

## St Mary's Catholic College

### Provider Access Policy – 2024-2025 (updated 21/10/24)

#### 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 13 are entitled to:

- Find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeships opportunities, as part of a careers programme which 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 and 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). For pupils in the 'third key phase' (year 12 to 13), particularly those that have not yet decided on their next steps, there are two more provider encounters available during this period, which are optional for pupils to attend.**

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 those 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)
- 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 are able to provide live online engagement with our pupils.

## Previous providers

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

- Aldi/IDG
- ASK – apprenticeship support
- Nestle' – apprenticeships
- Home Office/Civil Service - apprenticeships
- Airbus – apprenticeships
- Air-Products
- Atkins Realis
- Armed Forces - apprenticeships
- Wirral Metropolitan FE College
- LLS Sports Academy
- Steven Gerrard Academy
- Reeseheath Agricultural College
- LIPA
- BBC - Apprenticeships

In 2024-2025, so far this year, we have added:

- Birkenhead Sixth Form College
- Liverpool Life Science
- NHS

Going forward, we will continue to build meaningful partnerships with a variety of further education and higher education establishments, as well as consolidating and developing our relationships with local and national business organisations. In addition, we will add to our Alumni as former students leave us to pursue what we hope will be truly rewarding futures.

## Destination Data for our pupils – Year 11 (2023-24)

Last year (Sept. 2024) our year 11 pupils moved to a range of providers as detailed below:

Destination	Number of students
St Mary's Sixth Form	55
Wirral Metropolitan College	39
Birkenhead Sixth Form	15
Apprenticeships	13
LIPA	5
Morthyng Vocational College	4
Everton College	3
CareerConnect Engage	3
Reaseheath Agricultural College	2
St Anselm's	2
Unknown	2
Cheshire West College	1
Chester Business School	1
LME Game Design	1
St John Plessington	1

Tranmere Rovers Academy	1
Weatherhead	1
Hugh Baird College	1
City of Liverpool College	1
The Learning Foundry	1
Wesk Kirby Grammar	1
Moved out of borough	1
Neet	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>155</b>

## Destination Data for our pupils – year 13 (2023-2024)

Last year (Sept. 2024) our year 13 pupils moved to a range of providers after leaving sixth form:

<b>DESTINATION</b>	<b>Number of pupils</b>
Apprenticeships	16
Liverpool John Moores University	10
Return to SMCC (resits)	6
Edge Hill University	3
University of Liverpool	2
Gap Year	2
University of Staffordshire	1
University of Central Lancashire	1
University of Chester	1
University of Leeds	1
Leeds Beckett University	1
LMA	1
Liverpool Hope University	1
Northumbria University	1
Birmingham University	1

Bangor University	1
TOTAL	49

## Management of provider access requests

### Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact:

Les Wellens

Careers Lead – HFCMAT

Via email – [leswellens@hfcmat.com](mailto:leswellens@hfcmat.com)

Or contact by phone – 0151 639 7531 – Extension 208

### Opportunities for access

The school facilitates at least six ‘training provider’ encounters, during the three ‘key phases’, on a rolling basis, as required by law (**marked in bold text**), as well as a number of additional ‘whole year’ events, integrated into the school careers programme.

Dates for planned events for 2024-2025, where known, are entered in the school calendar and will be added to as the year progresses, dependent on events being sourced and requests agreed.

PLEASE NOTE – PAL policy information and destination data for previous years is also available, as a separate document (see website).

<b>CAREERS 2024-25</b>					
YEAR GROUP	EVENT	EVENT	EVENT	EVENT	EVENT
YEAR 7		Careers Fair – over 30+ organisations in sports hall – FE/HE and companies providing direct access for students to discuss future pathways/qualifications/future courses 13/11/24	Enterprise Day – National Careers Challenge – TILG in school to conduct all day workshops – 4/3/24	Whole Year Group residentials to Savio House – w/c/ 24/3/24	Experience Week – w/c/ 14/7/25 – Activities TBC

YEAR 8	Careers Fair – over 30+ organisations in sports hall – FE/HE and companies providing direct access for students to discuss future pathways/qualifications/future courses 13/11/24	Experience Week – w/c/ 14/7/25 – Activities TBC			
YEAR 9	Careers Fair – over 30+ organisations in sports hall – FE/HE and companies providing direct access for students to discuss future pathways/qualifications/future courses 13/11/24	Nestle workshop seminars x 3 (1 hour sessions) to provide information/guidance on apprenticeship opportunities/employability skills and subject choices, prior to options evening - dates TBC	Options Evening – all students/parent invited in to discuss option choices – ASK and CareerConnect in attendance to give talks/provide advice/guidance – 6/3/25	Residentials to Soli House – w/c 28/4/25	Experience Week – w/c/ 14/7/25 – Activities TBC
YEAR 10	Careers Fair – over 30+ organisations in sports hall – FE/HE and companies providing direct access for students to discuss future pathways/qualifications/future courses 13/11/24		Residentials to Soli House – w/c 28/4/25	Year 10 Experience Day – 11/7/25 – Activities TBC	Whole Year Group – Work Exp. Week – w/c 14/7/25
YEAR 11	Careers Fair – over 30+ organisations in sports hall – FE/HE and companies providing direct access for students to discuss future pathways/qualifications/future courses 13/11/24	Sixth Form Open Evening – all students and parents invited – universities present, along with CareerConnect, to provide information/advice on future choices/courses	Experience Week – w/c/ 14/7/25 – Activities TBC		

		/pathways – 12/11/24			
YEAR 12	University and App. Fair – Anfield – all students – range of unis and apprenticeship providers, plus workshops on uni life/finance/accommodation. 15/10/24	Careers Fair – over 30+ organisations in sports hall – FE/HE and companies providing direct access for students to discuss future pathways/qualifications/future courses 13/11/24	Hope University full year visit – tour of campus/ taster sessions and courses available 12/12/24 TBC	Wirral Pledge Mock assessment centre – 16/1/24 TBC	Enterprise Day – National Careers Challenge – TILG in school to conduct all day workshops – 4/3/24
YEAR 12 (Additional)	Mock Interview Day – mock interviews conducted for all students – external interviews interviews/assessment and feedback – 1/7/25	Edge Hill University - Campus Trip – whole year group – all day campus tour/talk – taster session university life/accomm. visit – 4/7/25 TBC	Whole Year Group – Work Exp. Week – w/c 14/7/25		
Year 13	University and App. Fair – Anfield – all students – range of unis and apprenticeship providers, plus workshops on uni life/finance/accommodation. 15/10/24	Careers Fair – over 30+ organisations in sports hall – FE/HE and companies providing direct access for students to discuss future pathways/qualifications/future courses 13/11/24	Wirral Pledge Mock assessment centre – 16/1/24 TBC		

**PLEASE NOTE** – the full careers programme (detailing all events) for each year group is available on the school website under the 'careers section'. As well as 'fixed' dates, the

programme is fluid and events will be added retrospectively also, as new opportunities for collaboration arise.

We will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils or their parents or carers.

Please speak to our Careers Lead to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

### **Premises and facilities**

The school will make the main hall, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and pupils, as appropriate to the activity. The school will also make available AV and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Leader or a member of their team.

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

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at the Careers Resource Centre, which is managed by the school librarian, or the sixth form 'careers information' area. The Resource Centre is available to all pupils at lunch and break times.

### **Complaints**

Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure, or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via;

[provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk](mailto:provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk)

### **Approval and review**

Approved [date] by Governors at Curriculum and Standards Committee

Next review: [date]

Signed:



Mrs R Clarke

Vice Chair of Governors



Mr K Maddocks

Head teacher