



ASTON ACADEMY Provider Access Legislation Policy	
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1. Aims

This policy statement aims to set out Aston Academy's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students for the purpose of giving them information about their offer. It sets out:

- Procedures in relation to requests for access
- The grounds for granting and refusing requests for access
- Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access

2. Statutory requirements

Provider Access – from January 2023 Aston Academy has a responsibility to set its students on the path that will secure the best outcome, to enable them to progress in education and work.

We are therefore fully committed to act impartially and not to show bias towards any route, be that academic or technical. Aston Academy must open its doors to other education providers because it is vital to ensure that all students are aware of the benefits of apprenticeships, T Levels and other approved technical education qualifications and can consider them, alongside academic options, when making choices about their future.

All students in years 8-13 are entitled:

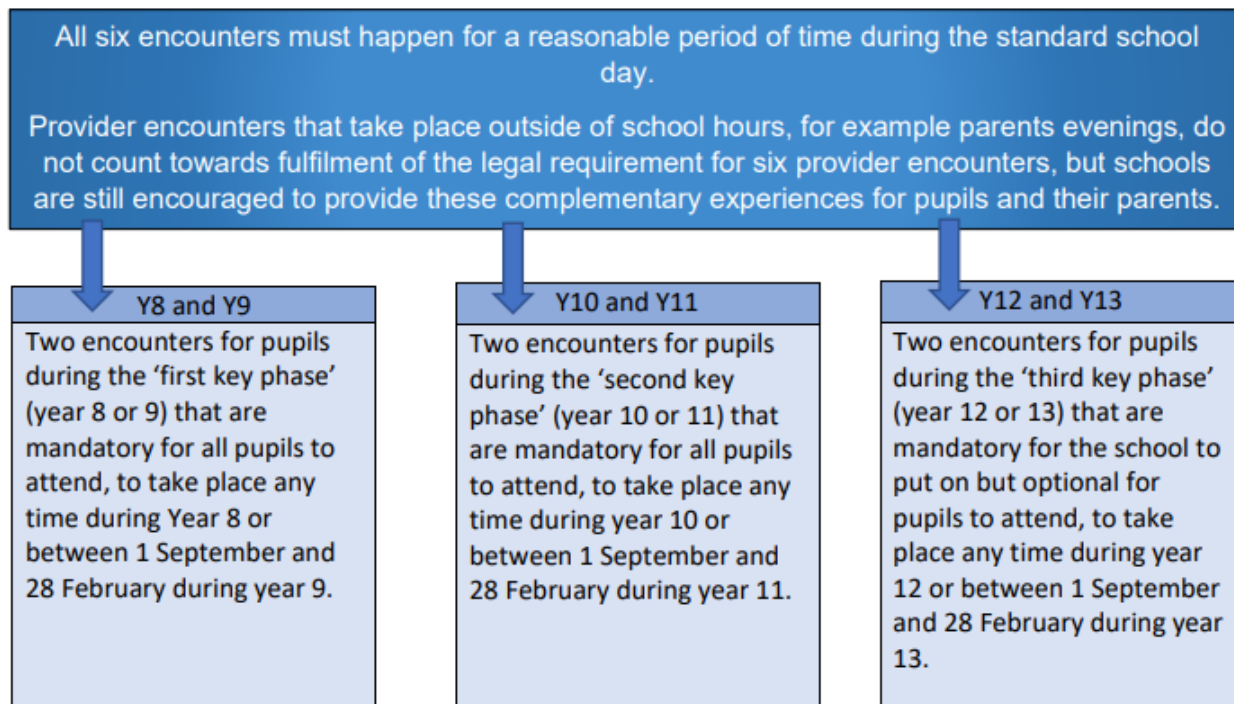
- To find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeships opportunities, as part of a careers programme which provides information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition point.
- To hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities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

We aim to meet or exceed the obligatory number of 6 encounters, which all maintained schools and academies must provide, via/with a provider of technical education or apprenticeships for year 8 to 13 pupils. We will also “map out” these encounters annually as the new legislation requires schools to set out the times at which access is to be given and explain how they will meet the new legal requirement to put on six provider encounters.

We understand that provider encounters that take place outside of school hours, for example parents/carers information evenings, do not count towards fulfilment of the legal requirement for six provider encounters, but we still provide accompanying and complementary experiences for our students and their parents/carers, and to include Y7 students also.

This policy shows how our school complies with these requirements and below is a general guide as to how the statutory provision will be mapped out:

Six Encounters from Years 8-13



3. Management of provider access requests

3.1 Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Ms Booker or Mr Shaw. Telephone: 0114 287 2171
Email: info@astonacademy.org.

3.2 Opportunities for access

We ask advance that all providers/external visitors work with us in ensuring that each meaningful encounter, without exception, includes for each participating student, each of the following 4 requirements:



A number of events, integrated into our careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak/present information to students and/or their parents/carers.

We include some examples for year groups in the key below – it is not an exhaustive list as the Careers Team responds throughout each academic year to invitations and new opportunities which constantly present themselves as our networking widens across both Sheffield/Rotherham and nationally.

Some experiences provide a full entitlement for all Year Groups whilst others are built in per Key Stage as students and cohorts broaden their experience and progress their understanding of Apprenticeships, T Levels and Technical Education in general.

Please get in touch or search our website for a more specific overview; incorporating our full Careers provision overview and programme if required:

YEAR GROUP	Aston Academy Provision – in line with new compliance	Times
YEAR 8	1, 2, 6, 7,	Terms 1 & 2
YEAR 9	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7	Terms 1 & 2
YEAR 10	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 7, 9, 11	Terms 1, 2 & 3
YEAR 11	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13	Terms 1,2 & 3
POST-16	5, 10, 12	Terms 1, 2 & 3

Key of Opportunities:

1. Impartial, mandatory Assembly delivered by IAG/apprenticeship adviser & ASK delivery partner, Opportunity Sheffield, City Futures, Sheffield City Council
2. Theme: "An Introduction to Apprenticeships". The Assembly is delivered remotely in tutor groups to allow for Q&A session.
3. Tutor Time session to complement "An Introduction to Apprenticeships" Assembly; meeting all expectations of the new compliance.
4. Internal assembly delivered by the Careers Team on vocational pathways / T Levels / BTEC & Technical qualifications
5. Follow-up tutor session consolidating knowledge of vocational pathways / T Levels / BTEC & Technical qualifications
6. Offer of one-to-one Careers guidance with a Level 6 qualified Careers Advisor. Advisor emphasizes Apprenticeship routes and advises about local opportunities and application processes.
7. Assemblies during National Apprenticeships Week, delivered by external partners from RNN College and Sheffield College.
8. SEND and Disadvantaged workshops delivered by external partners from RNN College and Sheffield College.
9. Visit to Aston Leisure Centre to view a familiar setting from a different, work-related angle. Focus on Apprenticeships.
10. Speed-dating event – local employers brought in to present to whole year group. Each employer outlines Apprenticeship within relevant setting.
11. Careers Fair – students meet lots of different employers and circulate all asking questions. A strong focus within the questioning process is centred around Apprenticeships.
12. National Apprenticeships Week annually focuses on Apprenticeship opportunities from within different subjects on the curriculum.
13. Extra Careers Interview opportunity is offered to post-16 students with guidance from a Level 6 qualified Careers Advisor provided. Advisor emphasizes Apprenticeship routes and advises about local opportunities and application processes.
14. AMRC Workshop with focus on Apprenticeships and T Levels.

Please contact Ms Booker, Assistant Vice Principal and Careers Lead for further information or for booking an opportunity suitable to your provision or offer: info@astonacademy.org.

3.3 Granting and refusing access

Access to students will be granted once we have secured consent from their parents/carers for them to attend any events (where appropriate) and exclusively when Aston Academy staff are also in attendance.

3.4 Safeguarding

Our safeguarding/child protection policy outlines the school's procedure for checking the identity and suitability of visitors. Education and training providers will be required to adhere to this policy.

3.5 Premises and facilities

We have bookable spaces to facilitate your visits and to enable providers to access students suitably. We have an equipped 6th Form Common Room with an Interactive Whiteboard and also a big Hall, with 3 presentation screens and accompanying audio equipment.

Booking and organising presentation spaces should be made via Reception, who will put you in direct contact with either the Careers Lead and Assistant Vice Principal (Ms Booker) or our Careers Advisor (James Shaw).

Providers may leave materials/prospectuses for students and their parents/carers to read but please send electronic copies of all such material in advance to: info@astonacademy.org for the attention of Ms Booker/Mr Shaw.

4. Links to other policies

We ask that this Access Policy, please, be read and considered alongside our other relevant and complementary policies:

- Safeguarding Policy
- Careers and Enterprise Policy
- Curriculum Policy

5. Monitoring arrangements

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students are monitored by the Principal and Aston Academy's Governing Body, who will review it regularly; approving or amending as necessary.