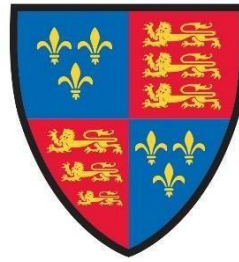


**THE SCHOOLS OF  
KING EDWARD VI  
IN BIRMINGHAM**

*In pursuit of educational excellence for all*



**KING EDWARD VI  
ACADEMY TRUST  
BIRMINGHAM**

## Provider Access Policy

Responsible Board	Welfare Committee
Policy Officer	Kieran Lynch
Date Adopted	November 2025
Review Date	November 2026
Version	4

## **King Edward VI Balaam Wood Academy Provider Access Policy**

King Edward VI Balaam Wood Academy 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. King Edward VI Balaam Wood Academy 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.

King Edward VI Balaam Wood Academy endeavours to ensure that all students are aware of all routes to higher skills and can access information on technical options and apprenticeships (The Department of Education, July 2021: "Baker Clause": supporting students to understand the full range of education and training options, and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023).

### **Pupil entitlement**

All pupils in Years 7-11 are entitled to:

- Find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities, as part of a careers programme that provides information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition point.
- Hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships through options events, assemblies, group discussions, and taster events.
- Understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

**For pupils of compulsory school age these encounters are mandatory and there will be a minimum of two encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (year 8 to 9) and two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 10 to 11)**

These provider encounters will be scheduled during the main school hours, and the provider will be given a reasonable amount of time, to as a minimum:

- Share information about both the provider and the approved technical education qualification and apprenticeships that the provider offers.
- Explain what career routes these options could lead to
- Provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with that provider (including the opportunity to meet staff and pupils from the provider) and answer questions from pupils.

### **Meaningful provider encounters**

One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between pupils and one provider. We are committed to providing meaningful encounters to all pupils using the [Making it meaningful checklist](#).

Meaningful online engagement is also an option, and we are open to providers that can provide live online engagement with our pupils.

### **Aims**

The King Edward VI Balaam Wood Academy's policy for Access to other education and training providers 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).

### **Opportunities for access**

We welcome input into our careers provision from employers, employees, Universities, Apprenticeship, Higher and Further education providers. Our connections include former pupils, parents and local employers and providers and we are keen to widen this participation.

A number of events, integrated into the school careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils and/or their parents/carers. These include:

- Weekly careers-focused form time sessions.
- Mock interviews for Year 10.
- Enrichment days when pupils in KS3 and KS4 receive enterprise and career-focused workshops.
- Career Shorts for all years.
- A week's work experience for Year 10.
- Assemblies on apprenticeships, A-level options, and careers.
- Workplace visits
- Visits and input from outside agencies to support the curriculum in all subject areas (e.g., performance poets, authors, HSBC, Paradise Birmingham, Ahead Partnerships & The Talent Foundry).

### **Requests for access**

Requests for access should be directed to Miss Yolanda Duckworth (Careers Leader) who may be contacted by email [y.duckworth@bwa.kevibham.org](mailto:y.duckworth@bwa.kevibham.org) or telephone 0121 464 9901.

### **Grounds for granting requests for access**

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers or Life lessons, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that King Edward VI Balaam Wood Academy is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with King Edward VI Balaam Wood Academy.

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

King Edward VI Balaam Wood 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 Leader 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. Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant literature in the library to be made available in the careers resource section, which is managed by the School Librarian. This resource is available to pupils before, during and after school.

### **Live/Virtual encounters**

King Edward VI Balaam Wood Academy 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.

### **Development**

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually in September by Miss Y Duckworth (Careers Leader) and Mr K Lynch (Deputy Head Teacher) based on current good practice guidelines by the Department for Education.

### **Links with other policies**

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

### **Equality and Diversity**

Access to other providers is available and promoted to allow all students to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. King Edward VI Balaam Wood Academy is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

### **Parents and Carers**

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

### **Previous providers**

In previous terms/years we have invited the following providers from the local area to speak to our pupils:

- Halesowen College
- Newman University
- King Edward VI Fiveways Sixth Form
- University College Birmingham
- South & City College
- Cadbury College
- Access Creative College
- Lordswood Sixth Form

### **Complaints**

Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure. Complaints will be acknowledged within 5 working days.

If the issue is not resolved, providers may escalate concerns directly to The Careers & Enterprise Company via [provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk](mailto:provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk)

