pupils with the opportunities to achieve a positive destination when they leave the Academy.

Contact: Lewis Thomas, Director of
Lifelong Learning
Email: lthomas@theaspireacademy.org.uk
Telephone: 01905 455422

Milestones and Learning Outcomes

Key Events and Experiences

Year 11

- Careers education units in PSHE to cover 'Preparing for Adult Life and 'Exam Preparation'.
- Curriculum based career opportunities via our KS4 Vocational Provision timetabled options on Wednesday's, Thursday's and Friday, to include accredited vocational options and work experience.
- Assemblies and presentations with a continued focus on post16 pathways.

Year 10

- Careers education units in PSHE to cover 'Diversity in the UK' and 'Work Experience'.
- Curriculum based career opportunities via our KS4 Vocational Provision timetabled options on Wednesday's, Thursday's and Friday, to include accredited vocational options and work experience.
- Assemblies and tutor group discussions about the range of post16 progression routes available.

Year 9

- Careers education units in PSHE to cover 'managing money' and 'focusing on careers and future options' where choices will tie in with their KS4 GCSE and Vocational Provision options.
- Assemblies and tutor group discussions to support KS4 curriculum choices, linking them to identified career pathways.
- Curriculum based career opportunities via the KS3 Vocational Provision timetabled options on Wednesday's and Thursday's

Year 8

- Careers education units in PSHE to cover 'managing transition and new surroundings', 'relationships with self and others', 'healthy friendships and relationships' and 'spending and saving'.
- Assemblies and tutor group discussions to introduce the concept of higher education.
- Curriculum based career opportunities via the KS3 Vocational Provision timetabled options on Wednesday's and Thursday's

Year 7

- Careers education units in PSHE to cover 'managing transition and new surroundings', 'relationships with self and others', 'healthy friendships and relationships' and 'spending and saving'.
- Assemblies and tutor group discussions to introduce the concept of higher education.
- Curriculum based career opportunities via the KS3 Vocational Provision timetabled options on Wednesday's and Thursday's

Year 11

Autumn Term
Interview Guidance
Practice Interviews
Careers Interviews
Employer 1:2:1 Workshops
Life Beyond School Event

Summer Term
Careers Interviews
Educational Encounters
Post16 visits
Traineeship & Apprenticeship applications

Spring Term
Application Guidance
Post16 Application Support
Educational Encounters
Skills Show
Careers Interviews

Year 10

Autumn Term
Employer Encounter
Educational Encounter
Life Beyond School Event

Summer Term
Careers Guidance
FE Talk
Apprenticeship Talk
Traineeship Talk

Spring Term
Employer Encounter
Educational Encounters
Work Experience Opportunities
Careers Guidance

Year 9

Autumn Term
Employer Encounter
Life Beyond School Event
KS3 Vocational Provision

Summer Term
RSPCA Animal Welfare
KS3 Vocational Provision
KS4 AP options process

Spring Term
Educational Encounters
KS3 Vocational Provision
Careers Guidance Access

Year 8

Autumn Term
Employer Encounter
Life Beyond School Event
KS3 Vocational Provision

Summer Term
KS3 Vocational Provision
Careers Guidance Access

Spring Term
Educational Encounters
RSPCA Animal Welfare
KS3 Vocational Provision

Year 7

Autumn Term
Employer Encounter
Life Beyond School Event
KS3 Vocational Provision

Summer Term
KS3 Vocational Provision
Careers Guidance Access

Spring Term
Educational Encounter
KS3 Vocational Provision

Inspiring and preparing young
people for the world of work.

GRANTING AND REFUSING ACCESS

All requests from providers will be welcomed and facilitated where possible. The following will be considered when granting access:

- level of course/provision offered
- relevance and accessibility to The Aspire Academy pupils
- locality of provider
- safeguarding
- bespoke opportunities can be planned although the school calendar and timetable must be taken into consideration.

SAFEGUARDING

Our safeguarding policy is available to view on The Aspire Academy school website.

Education and training providers will be expected to adhere to The Aspire Academy policies.

PREMISES AND FACILITIES

- Facilities will be available to enable providers to access pupils.
- All events should be organised and accessed through Lewis Thomas or Richard Rainbird-Hitchins.
- Providers are welcome to leave prospectuses or other material for pupils or parent/carers to access.

PREVIOUS PROVIDERS

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

Heart of Worcestershire College
Kidderminster College
Warwickshire College Group
NOVA Training
2 Counties Training
Worcester Apprenticeships

PUPIL DESTINATIONS

In 2022-23 our Yr11 pupils moved to a range of destinations:

- Heart of Worcestershire College
- Kidderminster College
- Bourneville College
- Worcester 6th Form College
- Dudley College
- Halesowen College
- Nova Training

COMPLAINTS

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

LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

The following relevant information can be found on The Aspire Academy school website:

- Safeguarding Policy (including Child protection)
- Careers Strategy
- Code of Conduct
- Complaints Policy

MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to pupils are monitored by Simon Stevenson, Headteacher.
This policy will be reviewed yearly by Lewis Thomas, Director of Lifelong Learning & Operations.

At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing board.

