



Provider Access Policy

Approved by Governing Body: 17th Sept 2025

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Dissemination of the Policy: All staff and Governors, School Website

History of policy changes

Date	Version	Change	Origin of change e.g. change in legislation, request by TU	Changed by

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1. Aims

At Pittville School we aim to provide all students from year 8 to 13 with meaningful opportunities to explore a wide range of future options.

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 provider who is given access

As a school we aim to:

- Develop knowledge and awareness among our students of all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships
- Support students in learning more about opportunities for education and training outside of school, before they make crucial choices about their future options
- Reduce drop-out from courses and avoid the risk of students becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training)

2. Statutory requirements

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 students in years 8 to 13 (see more detail in section 2.1 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](#)
- [Education and Skills Act 2008](#)
- [The School Information \(England\) Regulations 2008](#)
- The [Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022](#)
- 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.

3. Pupil entitlement

All students in years 8 to 13 at Pittville School are entitled to:

- Find out about further education training, 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, through a range of activities such as assemblies and taster events.
- Understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses
- Have a minimum of 6 encounters with providers

These encounters must happen for a reasonable period of time during the standard school day.

As a school we can provide complementary experiences but encounters outside of school hours won't count towards these requirements.

During years 8 and 9 students will have contact with the Army, NHS and 2 local FE colleges that also offer T-levels and apprenticeships.

During year 10 and 11 students will have contact with 9 local 6th forms and colleges that offer a wide range of post-16 pathways. This will be through assemblies and careers events.

Access to providers is available and promoted to allow all students to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. We are committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Students in year 8 and 9

All students in these year groups are offered:

- 2 encounters with education and training providers

- All students must attend
- Encounters can take place any time during year 8, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 9

Students in year 10 and 11

All students in these year groups are offered, as a minimum:

- 2 encounters with education and training providers
 - All students must attend
 - Encounters can take place any time during year 10, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 11

3.1 Meaningful encounters with providers

Our school is committed to providing meaning encounters for all students.

A meaningful encounter:

- Is where the pupil can explore what it is like to learn, develop and succeed in that environment
- Involves meeting both staff and learners/trainees
- Has a clear purpose
- Is underpinned by learning outcomes that are appropriate to the needs of the pupil
- Involves a 2-way interaction between the pupil and the provider
- Includes information about the provider, such as their recruitment and selection processes, the qualifications that provider offers and the careers these could lead to
- Describes what learning or training with the provider is like
- Is followed by opportunities for the pupil to reflect on the insights, knowledge or skills gained through the encounter

4. Management of provider access requests

4.1 Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Kathryn Lawton (Careers Lead)

Telephone: [01242 524787](tel:01242524787)

Email: klawton@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk

4.2 Information we ask from providers

As a school we ask each provider to provide the following information for our students:

- Information about your provision and the approved qualifications or apprenticeships you offer
- Information about what careers those qualifications and apprenticeships can lead to
- What learning or training with you is like
- Answers to any questions from students

4.3 Opportunities for access

There are a number of events, integrated into our careers programme, that offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to students and/or their parents/carers.

Please speak to our Careers Lead (Ms Lawton) to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Year 7 – Opportunities and Aspirations	Launch of Pittville Passport		Individual strengths, weaknesses, character attributes Launching Unifrog Drop down day – interviewing staff about careers and pathways	Enterprise visit		Enterprise day
Year 8 – Exploring jobs and careers				Assembly on specific sectors in Gloucs Types of career pathways Challenging stereotypes in NHS		Army skills visit
Year 9 – Future choices		Options information LMI GROWs workshop Linking options to possible careers				University Visit
Year 10 – Preparing for the world of work	Work Experience launch	Work experience support		Work experience preparation	University Visit	CVs Post 16 options
Year 11 – Preparing for Post 16	Applications to Post-16 Application forms and Interview Preparation	Applications to Post-16 mock interviews	Support with applications and interviews	Examination preparation Support with applications and interviews		

4.4 Live online encounters

We will consider requests for live online encounters with providers, which may be broadcast into classrooms or the school assembly hall. We will need to carry out technology checks in advance to make sure systems are compatible.

4.5 Granting and refusing provider access requests

Each access request will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

We will grant access requests where there is opportunity for a positive contribution to our careers programme.

4.6 Safeguarding

Our safeguarding/child protection policy outlines the school's procedure for checking the identity and suitability of visitors. You can find the policy at [here](#)

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

4.7 Premises and facilities

We will provide an appropriate room or assembly hall, with the necessary equipment providers require to carry out their visit effectively – details will be agreed with the provider.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature with our careers lead.

Providers will be met and supervised by a member of staff who will facilitate their visit.

5. Working with parents and carers

If you would like to speak to the school about encounters with providers, please contact Ms Lawton (klawton@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk) or Mr Raistrick (araistrick@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk)

We also welcome feedback from parents and carers to help improve our offer of encounters with providers and general careers provision. This can be shared by email at any time or through our parent surveys.

6. Previous providers

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

Hartpury College

Gloucestershire College

GROWS Gloucestershire

Cirencester College

NHS Careers

Army Careers

Spirax Sarco

Kohler Mira

Barnwood Construction

Kier Construction

Local school 6th forms

7. Pupil destinations

Last year, our year 11 students moved to a range of providers after school:

All Saints' Academy

Balcarras Sixth Form

Bournside Sixth Form

Cirencester College

Cleeve Sixth Form

Gloucestershire College

Pate's 6th Form

King's 6th Form

Hartpury College

Stroud College

Sir Thomas Rich's Sixth Form

Armed Services

Cheltenham Town Football Club Academy

Cotswold BMW

Kohler Mira

MPTC Gloucester

Spirax Sarco

Stage Door Learning

8. Complaints

Any complaints related to provider access can be raised by contacting Mr A Raistrick, Deputy Headteacher (araistrick@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk)

9. Links to other policies

Outline any links to other policies you have, such as:

- Careers guidance policy

10. Monitoring arrangements

Our school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students are monitored by Mr A Raistrick, Deputy Headteacher

This policy will be reviewed by SLT annually and approved by the governing board at every review.