WOODLANDS SCHOOL

Woodlands School Provider Access Policy Statement

Last updated: September 2026

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Under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997 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, the number and nature of provider encounters will be adapted to meet the needs and pathways of our learners. This policy statement sets out how we manage access requests from these providers.

What are pupils entitled to?

Pupils must be allowed 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.
- Understand how to apply to the full range of academic and technical courses available to them.

Who handles our access requests?

Any provider wishing to request access should contact our careers leader, **Emma Craig** on **01253 316722** or via email on **admin@woodlands.blackpool.sch.uk**.

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.

Who should providers contact to discuss events and options?

Providers can speak to our career's leader, **Emma Craig**, to discuss possible attendance at relevant events.

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?

We will grant access requests that meet the following criteria:

- DBS checked staff.
- Those without DBS must be accompanied by a member of school staff at all times.

We will refuse any access request that:

- We will endeavour to meet all requests that work around our timetable and school calendar of events**.**

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 career's leader and a nominated member of the provider's team.

Can providers leave prospectuses for pupils to read?

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus and other relevant course literature with the school office.

Approval and review

This policy statement was approved by the governing board on date.

The next review will take place on September 2027.

Kristina Penny Chair of governors

Karen Haworth Headteacher