



## **Houstone School provider access policy statement**

Under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997 and the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022 we have a duty to provide pupils in Years 8-11 with access to providers of post-14 and post-16 education and training. This policy statement sets out how we manage access requests from these providers.

### **What are pupils entitled to?**

Pupils in Years 8 to 11 are entitled to:

- Learn more about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities, as part of a careers programme which informs pupils of the full range of education and training options available to them at each transition point.
- Hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities on offer, for example, technical education and apprenticeships – this can be achieved through options evenings, assemblies, group discussions, and taster events.
- Understand how to apply to the full range of academic and technical courses available to them.

All pupils in Years 8 to 11 will receive at least four encounters with accredited providers of technical education and apprenticeships. These encounters will be divided accordingly:

- During the first key phase (Year 8 to Year 9) all pupils must attend two mandatory sessions by accredited providers
- During the second key phase (Year 10 and 11) all pupils must attend two mandatory sessions by accredited providers

### **What opportunities are provided to allow access to pupils?**

Via our school careers programme, we offer providers numerous opportunities throughout the school year to speak to pupils and/or their parents/carers.

These sessions will be scheduled during the school's main opening hours.

The school offers the four provider encounters that are legally required – these are marked with bold text below – and a number of additional events.

Our annual schedule of events is as follows:

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Year 8		Learning My Future: Engineering (Assembly)	<b>Bright Horizons Apprenticeship Event</b>
Year 9	What is An Apprenticeship? (Assembly)	<b>Options Evening- local providers invited</b>	
Year 10	<b>Dunstable College Information Assembly</b>		SEND Study Programmes (Workshop)
Year 11	Apprenticeship Rapid Reads (Tutor Programme)	<b>Luton &amp; Dunstable Hospital Apprenticeship Presentation</b>	

During these sessions, at a minimum, providers will be given enough time to:

- Share information about the provider and the approved technical qualifications and apprenticeships they offer.
- Explain what career routes these qualifications and apprenticeships could lead to.
- Provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with that provider.
- Answer pupils' questions.

#### **Who should providers contact to discuss events and options?**

Providers can speak to our careers leader, Mr. Rowe, to discuss possible attendance at relevant events, as well as the rules for granting and refusing access requests.

Our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy sets out the school's approach to allowing providers into school to speak to our pupils.

#### **What can providers expect once a request has been accepted?**

Once we have approved a provider, we will work with them to identify the best method for providing access to our pupils.

We will make the school hall, classrooms and private meeting rooms available to host discussions between providers and pupils. We will also make presentation equipment, such as projectors and televisions, available to providers.

Arrangements will be discussed in advance between our careers leader and a nominated member of the provider's team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus and other relevant course literature with the careers leader.

#### **How are complaints regarding provider access managed?**

If you have a complaint relating to the school's provider access arrangements, you can raise it in line with the trust's Complaints Policy or you can contact The Careers and Enterprise Company directly on [provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk](mailto:provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk).

#### **Approval and review**

This policy statement was approved by the Board of Trustees on 24 May 2023.