

The Ellesmere Port C of E College



Provider Access Careers Policy

Policy Information:

Date prepared	Autumn 2025
Adopted by Governors	
Implementation Date	Autumn 2025
Frequency of Review	Immediate Annually
Date	Autumn 2026

Approved by Principal:

Cath Green

Approved by Chair of Governors:

Gordon McGuinness



Frank Field
Education Trust

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the College's arrangements for managing the access of providers to the college for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the college's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997 and the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022.

Student entitlement

All pupils in years 7 to 13 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 7,8 & 9) and two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 10 -11). For pupils in the 'third key phase' (year 12 to 13), particularly those that have not yet decided on their next steps, there are two more provider encounters available during this period, which are optional for pupils to attend.
- 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.
- 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

We have previously invited the following providers from the local area to speak to our pupils:

- NHS
- Navy
- Army
- Royal Air Force
- Fire Service
- Police
- Airbus

Destinations of our pupils

Last year our year 11 pupils moved to a range of providers in the local area after school:

- CCSW
- TTE
- The Ellesmere Port CofE College

Last year our year 13 pupils moved to a range of providers in the local area after school:

- CCSW
- TTE
- Liverpool University
- Liverpool Hope University
- John Moores

Management of provider access requests Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact our Senior Leader Responsible for careers:
SLT: Mrs Connolly, 0151 350 6000, Lconnolly@epcollege.org

Opportunities for access

The school offers the provider encounters required by law (marked in bold text) and a number of additional events, integrated into the school careers programme. Please speak to the members of staff identified above to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

The school policy on safeguarding indicates that visitors to the school would be expected to provide evidence of a recent DBS check or be accompanied by a member of the College staff at all times whilst in the building.

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 7	Inspirational Learning group	Fitz-William College Cambridge	
Year 8	Inspirational Learning group	Fire Service	
	NHS Apprenticeship	Fitz-William College Cambridge	
	Presentation from		
	The Vocational		
		University Visit	
Year 9		TTE Independent	<i>No encounters –</i>
		Training Provider	<i>legislation requires</i>
		Presentation from a	<i>encounters to take</i>
		local Engineering	<i>place by 28th February</i>
		provider.	<i>if in year 9</i>
		Year 9 Options Information Evening	
Year 10	Careers fair for pupils hosted by the Pledge.	Presentation from	Technical/vocational

	Meeting with Independent careers advisor (MPloy)	local college (CCSW) focusing on HE and T Levels. Royal Air Force Fire Service	tasters at local college/s training providers. Mock Interviews
Year 11	Army presentation to students to look at the wide range of jobs and careers available and how they can apply for them.	Meeting with careers advisor.	<i>No encounters – legislation requires encounters to take place by 28th February if in year 11</i> Confirmation of post 16 education and training destinations for all pupils
Year 12	Meeting with independent careers advisor (MPloy). Careers Fair hosted by The Pledge UCAS Support	Mock interviews	University visit to learn about HE courses and how to apply to university. Work Experience Week
Year 13		NHS Apprenticeship Presentation from The Vocational Development Manager at the Countess of Chester Hospital	<i>No encounters – legislation requires encounters to take place by 28th February if in year 13</i>

Premises and Facilities

When it is agreed between EPC and the provider that an in-school presentation or meeting with students is appropriate, the school will make an appropriate sized hall, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and students, 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 above members of staff. 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 which will then be displayed within our Careers area which is available to students at lunch and break times.

Complaints

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