



Careers and Provider Access Policy

APS Policy Management

Document history

Review date	Version	Reviewer / owner (role)	SLT review	Approving body	Meeting date of policy approval
10/11/2025	2	J.Maddern	10/11/2025	LGC	24/11/2025 (approved online)

Material changes since last publication

Section	Changes
3	Changes to Careers Lead and contact information and general updates

This policy is reviewed every two years. The next review is due by November 2027.

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1. Introduction

The Trust intends and expects that all decisions, policies and procedures will be underpinned at all times by its vision and values.

Our aim:

TPAT – Inspiring futures, empowering people.

We aim to benefit our communities by nurturing well-educated, aspirational and creative young people. We exist to inspire futures and empower all our people. We achieve this by enriching and fulfilling our employees with the investment to become masters of their craft, all working together to realise exceptional outcomes for young people.

To achieve this our schools will:

- Create an aspirational, driven, and highly engaging educational environment where every pupil can succeed.
- Commit to knowing each pupil individually and empowering them to excel.
- Deliver the highest quality learning opportunities facilitated by excellent teachers.
- Inspire our pupils to become confident, motivated and respectful individuals ready to make a positive contribution to society.

The Trust will support our schools by:

- Providing the resources and stability schools need to work efficiently and effectively, overcoming challenges and prioritising education every day.

- Providing a platform for collaboration, sharing excellence and experience, and fostering unity and shared purpose.
- Nurturing our Trust's 'culture of improvement' where staff thrive in a safe, supportive network, embracing feedback and professional dialogue to drive sustainable improvement.

1.1 Aims and Scope

The Careers and Provider Access policy has the following aims:

- To develop the knowledge and awareness of our students of all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships.
- To support young people to be able to learn more about opportunities for education and training outside of school before making crucial choices about their future options.
- To reduce drop out from courses and avoid the risk of students becoming NEET (Young people not in education, employment or training).

1.2 Other Linked Policies

This policy supports and is underpinned by key school policies including those for Careers, Child Protection, Equality and Diversity, and SEND.

2. Policy Statement

Rationale

High quality careers education and guidance in school or college is critical to young people's futures. It helps to prepare them for the workplace by providing a clear understanding of the world of work including the routes to jobs and careers that they might find engaging and rewarding. It supports them to acquire the self-development and career management skills they need to achieve positive employment destinations. This helps students to choose their pathways, improve their life opportunities and contribute to a productive and successful economy. As the number of apprenticeships rises every year, it becomes increasingly important that all young people have a full understanding of all the options available to them post-16 and post-18 including wider technical education options such as T-Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications.

2.1 Policy Terms

NEET is an acronym for "not in education, employment, or training". This describes young people who are unemployed and not in any form of education or training after leaving school.

3. Guidance and Procedures

Commitment

Abbey Park School (APS) is committed to ensuring there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students, for the purpose of informing them about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships. APS is fully aware of the responsibility to set students on the path that will secure the best outcome which will enable them to progress in education and work and give employers the highly skilled people they need. That means acting impartially, in line with the statutory duty, and not showing bias towards any route, be that academic or technical. APS ensures that all students are aware of all routes to higher skills and are able to access information on technical options and apprenticeships

Student Entitlement

APS fully supports the statutory requirement for students to have direct access to other providers of further education training, technical training and apprenticeships and meaningful careers encounters in line with Gatsby benchmarks. APS will ensure that all Year 11 students have access to a careers advisor interview.

Requests for access

Requests for access should be directed to James Maddern, Assistant Principal (Personal Development). James Maddern may be contacted by email via admin@abbeyparkschool.org.uk.

Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers or PSHCE lessons, in addition to any diarised events. Requests at other times will be considered and, where possible, facilitated. Year 10 students are offered the opportunity to travel to TPAT Sixth Form, Cirencester College, New College Swindon North Star and New College Swindon Queens Drive for organised taster days organised by the providers through the school. APS will promote and share flyers for any provider who contacts the school with the relevant information about their open events.

Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access

APS will provide an appropriate room or assembly hall to be agreed. All rooms have computers, projectors and screens provided. Computer rooms can also be arranged. The Careers Lead will organise this, working closely with the provider to ensure the facilities are appropriate to the audience. Appropriate safeguarding checks will be carried out. Providers will be met and supervised by a member of the Careers Team who will facilitate.

Live/Virtual encounters

APS will consider live online encounters with providers where requested, and these may be broadcast into classrooms or the school assembly hall. Technology checks in advance will be required to ensure compatibility of systems.

Parents and Carers

Parental involvement is encouraged, and parents may be invited to attend the events to meet the providers.

4. Appendix

Providers who have been invited into APS to date include:

Cirencester College

New College Swindon

Green Labyrinth

TPAT Sixth Form

GWA Sixth Form

Swindon UCT

Destinations of previous pupils from APS include:

Cirencester College

New College Swindon Queens Drive

New College Swindon North Star

Great Western Academy Sixth Form

The Park Academies Trust Sixth Form

Commonweal Sixth Form

Wiltshire College

Hartpury College

Farmors' Sixth Form

Wootton Bassett Academy Sixth Form