

Provider Access Legislation (PAL)



PENKRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Devised and implemented: July 2025

Approved at Local Governing Committee: July 2025

Next Review: July 2026

Penkridge Middle School: Provider Access Policy

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 year 8:

- to find out about different qualifications and opportunities, as part of a careers programme which provides information of education and training options;
- to hear from a range providers about the opportunities they offer – through trips and visits, assemblies and group discussions and taster events;

For pupils of compulsory school age these encounters are mandatory and there will be a minimum of one encounter for year 8 during the 'first key phase' (Year 8).

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.

Destinations of our pupils

Last year our 100% of our year 8 pupils moved to a provider in the local area after Penkridge Middle School. This was Wolgarston High school.

Management of provider access requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Harriet Vine, Lead Teacher for Careers via office@penkridge-middle.org

Opportunities for access The school offers the one provider encounter required by law (marked in bold text) 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.

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 8		Mock Interviews – A number of adults come to the school from a variety of sectors to interview our children and give them experience of this process.	Impact project event at Gestamp for selected KS3 Pupils.

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 at the Careers Resource Centre, which is managed by the school librarian. The Resource Centre is available to all pupils at lunch and break times.

Complaints:

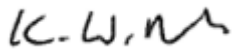
Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure.

Approval and review

Approved by Governors at Curriculum and Standards Committee

Next review: July 2026

Signed:



Kevin Maycock: Chair of Governors



Andy Grocutt: Head teacher