

Provider access policy statement (Baker Clause)

Approved by: Tracy Woodhead – Careers Leader

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Rationale

High-quality careers education and guidance in schools and colleges is critical to the futures of young people. It helps prepare them for the workplace by providing a clear understanding of the world of work, including the routes to jobs and careers they may find engaging and rewarding. Careers guidance also supports the development of essential self-development and career management skills, enabling students to make informed choices and achieve positive employment outcomes.

By helping students navigate their pathways, careers education improves life opportunities and contributes to a productive and successful economy. With the number of apprenticeships increasing each year, it is ever more important that all young people fully understand the range of options available to them post-16 and post-18, including wider technical education routes such as T-Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications.

Commitment

Royds Hall is committed to providing opportunities for a range of education and training providers to engage with students, ensuring they are informed about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships. The school recognises its responsibility to guide students towards pathways that will deliver the best outcomes, supporting their progression in education and work while supplying employers with highly skilled individuals.

This commitment requires impartiality, in line with statutory duties, ensuring no bias is shown towards any route—academic or technical. Royds Hall strives to ensure that all students are aware of the full spectrum of pathways to higher skills and have access to information on technical options and apprenticeships, in accordance with the Department for Education's "Baker Clause" (July 2021) and the Provider Access Legislation (January 2023).

Aims

The Royds Hall policy for access to other education and training providers has the following aims:

- To develop students' knowledge and awareness of all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships.
- To enable young people to explore opportunities for education and training beyond school before making important decisions about their future options.
- To help reduce course dropouts and minimise the risk of students becoming NEET (not in education, employment, or training).

Student entitlement

Royds Hall fully supports the statutory requirement for students to have direct access to providers of further education, technical training, and apprenticeships. The school will comply with the legal requirement to offer at least six encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships each year. These encounters will take place through assemblies, during National Careers Week, and at school-based careers events.

All students in Years 7 to 11 at Royds Hall are entitled to:

- Learn 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.
- Understand how to make applications for both academic and technical courses.

For pupils of compulsory school age, these encounters are mandatory. There will be a minimum of:

- Two encounters during the 'first key phase' (Years 7 to 9)
- Two encounters during the 'second key phase' (Years 10 to 11)

These provider encounters will be scheduled during main school hours, and each provider will be given sufficient time to:

- Share information about their institution and the approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships they offer.
- Explain potential career routes associated with these options.
- Provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with their organisation, including opportunities to meet staff and students.
- Answer questions from pupils.

Royds Hall is committed to ensuring that all students, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), have access to meaningful careers education and encounters with education, training and employment providers. Careers guidance and activities will be tailored, where appropriate, to meet individual needs, support successful transitions and raise aspirations for all students.

Management of provider access requests

Request for access

A provider wishing to request access should contact Tracy Woodhead, Careers Leader, in the first instance. Requests should outline the activities on offer and provide information about the organisation and the courses or programmes available.

Telephone: 01484 463366

Email: Tracy.woodhead@sharemat.co.uk

Opportunities for access

A number of events, integrated into our careers programme, provide providers with the opportunity to engage with students and/or their parents/carers. These events include:

- Annual careers fair
- Assemblies
- Mock interviews
- Kick Start programme
- National Careers Week activities
- Apprenticeship workshops
- Employer talks
- College and sixth form presentations

- Technical education taster sessions
- Workplace visits
- Careers-focused enrichment activities

Live / Virtual encounters

Royds Hall will consider live online encounters with providers when requested. These sessions may be broadcast into classrooms or the performance hall. Technology checks will be conducted in advance to ensure system compatibility.

Granting and refusing access

Access will be granted provided it is targeted to appropriate student groups, with a focus on vocational qualifications and apprenticeships.

Access may be refused if:

- Students already have access to similar events or information
- The proposed event does not fit within the school timetable
- The school's facilities cannot support the planned event

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

Royds Hall will provide an appropriate room, classroom, or Performance Hall for provider events, as agreed in advance. All rooms are equipped with computers, projectors, and screens, and computer rooms can also be arranged if needed.

The Careers Leader (Tracy Woodhead) or Careers Adviser (Tamsin Dyson) will coordinate with providers to ensure the facilities are suitable for the intended audience. Appropriate safeguarding checks will be carried out prior to any visit.

Providers will be met and supervised by a member of the Careers Team, who will facilitate the session. Providers are welcome to leave or post copies of their prospectuses for students, provided they have a vocational or technical focus. Providers offering 6th form/A Level qualifications can leave copies with Tracy Woodhead for inclusion in the Careers Library.

Safeguarding

Our safeguarding/child protection policy, available on our website, outlines the school's procedure for checking the identity and suitability of visitors.

Please note we are unable to allow USB drives or similar devices to be used on school computer equipment.

All presentations and other media should be emailed prior to the event to Tracy.woodhead@sharemat.co.uk

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

Parents and Carers

Parents and carers play an important role in supporting young people to make informed decisions about their future. The school will engage parents and carers through careers newsletters, information evenings, options events, provider encounters, careers fairs and information available on the school website. Parents and carers will be encouraged to attend careers-related events and provide feedback on careers provision. Their views and opinions will be used to evaluate and continuously improve the school's careers programme and provider encounters. Students and parents can access information relating to technical education pathways, apprenticeships, labour market information and post-16 opportunities through the school website. [Royds Hall, A SHARE Academy - Careers Information & Destinations](#)

Management

The Careers Leader coordinates all provider requests and reports to the designated senior leader responsible for careers education

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to Tracy Woodhead, email:

Tracy.Woodhead@sharemat.co.uk

Tracy Woodhead will raise the complaint to Emily Devane, Headteacher of Royds Hall.

Monitoring review and evaluation

The policy will be reviewed annually by the Careers Leader in consultation with senior leaders, governors, students, parents/carers and external partners to ensure continued compliance with Provider Access Legislation and alignment with the school's careers programme.

The impact of provider encounters will be evaluated through student, parent/carer and provider feedback. Findings will be used to inform future planning and ensure encounters continue to meet the needs of students. The school will analyse destination data annually to evaluate the effectiveness of careers education, information, advice and guidance and to identify areas for future development.

Links to other policies

- Safeguarding/ Child Protection Policy
- Careers Policy
- Curriculum Policy

Appendix

Providers who have been invited into Royds Hall to date include:

Askham Bryan College

LLS sports College

Kirklees College

Creative Media School

White Rose Beauty College

Ask Apprenticeships

Woodspeen

MCPT

Calderdale College

Shelley College

Greenhead College

Huddersfield New College

The Business Hub

Huddersfield University

Cambridge University

NHS (virtual) – focusing on vocational routes

Fotini Consultancy

Arnold Clark

Talent Foundry offering a RISE workshop

Animation Nation

NYBEP

BBC

ITV

Enterprise days

ESH construction