LONSDALE

Provider Access Policy

Owner of Policy	**SN**
Date of Issue	**October 2026**
Review Date	**October 2027**

Lonsdale School
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1. Aims

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 person who is given access

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 pupils 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 pupils.

This is outlined in section 42B of the Education Act 1997, the Skills and Post-16 Education 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.

2.1 The six encounters schools must offer to all pupils in years 7 to 13

Schools must offer:

- 2 encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (year 7,8 or 9)
    - All pupils must attend
    - Encounters can take place any time during year 8, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 9
- 2 encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 10 or 11)
    - All pupils must attend
    - Encounters can take place any time during year 10, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 11
- 2 encounters for pupils during the 'third key phase' (year 12 or 13)
    - Pupils can choose to attend
    - Encounters can take place any time during year 12, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 13
    -

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

Lonsdale School provides encounters with training providers through the attendance of our transition advisor from 'Services for Young People' in our pupils EHCP reviews from year 9-13. In addition to this our transition advisors will hold 1:1 pupil interviews bi-annually for pupils in year 9-13.

Lonsdale School also holds transition forums each term, where pupils from year 8-13, along with their parents are invited to meet tutors from our three local colleges to gain information about further learning and training.

We also host external providers for a bespoke learning day, where pupils from year 8-13 have the opportunity to be involved in workshops from attending providers.

2.2 Meaningful provider encounters

Our school is committed to providing meaningful encounters to all pupils.

One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between pupils and one provider.

3. Pupil entitlement

All pupils in years 7 to 13 at Lonsdale School 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

4. Management of provider access requests

4.1 Procedure

All providers wishing to request access should contact Sinead North, our Careers and P16 Phase Leader.

Telephone: 01438 726999

Email: SNorth@lonsdale.herts.sch.uk

4.2 Opportunities for access

A number of events, integrated into our careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to students and/or their parents/carers:

Lonsdale School provides encounters with training providers through the attendance of our transition advisor from 'Services for Young People' in our pupils' EHCP reviews from year 9-13. In addition to this, our transition advisors will hold 1:1 pupil interviews bi-annually for pupils in year 9- 13.

Lonsdale School also holds transition forums each term, where pupils from year 8-13, along with their parents are invited to meet tutors from our three local colleges to gain information about further learning and training.

We host external providers for a bespoke learning day, where pupils from year 8-13 have the opportunity to be involved in workshops from attending training providers.

Opportunities for pupils to access providers are available through the delivery of our PHSE curriculum and Vocational Studies accreditation; these opportunities are arranged in line with the needs and aspirations of the pupils or cohort.

Please speak to our Careers and P16 Phase Leader to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

4.3 Granting and refusing access

Our Careers and P16 Leader will decide on and arrange access to pupils. Providers will be granted access if agreed to:

- Work-related learning days
- Curriculum days
- Transition Forums
- Identified opportunities within the PSHE curriculum or through assemblies

4.4 Safeguarding

Our safeguarding/child protection 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.

4.5 Premises and facilities

Lonsdale School has specialist classrooms, equipment and devices to enable providers to access pupils, including live streaming and remote and secure online meetings, where appropriate. The organisation of facilities is discussed and agreed when organising events and opportunities for providers to meet pupils, parents/carers. All providers are encouraged to leave prospectuses and other materials for students, parents and carers to read.

5. Previous providers

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

Oaklands College

North Herts College

Herts Regional College

Computer Centre

ELSA

6. Pupil destinations

Last year, our year 12 pupils moved to a range of providers in the local area after school:

Oaklands College

North Herts College

Herts Regional College

7. Complaints

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

8. Links to other policies

- Safeguarding/child protection policy
- Careers guidance policy
- Curriculum policies and statements
- Complaints policy

9. Monitoring arrangements

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to pupils are monitored by Sinead North, Careers and P16 Phase Leader.

This policy will be reviewed by the governing board,annually.