

Watling Academy

PROVIDER ACCESS STATEMENT

April 2023

Watling Academy: Provider Access Statement

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to 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.

Pupil entitlement

All pupils in years 7 to 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 for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 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.

Meaningful provider encounters

One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between pupils and one provider. We are committed to providing meaningful encounters to all pupils using the [Making it meaningful checklist](#).

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

Previous providers

In previous terms/years we have invited the following providers from the local area to speak to our pupils:

- *FCDO*
- *Milton Keynes College*
- *Army*
- *Nifty Lift*
- *Morgan Sindall*

Destinations of our pupils

As a new school we currently have 840 students within Year 7-9. As student move through the school and transition through to the next stage of their education we monitor closely our cohorts intended destinations. This will be shared appropriately in areas such as our Provider Access Statement.

Management of provider access requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact *Jeremy Stormer*, Assistant Headteacher - *Careers Leader*, stormerj@watling.academy

For information regarding our child protection and safeguarding procedures please see the Denbigh Alliance Trust's Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy which can be accessed on the Trust's website www.thedenbighalliance.org.uk.

Opportunities for access

The school offers the six provider 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 Careers Leader to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

	Outline of Careers Programme
Year 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to Careers in Wellbeing. Lessons focus on developing skills and aspirations.• Students take part in Watling Careers Week activities linked to curriculum areas. They explore where different subjects could lead them. They are also introduced to a range of careers terminology during form time activities.• Engagement with employers, such as Nifty Lift.• Through STEM day they are introduced to key employability skills such as teamwork, communication and giving presentations.• Students are introduced to the Unifrog platform and begin to investigate different careers. They begin to record their skills development and other competencies.• There are opportunities for students to attend trips, such as Teentech Festival, MK Theatre Production, Science Leaders.• Careers Ambassadors play a role in development of the schoolwide approach to careers.
Year 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students explore different job opportunities through the Community and Careers unit of Wellbeing lessons.• Students take part in Watling Careers Week activities linked to curriculum areas. They explore where different subjects could lead them. Through a form time activity, they are encouraged to reflect on their skills and to engage a family members in a conversation about their own career path.• Students participate in the Worktree Virtual Career Workout, where they meet a variety of employers virtually and have the opportunity to ask them questions about their role.• Students will continue to use Unifrog to log and track their skills and experiences.• There are opportunities for students to attend trips, such as Nifty Lift – Women in Engineering, MK Theatre Production, Science Leaders.• Careers Ambassadors play a role in development of the schoolwide approach to careers.

Year 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students explore Goal Setting and Employability Skills through Wellbeing lessons. • Students take part in Watling Careers Week activities linked to curriculum areas. They explore where different subjects could lead them. They will be supported to develop an understanding of the role of specific Key Stage 4 qualifications in future career paths. • All students will have the opportunity to meet with an Independent Careers Advisor to discuss their GCSE options. Options lessons, assemblies and information evenings help ensure that students and parents have the information they need to make the best choices going into Key Stage 4. • Students will continue to use Unifrog to log and track their skills and experiences. • There are opportunities for students to attend trips, such as Career Inspiration- MK College, Design Museum, Science Leaders. • Careers Ambassadors play a role in development of the schoolwide approach to careers. • Employer engagement through talks/assemblies, such as Morgan Sindall.
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Premises and facilities

The school will make the main hall, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and pupils, as appropriate to the activity. The school will also make available AV and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Leader or a member of their team.

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

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature in the school library. The school library is available to all pupils at lunch and break times.

Complaints:

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

Approval and review

Approved: April 2024 by Local School Board

Next review: **January 2024**