



Woodkirk Academy Provider Access Policy Statement

Under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997 and the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022 we have a duty to provide pupils in Years 8-13 with access to providers of post-14, post-16 and post-18 education and training. This policy statement sets out how we manage access requests from these providers.

What are pupils entitled to?

Pupils in Years 8 to 13 are entitled to:

- Learn more about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities, as part of a careers programme which informs pupils of the full range of education and training options available to them at each transition point,
- Hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities on offer, for example, technical education and apprenticeships – this can be achieved through options evenings, assemblies, group discussions, and taster events, and
- Understand how to apply to the full range of academic and technical courses available to them.

All pupils in Years 8 to 13 will receive at least six encounters with accredited providers of technical education and apprenticeships. These encounters will be divided accordingly:

- During the first key phase (Year 8 to Year 9) all pupils must attend two mandatory sessions by accredited providers,
- During the second key phase (Year 10 and 11) all pupils must attend two mandatory sessions by accredited providers, and
- During the third key phase (Year 12 and Year 13) there will be two sessions by accredited providers – these will be optional for pupils to attend.

What opportunities are provided to allow access to pupils?

Via our school careers programme, we offer providers numerous opportunities throughout the school year to speak to pupils and/or their parents.

These sessions will be scheduled during the school's main opening hours.

The school offers the six provider encounters that are legally required – these are marked with bold text below – and a number of additional events.

Our annual schedule of events is as follows:

Year 8	Destinations Day	University Visits	'Themed' Career Weeks
Year 9	Destinations Day	'Themed' Career Weeks	Careers Panel
Year 10	Destinations Day	College Taster Day	'Themed' Career Weeks
Year 11	Destinations Day	'Themed' Career Weeks	Guest Speaker Talks
Year 12	Destinations Day	Guest Speaker Talks	Work Experience
Year 13	Destinations Day	UK University & Apprenticeship Search Fair	Guest Speaker Talks

During these sessions, at a minimum, providers will be given enough time to:

- Share information about the provider and the approved technical qualifications and apprenticeships they offer,
- Explain what career routes these qualifications and apprenticeships could lead to,
- Provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with that provider, and
- Answer pupils' questions.

Which providers have previously been invited to the school?

In previous terms and academic years, the school has invited the following providers to speak to pupils:

- **Ahead Partnership**

Ahead Partnership work with employers and organisations all over the UK to help young people understand the latest information about sectors and skills in their region. They host a careers panel to students in school during National Apprenticeship Week and run mock interviews with sixth formers using their established employer contacts.

- **Businesses**

We work with many organisations throughout the school year, ranging from entrepreneurs, to local small to medium businesses, and multinational companies. We monitor Labour Market Information (LMI) and link curriculum subjects to the different sectors. All employers promote employability skills, apprenticeships, and graduate opportunities, when applicable. Some are listed below:

Architecture:	The Harris Partnership, Southgate & Sarabia, Spawforths,
Childcare:	Kaleidoscope/Muddy Boots
Construction:	Galliford Try, NG Bailey, RLB, Wilmott Dixon
Digital:	BJSS, Daisy UK Tech, DBS
Engineering:	Appris Training, Cummins, Sulzer
Finance:	Ernst Young, Kirk Newsholme, KPMG LLP, Mazars,
Law:	Eversheds Sutherland, Ministry of Justice
Manufacturing:	Harrison Spinks, Johnson & Johnson, Surfachem
Professional Services:	JBA Consulting, PWC, Rider Levett Bucknall, WSP
Leisure & Sport:	Gainzfit Gym, Leeds United Football Club
Film, Media & TV:	Sam Teale Productions

- **C+K Careers**

C+K Careers offer high quality, impartial guidance services for schools and colleges, and their IAG services are aligned against Gatsby Benchmarks and current Ofsted requirements. A team of qualified, skilled, quality-assured careers advisers work in school to offer every student a unique, individualised service which will maximise the student's potential - whether that be their academic journey or their future career aspirations and goals. Our advisers are on hand to deliver careers information, education, advice and guidance to students in years 7 to 13 at important events and transition points throughout the school year.

- **Colleges**

Leeds City College, Leeds College of Building, Wakefield College, Kirklees College, and The College of Animal Welfare deliver a 'College Taster Day' to our students. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to learn all about the further educational courses available and the facilities on offer on site. Colleges are included in our annual careers fair 'Destinations Day', where they will meet students from year 7 right through to year 13.

- **Employment & Skills Leeds**

Employment and Skills Leeds is part of Leeds City Council. They connect students with opportunities, promoting access to jobs, training and careers guidance and supporting employers with their recruitment and skills needs. They offer free support to educational establishments in England to increase awareness of skills, training, T Levels/HTQ's, apprenticeships, and events. They deliver their presentations/talks in our school and attend our annual careers fair 'Destinations Day'.

- **Enterprise Advisor - WSP**

WSP is a globally recognized professional services firm providing strategic advisory, engineering, and design services to clients in the transportation, infrastructure, environment, building, power, energy, water, and mining sectors. Our dedicated Enterprise Advisor will work closely with the Careers team to create more career learning opportunities for students to confidently enter the world of work.

- **Independent Training Providers (ITP's)**

We work with local independent training providers that can offer Pre-Apprenticeship programmes for young people aged 16-18 (up to 24 with an EHCP). ITP's support students to access vocational courses as well as Maths and English GCSEs/functional skills and work experience placements.

- **Public sectors**

We work with the public sector, such as the NHS, The British Army, West Yorkshire Police, RAF, HMP Services and with the Fire Services. They are invited into school to deliver presentations/talks, and to attend our annual careers fair 'Destinations Day' each year.

- **Universities**

We work closely with The University of Bradford, University of Huddersfield, Leeds Trinity University, and Leeds Beckett University to offer Higher Education Experience Days to our students. Students develop knowledge on a range of HE courses / subject areas, gain an awareness of what HE is like. They gain an understanding of 'what it is like' to be a university student and to make appropriate decisions about their future - for example what and where to study. Universities are also invited to attend our annual careers fair 'Destinations Day', where they will meet students from year 7 right through to year 13.

Destinations Data

Last year, our Year 11 pupils moved on to a range of providers in the local area after finishing school.

41% went to college, 56% stayed on at Sixth Form, 2% joined an apprenticeship scheme and 0% gained employment.

Last year, our Year 13 pupils moved on to a range of providers in the local area after finishing school.

55% went to university, 18% joined an apprenticeship scheme, 11% gained employment, 12% decided on a gap year, and 2% accepted other career options.

Who should providers contact to discuss events and options?

Providers can speak to our careers team to discuss possible attendance at relevant events. Email: careers@woodkirk.leodis.org.uk Telephone: 0113 887 3600

Our [Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy](#) sets out the school's approach to allowing providers into school to speak to our pupils.

What are the rules for granting and refusing access requests?

Access will be granted providing it is targeted to appropriate student groups. We look for providers with a particular focus on vocational qualifications and apprenticeships. Access may be refused if:

- Our students already have access to similar events or information,
- The event you plan would not fit into our school timetable, and/or
- Our facilities would not support the event planned.

What can providers expect once a request has been accepted?

Once we have approved a provider, we will work with them to identify the best method for providing access to our pupils.

We will make the school hall, classrooms and private meeting rooms available to host discussions between providers and pupils. We will also make presentation equipment, such as projectors and televisions, available to providers.

Arrangements will be discussed in advance between our careers team and a nominated member of the provider's team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus and other relevant course literature at the reception desk.

How are complaints regarding provider access managed?

If you have a complaint relating to the school's provider access arrangements, you can raise it in line with the school's [Complaints Procedures Policy](#) or you can contact The Careers and Enterprise Company directly on provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk

Approval and review

This policy statement was approved December 2025.

The next review will take place on December 2026.

Signed:  Chair of Governors

Signed:  Governor with responsibility for Careers

Signed:  Principal