



St Francis of Assisi
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

St Francis of Assisi Catholic College: Provider Access Policy

Introduction

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

Pupil entitlement

All pupils in years 8 to 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 pupils of compulsory school age these encounters are mandatory and there will be a minimum of two encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (year 8 to 9) and two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 10 to 11). For pupils in the 'third key phase' (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 pupils to attend.

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 pupils from the provider)
- answer questions from pupils.

Meaningful provider encounters

One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between pupils and one provider. We are committed to providing meaningful encounters to all pupils 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 pupils.

Previous providers



St Francis of Assisi
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

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

- Juniper Training
- Walsall College
- BMET College
- NOVA Training
- Skills Training UK
- University College Birmingham
- In-Comm Training

Destinations of our pupils

Last year our year 11 pupils moved to range of providers in the local area after school: 62 pupils in total moved to a technical education route, including:

- Walsall College (27 pupils)
- South Staffordshire College (6 pupils)
- BMET College (14 pupils)
- University College Birmingham (3 pupils)
- Football Education Programmes (2 pupils)
- Sandwell College (1 pupil)
- Access Creative College (1 pupil)
- Apprenticeships (4 pupils)
- Other Training Provider / FE College (3 pupils)

Last year our year 13 pupils moved to range of providers in the local area after school: 9 pupils progressed to different apprenticeships and 1 to a technical qualification at Walsall College.

Management of provider access requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact: Danielle Whitehouse, Careers Adviser, dwhitehouse2@stfrancis.cc or Leanne Blackmore, Careers Lead, lblackmore@stfrancis.cc

Opportunities for access

The school offers the **six provider encounters required by law** 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 pupils or their parents or carers.

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

Premises and facilities

The school will make the main hall, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and pupils, as appropriate to the activity. The school will also make available



St Francis of Assisi
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

AV and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Adviser or Careers Leader.

Meaningful online engagement is also an option and we are open to providers that are able to provide live online engagement with our pupils.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at the Careers Office, which is managed by the school Careers Adviser. The Careers Office is available to all pupils at lunch 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

Reviewed Date: February 2023

Next review: February 2024