



Provider Access Policy

Written	February 2020
Date of review	February 2022
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Signed: Head Teacher	_____
Chair of IEB	_____

Introduction

Under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997, as of January 2018, we have a duty to provide students in year 8 – 13 with access to providers of post-14, post-16 and post-18 education and training. This policy statement sets out how we manage access requests from these providers.

Student entitlement

Students are entitled to:

- Find out about technical education qualification and apprenticeship opportunities, as part of a careers programme which provides information on 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 they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships – through Annual Reviews of Education Health and Care plans, assemblies, taster events, e.g. in-house vocational workshops and group discussions within lessons
- Understand how to make applications for a range of academic and technical courses appropriate to them and their SEND.

Management of provider access requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Rennie Townsend, Bespoke Pathways Worker, on 01865 771703.

Opportunities for access

Where appropriate, we offer providers the opportunity to speak with students and/or their parents/carers, usually during an Annual Review meeting or during assemblies. Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus and other relevant course literature in reception, for the initial attention of Rennie Townsend, Bespoke Pathways Worker. Providers are also invited into school to support with assemblies or class-based discussions about careers, future educational placements, apprenticeships, etc.

Guidelines for granting and refusing access

The Orion Academy will grant access requests that meet the following criteria:

- The provider has detailed knowledge of the nature of the SEND of Orion Academy students
- The provider can offer appropriate pathways for the students, on both an academic and pastoral level

The Orion Academy will refuse any access request that:

- The academy believes is not in the best interests of the students
- Does not meet the educational requirements of the students e.g. the provider offers unrealistic academic qualifications

Premises and facilities

Once the provider has been approved, the academy will work with them to identify the best method for providing access to the students. The academy will make the hall, classrooms or meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Safeguarding

The Orion Academy's Child Protection and Safeguarding policies outline the academy's approach for welcoming providers into school to speak with the students.

The following policies support this policy:

- Vocational Learning policy
- Careers Education, Information and Advice policy (CEIAG)