



Date of Issue	Provider access Policy	Policy Number
June 2021		
Review Date		Policy Owner
June 2023		FFO

1. Introduction

This policy statement sets out Bedford Free School's arrangements for managing the access of providers to pupils at the school for the purposes of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the Trust's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

2. Student entitlement

Students in years 7-11 at Bedford Free School are entitled:

- To find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeships opportunities, as part of a careers programme which provides information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition point.
- To hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships – through options evenings, assemblies and group discussions and taster events.
- To understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses

3. Management of provider access requests:

3.1 Procedure

Any provider wishing to request access should contact, Fizz Foley, Assistant Principal (Pastoral) and careers lead.

Telephone: 01234 332299

Email: efoley@bedfordfreeschool.co.uk

3.2 Opportunities for access

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

Autumn term:

1:1 career interviews for year 11
Year 9 grouped careers interviews
Next steps event for year 11
Progress evenings
Year 10 STEM day
Assemblies
Industry insights

Spring term:

STEM show for year 9
Progress evenings
Assemblies
Industry insights
National careers week activities
National apprenticeship week activities

Summer term:

Enabling enterprise for year 7
Work experience for year 10
6th form introduction events for year 10
Assemblies
Year 7 university visit
Industry insights

Please speak to our named careers lead to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

Bedford Free School's policies on safeguarding and visitors sets out our approach to allowing providers into academy as visitors to talk to our students. These can be found on our website. Education and training providers will be expected to adhere to this policy.

4. Premises and facilities

Bedford Free School will make the sports hall, drama studio and classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. We will also make available projectors and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the careers lead or a member of the pastoral team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature with reception.

5. Monitoring Arrangements

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students is monitored by Fizz Foley (Assistant Principal). This policy will be reviewed by BFS SLT every 2 years. At every review the policy will be approved by the local governing body.