

Thomas Deacon Academy: Provider Access Policy 2021-2022

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to pupils at the school for the purpose of giving them information about the providers' education or training offer. This complies with the schools' legal obligations under section 42B of the Education Act 1997 and the Technical and Further Education Act 2017.

Student entitlement

All students in years 8-13 are entitled:

- To find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship 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 opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships – through options events, assemblies, group discussions and taster events;
- To understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses/programmes.

Management of provider access requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Michala Jackson, Assistant Principal: tel: 01733 426060 email: careerseducation@tda.education

Opportunities for access

A number of events, integrated into our academy's careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to students and/or their parents/carers (subject to current local or national restrictions which may require access to be virtual only). This is integrated into our wider careers strategy. The events listed below are subject to change and are in some cases outside the planned programme.

Year	Terms 1 & 2	Term 3 & 4	Terms 5 & 6
8			Build a business
9	Y9 pathways	Eyes on the Prize	University visit
10	Meet the professionals	Sports careers workshops	Post 16 taster sessions FE college visits

11	Careers interviews	Apprenticeship workshops	Parents information evenings
12	Vision activities	Workshops and guest speakers	Futures Focus events
13	Preparation for university applications	Work-skills workshops Mock interviews	

Granting and refusing access to providers

Access will be provided based on meeting the following criteria:

- Adequate rooms and equipment are available, based on existing timetable and letting commitments
- Staff are available to attend, taking account of participant numbers and teaching timetables and ensuring DBS regulations are met
- Students are available to attend, depending on the dates requested and curriculum considerations
- Providers offer impartial, unbiased, and high-quality content meeting equal opportunity requirements
- Providers are GDPR compliant

Safeguarding

Thomas Deacon Academy is committed to keeping children safe and our Safeguarding and Child Protection policy outlines the school's procedure for checking the identity and suitability of visitors. Education and training providers will be expected to adhere to this policy which is available on our website.

Premises and facilities

Classrooms and meeting rooms can be made available for discussions between providers and students depending on the activity. AV and other specialist equipment can be supplied to support provider presentations. This would be discussed and agreed in advance of a visit.

Approval and review:

Next review: January 2023