



# Provider Access Policy Statement

## Alcester Grammar School

Approved by: AGS Governors Date: December 2024

Next review due by: December 2025

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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

### 1.1. Rationale

High quality careers education and guidance in school 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.

### 1.2. Commitment

Alcester Grammar 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. Alcester Grammar 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. Alcester Grammar 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).

## 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 6 encounters schools must offer to all pupils in years 8 to 13



We will ensure that we provide:

- Two encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (year 8 or 9) that are mandatory for all pupils to attend
- Two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 10 or 11) that are mandatory for all pupils to attend
- Two encounters for pupils during the 'third key phase' (year 12 or 13) that are mandatory for the school to put on but optional for pupils to attend

### **3. Pupil entitlement**

All pupils in years 8 to 13 at AGS 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. Embedding Provider Access Legislation into our Careers Programme**

In Years 8-13 all students will have at least one talk from a provider of technical education and/or apprenticeships. These encounters will be for a reasonable period of time and will take place during the school day.

Each talk will include:

- information about the provider and the approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships that the provider offers
- information about the careers to which those technical education qualifications or apprenticeships might lead
- a description of what learning or training with the provider is like
- responses to questions from the pupils about the provider or approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships

These encounters will happen for a reasonable period of time during the standard school day.

### **5. Management of provider access requests**

#### **5.1 Procedure**

A provider wishing to request access should contact Alcester Grammar School via Mrs Debbie Perry, Careers Leader, to discuss how appropriate and relevant their visit may be. Telephone: 01789 762494 Email: [d.perry@alcestergs.com](mailto:d.perry@alcestergs.com)

Access will be at the discretion of the school and will be judged on the nature of the provider, the appropriateness of the offering and the availability of the necessary space at a suitable time. Although access may be declined for a particular reason, it may be possible to agree to an alternative arrangement.

#### **5.2 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:

These include:

- Careers talks within subject lessons, the LIFE programme and assemblies
- Information evenings for parents/carers on Post 16 and Post 18 Options.
- Lunchtime talks led by employers, training providers and alumni
- Our annual year 12 Futures evening to which providers can talk to students and parents about apprenticeships.

In addition, we publicise events organised by providers and where appropriate take students to these. Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 students are informed about apprenticeship events such as the National Apprenticeship Show and the Festival of Apprenticeships in Birmingham.

In the AGS Careers Department we can provide information on provider websites/prospectuses. We also provide students with factsheets and newsletters which include information on all providers as well as contact details. The school employs a qualified Career Adviser who offers impartial careers information, advice and guidance to help ensure students can make informed career decisions about their next steps. We support students with applications to other providers and where appropriate liaise with providers to ensure a smooth and supported transition to further education and apprenticeships. A student can request an appointment at any time by emailing: [d.perry@alcesterags.com](mailto:d.perry@alcesterags.com).

### 5.3 Premises and facilities

- Alcester Grammar School will ensure that an appropriate space is allocated with suitable audio/ visual devices if needed for presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Leader or a member of the team.
- Providers are very welcome to leave prospectuses or other material for students to read and for display in school.

### 5.4 Safeguarding

Our safeguarding 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.

## 6. Pupil destinations

We are very proud of the destinations our pupils have gone on to.

Year 11 Destination	Number	Percentage
AGS 6th Form	116	75.8%
Other School 6th forms	22	14.4%
College of Further Education	14	9.2%
Apprenticeship	1	0.6%

In 2024 the majority of our year 11 pupils remained at AGS. Those who left went to a range of providers in the local area, including; King Edward VI School, Stratford upon Avon College, Hartpury College, WMG Academy for Engineers, Chipping Campden School, Worcester 6th Form, BOA, Warwickshire College, Solihull 6th form College and University College Birmingham.

Year 13 Destination	Number	Percentage
University*	178 (incl. 112 Russell Group)	72%
Gap Year/ applying to University in 2025	28	11%
Employment	15	6%
Higher/Degree Apprenticeships **	15	6%
Level 4 foundation courses	3	1%
Others/not known	10	4%

\* A full list of our 2024 year 13 University destinations can be found here:

[x AGS yr 13 destinations uni list & A level subjects.xlsx](#)

\*\* Our year 13 pupils who went on to degree apprenticeships went to companies including; Aston Martin, West Midlands Ambulance Service, BDO Finance, Stantec Civil Engineering, Volvo, KPMG, Kite Packaging & Deeley Group.

## 7. Complaints

Any complaints related to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure

[Complaints Procedure Sept 2024](#) or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via [provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk](mailto:provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk)

## 8. Links to other policies

[w Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy July 2024.docx](#)

[w Careers Guidance Policy 2024.docx](#)  
[7-11 Curriculum - Alcester Grammar School](#)

## 9. Monitoring arrangements

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to pupils are monitored by Debbie Perry, Careers Leader.

This policy will be reviewed by SLT each year. At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing board.