

Provider Access Policy

Policy Update: February 2025

Review Date: April 2026

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 8 to 11 are entitled to:

- Find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeships opportunities as part of a careers programme covering all available post-16 education and training options.
- Hear from a range of local providers about their education and training opportunities through assemblies, group discussions, workshops, and taster events.
- Understand how to apply for the full range of academic and technical courses.

For pupils of compulsory school age, these encounters are mandatory:

- Two encounters for pupils in the 'first key phase' (Years 8 to 9).
- Two encounters for pupils in the 'second key phase' (Years 10 to 11).

These encounters will take place during the school day and will allow providers to:

- Present information about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships.
- Explain career pathways linked to their courses.
- Provide insights into their learning environment, including meeting staff and students.
- Answer questions from pupils.

Meaningful Provider Encounters

A provider encounter is defined as one meeting/session between pupils and one provider. Gartree High School is committed to ensuring these encounters are meaningful by following the "Making it Meaningful" checklist provided by the Careers & Enterprise Company.

Co-Headteachers: Mr Ed Wilson, Mr Will Carter
Deputy Headteacher: Mr Matt Wills
Assistant Headteachers: Mr Ed Ablett, Mrs Vanessa Mehta
Telephone: (0116) 2717421
Email: admin@gartree.leics.sch.uk
Website: www.gartree.leics.sch.uk

We also offer meaningful online engagement and are open to providers who can facilitate live virtual sessions with students.

Previous Providers

In previous terms/years, we have invited a wide range of post-16 providers to speak to our pupils, including Sixth Forms, Colleges, Apprenticeship and Vocational Training providers, as well as industry professionals. Below is a sample list of provider encounters we have had:

- Sixth Form Providers: Beauchamp College, Beauchamp City Sixth Form, WQE, Gateway College, Wigston College, Leicester Grammar School, St Paul's Sixth Form.
- Colleges & Vocational Training: Leicester College, Loughborough College, North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College (NWSLC), SMB Group.
- Workplace & Apprenticeship Providers: Hays Recruitment, RAF, Royal Navy, LEBC Apprenticeships.
- Healthcare & Medical Careers: Medicine Calling (Careers in Mental Health), NHS Careers, Nursing – How to gain entry sessions.
- Career and Employer Talks: Speedy Speakers (professionals from different industries discussing their careers), LCCC Early Years Inclusion & Childcare Services.
- Post-16 Preparation Sessions: Connexions & HM Government apprenticeship and vocational qualification sessions, analysis of all local colleges, online presentations from Leicester College & Wigston College, year 11 information evenings with multiple post-16 institutions.

Destinations of Our Pupils Last year, our Year 11 pupils progressed to a range of post-16 providers, including:

- WQE – 41%
- Beauchamp College – 25%
- Beauchamp City Sixth Form – 4%
- Leicester College – 13%
- NWSLC – 3%
- Wigston College – 4%
- Loughborough College – 2%
- St Paul's College – 4%
- SMB College – 1%
- Leicester Grammar School – 0.5%
- Northampton College – 0.5%
- Apprenticeship – 0.5%
- Army – 0.5%
- Left Country – 0.5%
- NEET – 0.5%

Management of Provider Access Requests

Procedure Providers wishing to request access should contact: Ed Wilson, Co-Headteacher, via:

- Telephone: 0116 2717421
- Email: admin@gartree.leics.sch.uk
- Careers Governor: Rebecca Ginvert

The school reserves the right to decline provider requests if:

Gartree High School



- The request would result in an imbalanced representation of available provision (e.g., multiple apprenticeship providers but no colleges at an event).
- The requested visit would duplicate content already covered within the same academic year.
- The provider's input is deemed not in the best interest of pupils or raises ethical concerns.

If a provider's request is declined, they can appeal by contacting the Co-Headteacher, and further appeals can be made to the Chair of Governors.

Opportunities for Access Gartree High School offers the six provider encounters required by law (marked in bold) and additional opportunities for pupils and parents/carers:

Mandatory Provider Encounters

1. Years 8 and 9 – Assemblies with providers of approved technical education qualifications and/or apprenticeships (Summer Term).
2. Year 9 – Additional assembly with a provider of technical education qualifications and/or apprenticeships (Summer Term).
3. Year 10 – Two assemblies with providers of technical education qualifications and/or apprenticeships (Summer Term).
4. Year 11 – Assembly in the Autumn Term with a provider of technical education qualifications and/or apprenticeships.

Additional Provider Opportunities

1. Year 11 Post-16 Provider Event – A dedicated evening event where multiple post-16 providers present options to students and parents.
2. Curriculum-Linked Career Speakers – Industry professionals integrated alongside chosen subjects.
3. In-School Careers Weeks & Workshops – Career-focused sessions and employer engagement.
4. Aspirational Alumni Programme – Former students returning to share their experiences and career journeys.
5. Mock Interviews & Workplace Skills Development – Sessions with local employers and industry professionals.

Premises & Facilities Gartree High School will provide:

- A suitable space (e.g., the main hall, classrooms, or private meeting rooms) for presentations and discussions.
- Audio-visual equipment and specialist resources as required.
- Options for online engagement where in-person visits are not feasible.

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Providers are encouraged to leave prospectuses and other course literature for students, which can be submitted to the School Reception, FAO Ed Ablett, or sent via email.

Complaints

Any complaints regarding provider access should follow the school's complaints procedure or be directed to The Careers & Enterprise Company via provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk.

Approval & Review

This policy will be monitored and reviewed annually to ensure compliance with current legislation and best practice.

Approved by Governors: February 2025

Signed: Ed Ablett, Assistant Headteacher and Careers

Lead Signed: Ed Wilson, Co-Headteacher