

# Oak Bank School Policy

## Provider Access Policy

(Read with Careers Policy)



Prepared by Approved by	Review Period	GB / Committee	Date Approved	Date of Next Review
MP & SB	1 Year	SLT	Oct 2023	Oct 2024

## Provider Access Policy

### Appendix 1 Arrangements for Provider Access

#### 6.0 Provider Access

This section of the policy sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to pupils at 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.

All pupils in years 7-13 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.

**Appendix 1** shows the way in which education and training providers should get in touch with the school in order to gain access to pupils and/or parents to inform them about further opportunities

The school will then work with providers in order to identify the most effective opportunity for them to share information about education and training opportunities

#### Appendix 1

##### Provider Access Policy Statement

##### Management of provider access requests

A provider wishing to request access should contact

Mr Steve Ball, Careers & Post 16 Lead and Careers Tutor : [sball@oakbank.beds.sch.uk](mailto:sball@oakbank.beds.sch.uk)

Or Telephone: 01525 374559

Date updated: October 2023

##### Rationale

High quality careers education and guidance in school or college is critical to young people's futures. It helps to prepare them for the workplace by providing a clear understanding of the world of work including the routes to jobs and careers that they might find engaging and rewarding. It supports them to acquire the self-development and career management skills they need to achieve positive employment destinations. This helps students to choose their pathways, improve their life opportunities and contribute to a productive and successful economy.

As the number of apprenticeships rises every year, it becomes increasingly important that all young people have a full understanding of all the options available to them post-16 and post-18 including wider technical education options such as T-Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications.

##### Commitment

Oak Bank School is committed to ensuring there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students, for the purpose of informing them about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships. Oak Bank School is fully aware of the responsibility to set students on the path that will secure the best outcome which will enable them to progress in education and work and give employers the highly skilled people

they need. That means acting impartially, in line with the statutory duty, and not showing bias towards any route, be that academic or technical.

Oak Bank School endeavours to ensure that all students are aware of all routes to higher skills and are able to access information on technical options and apprenticeships (The Department of Education, July 2021: "Baker Clause": supporting students to understand the full range of education and training options, and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023).

### **Aims**

Oak Bank School policy for Access to other education and training providers has the following aims:

To develop the knowledge and awareness of our students of all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships.

To support young people to be able to learn more about opportunities for education and training outside of school before making crucial choices about their future options.

To reduce drop out from courses and avoid the risk of students becoming NEET (Young people not in education, employment or training).

### **Entitlement**

Oak Bank fully supports the statutory requirement for students to have direct access to other providers of further education training, technical training and apprenticeships. The school will comply with the new legal requirement to put on at least six encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships. This will be done through timetabled careers lessons, engagement in National Careers Week, National apprenticeship week, IAG with Local Authority Level 6 trained Personal Advisors, Post 16/18 Transition planning, External Provision and work readiness programme and visits to colleges and training providers.

### **Grounds for granting requests for access**

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers lessons, Careers and Post 16/18 Transition events that Oak Bank School is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with *Oak Bank School*.

Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access.

### **Premises and facilities**

Oak Bank School will make the Careers Room, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and pupils, as appropriate to the activity. The school will also make available any 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. Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature for display in the Careers Room. The Careers room is available to all pupils throughout the school day.

### **Live/Virtual encounters**

Oak Bank school will consider live online encounters with providers where requested, and these may be broadcast into classrooms or the school assembly hall. Technology checks in advance will be required to ensure compatibility of systems.

### **Parents and Carers**

Parental involvement is encouraged, and parents may be invited to attend the events to meet the providers.

### **Management**

The Careers Leader coordinates all provider requests and is responsible to his/her senior management line manager.

### **Complaints Procedure**

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to Mr Steve Ball, Careers & Post 16 Lead and Careers Tutor :  
[sball@oakbank.beds.sch.uk](mailto:sball@oakbank.beds.sch.uk)

Monitoring review and evaluation of Provider Access

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Senior Leadership Team and the school Governors.

Policy Reviewed: October 2023

**Providers who have been invited into Oak Bank School to date include:**

Central Beds College

Bedford College

Shuttleworth College

Barnfield College

MK College

GroundWorks

TCHC GAPS

Alter Rise

Department for Work and Pensions

University of Bedfordshire

Network Rail

BBC

Bedford Creative Arts

Central Beds LA

Luton LA

Hertfordshire LA

Bedford LA

Central Beds GRT Levelling Up

C&G Plastering Academy

Angling For Success

Christian Foundation

Educreate

Alumni

**Destinations of previous pupils from Oak Bank School include:**

Bedford College

ShuttleWorth college

MK College

Central Beds College

Barnfield College

Moulton College

TCHC GAPS

Christian Foundation

Ground Works

Hull College

C&G Plastering Academy

Princes Trust