



Provider Access Policy

December 2024
Review December 2026

Introduction

This policy statement sets out Exceptional Ideas Ltd.'s arrangements for managing the access of providers to students at our schools for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the school's legal obligations under The Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022.

The term 'providers' includes, but is not limited to:

- Colleges of further education
- Sixth Form colleges
- Apprenticeships
- Technical Colleges
- Universities
- Work based training providers
- Specialist training facilities

The requirements of The Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022

Exceptional Ideas Ltd are obliged to:

- Provide at least four encounters with approved providers of apprenticeships and technical education for all their students:
 - 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.
- Give providers access to their students to include a minimum of 'at least two occasions during each of the first and second key phase of their education.
- Ensure that each student meets with a representative range of education and training providers to whom access is given and that the providers are providing the following set of prescribed information:
 - 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, and
 - responses to questions from the students about the provider or technical education qualifications and apprenticeships.
- Provide access for a reasonable period of time during the standard school day.
- Provide access to a representative range of education of training providers will need to include, where practicable, a university technical college.

How Exceptional Ideas Ltd will comply with our obligations

- We will ensure that we are accessible for providers to contact us to arrange visits and that all contact details are current.
- We will arrange careers events that expose students to different training providers and opportunities including technical education and apprenticeships. We will also facilitate group discussions and taster events.

- Each student will receive a full half term's education in opportunities awareness as part of their transition / aspiration lessons.
- During their time with us each student will be fully supported to understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses as part of our careers education programme.

Management of provider access requests

A provider wishing to request access should contact:

Alison Goode, Senior for Safeguarding and Transition, Telephone: 07754 271016. Email: alisongoode@exceptional-ideas.co.uk

Opportunities for access

We are an organisation that incorporates three schools and an outreach service. Although we do not operate traditional assemblies or careers fairs, we offer a range of careers events and education on a half termly basis that are open to all students. Ad-hoc sessions can be arranged to speak to specific year groups, although it should be noted that we teach students on a 1:1 basis and therefore have a limited number of students in each year group (up to a maximum of 29 students across all schools. There is no specified limit to the number of students within our outreach service).

Please speak to our Careers Leader, Alison Goode, to identify the most suitable method and location to speak with our students.

Premises and facilities

The school will make classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and students or can arrange a suitable alternative depending on group numbers, 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.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at the schools and it is requested that a minimum of three copies are made available to place in each individual school's careers resource library. This facility is maintained by the transition lead in each school. These resources are available to all students during transition / aspiration lessons and at lunch and break times.