



St Mary's R.C. High School

PER MARIAM

PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY

Document owner: Careers Advisor/Head of Careers

Reviewed: May 2025

Approved by: Full Governing Body on 2nd June 2025

Review date: 1 year from policy approved date

1. Introduction

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

2. Pupil Entitlement

All pupils in years 7-11 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 events, assemblies and group discussions and taster events;
- to understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

For pupils of compulsory school age these encounters are mandatory and there will be a minimum of two encounters for pupils during the “first key phase” (Year 8 to 9) and two encounters during the “second key phase” (Years 10 to 11).

These provider encounters will be scheduled during the main school hours and the provider will be given a reasonable amount of time to, as a minimum:

- share information about both the provider and the approved technical education qualification and apprenticeships that the provider offers;
- explain what career routes those options could lead to;
- provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with that provider (including the opportunity to meet staff and pupils from the provider);
- answer questions from pupils.

3. Meaningful Provider Encounters

One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between pupils and one provider.

Meaningful online engagement is also an option, and we are open to providers that are able to provide live online engagement with our pupils.

4. Previous Providers

Examples of providers invited to work with the school in previous years:

- Hereford College of Art;
- Hereford Sixth Form College;
- Herefordshire College;
- HWGTA;
- Balfour Beatty;
- West Mercia Police;
- CXCS
- Barclays Bank
- The Green Dragon Hotel
- Goodridge Electrical Contractors
- Cobb Amos

- Wye Valley Trust;
- University of Worcester;
- DWP;
- Midlands Air Ambulance;
- Futureproofed Media;
- Tiger Helicopters;
- Avara Foods;
- Hicks Architects;
- Allpay;
- Army;
- Royal Navy;
- RAF

5. Destinations of our Pupils

Last year our Year 11 pupils moved on to a range of providers in the local areas after school. The year group totalled 150 pupils.

- Hereford Sixth Form College 87;
- Hereford & Ludlow College 30;
- Hereford College of Art 9;
- Hartpury College 4
- Other Colleges/Sixth Forms 10;
- Apprenticeships 10.

6. Management of provider access requests

A provider wishing to request access should contact:

Mrs Pattison-Wake, Careers Adviser & Head of Careers	Miss Chloe Pattison Careers Admin Assistant
T: 01432 850416 E: APattisonWake@st-maryshigh.hereford.sch.uk	T: 01432 850416 E: cpattison@st-maryshigh.hereford.sch.uk

7. Opportunities for access

The school offers a comprehensive Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance programme and an overview of this programme can be seen in the Careers section of the website under the Curriculum header.

We also offer the four encounters required by law and a number of additional events, integrated into the school careers programme. We will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils or their parents or carers.

Please speak to our contacts above to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

8. Premises & Facilities

The school will make a suitable space available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. The school will also make available ICT and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Advisor or a member of their team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature with the Careers Advisor so that they can be displayed in the Careers Section of the school library.

9. Complaints

Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised following the School Complaints Policy or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk