

Provider Access Policy

Date Adopted: 18 January 2024

Date of Review: 18 January 2025



Mr D Wiltshire
Headteacher



Mr C Thurling
Chair of Local Partnership Board

The Kings Academy

PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY

This policy statement sets out the Academy's arrangements for managing the access of providers to students at the Academy for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the Academy's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

STUDENT ENTITLEMENT

All students in Years 9 to 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 the 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

In addition, from January 2023 the new provider access legislation (PAL) comes into force. This updated legislation specifies schools must provide at least six encounters with approved providers of apprenticeships and technical education for all their students:

- Two encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (Year 8 or 9) that are mandatory for all pupils to attend
- Two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (Year 10 or 11) that are mandatory for all pupils to attend
- Two encounters for pupils during the 'third key phase' (Year 12 or 13) that are mandatory for the school to put on but optional for pupils to attend

The new legislation will become a key mechanism to further help learners understand and take-up, not just apprenticeships, but wider technical education options such as T-Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications.

At Kings Academy, we are keen to support providers and our students to meet and evidence this updated requirement meaningfully as part of our wider progressive careers' programme.

As part of our careers' programme, we will consider requests from approved training, apprenticeship, technical and vocational education providers, including University Technical Colleges where appropriate, to speak to our students. Kings Academy will also approach these providers directly when planning and organising key employability and career related events throughout the school year such as assemblies, careers cafes, the Employability Skills Day, webinars within the curriculum, and parent evenings.

Staff, students, parents, and carers are consulted with regards to the provision on offer. The quality and impact of careers provision at Kings Academy is monitored by our Senior Leadership Team, Careers Lead, Careers Link Governor, and the Wessex Learning Trust Employability Trustee; in addition to the Heart of the Southwest Careers Hub through Compass+ auditing.

PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS

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

Aardman	Artichoke	Aviva
Airbus	Army	Axa-Insurance
Albert Goodman	Arthur David	Axe Valley Vets
Alun Griffiths Civil Engineers	Asda	B2 Architects
AO	ASK (Apprenticeship Support and Knowledge for Schools and Colleges)	Babcock International
Archiwest	Avis	BAE Systems
		Bakkavor

Bath Arms	Cyient	Merryweather Williams Solicitors
Bath Rugby	Debenhams	Ministry of Defence
BBC	Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue	Morrisons
BGW Solicitors	Diocese of Bath & Wells	Mulberry
Birmingham City University	Directline Group	National Citizen Service
Broad Street Hair	Discovery	National Express
Boomsatsuma	Dowlas Property Group	National Highways
Boots Opticians	EasyJet	National Horseracing College
Border Force	Eddie Stobart	National Trust
Brandon Trust	EDF Energy	NatWest
Brean Leisure	Enable PM	Navy
Bridgwater & Taunton College	Extra Mile Printing	NHS
Bristol Airport	Frazer-Nash Consultancy (engineers)	NK Opticians
Bristol Media	Four Fifty Partnership	Numatic
Cannington College	G4S	O2
Careers in Racing	Geollect	Ocean Adventurers
Careers in Teaching	Hair & Beauty Academy	Old Mill Group
Cheddar Signs	Handelsbanken	Oxfam
Clarks	Hanson	Pickfords
Cobalt Blue Consulting	Kennedys Law	Police
Construction Industry Training Board	Kiddi Caru	RAF
Civil Service	Kings Fitness & Leisure	Rolls Royce
Charlie Bighams	Langford Vets	Rotamec
Cheddar Ales	Laurel & Wylde	Rowan HR
Cheddar Caves	Leonardo	RSM UK Management Ltd
Chops	Lidl	RT Keedwell Group
Co-op	Lloyds Pharmacy	RSPCA
Cooper & Tanner	Lye Cross Farm	Ryanair
CW Surveyors	Majestic Designs	Sainsburys
	Marks & Spencers	

Screwfix	Tesco	Wessex Water
Shepton Vets	Thales	Whitbread
Somerlap	The Old Vic	Whitestuff
Somerset Care	Thatchers	Woodbury Insurance
Somerset County Council	The FSC Group	Wyke Farms
Somerset Earth Science	Think Drinks	University of Arts, Plymouth
Somerset Skills & Learning	Tincknells	University of Bristol
South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust	Travis Perkins	University of Law
Space Detectives	TSB	University of the West of England
St Monica Trust	TUI	University of Winchester
Strode College	Victoria Plum	Yeo Valley
Strongvox	Waterstones	YMCA
Taylor Wimpey	We Are Quattro	You Are My Sunshine
	Wells Cathedral Stonemasons	Young Somerset
	Weston College	

MANAGEMENT OF PROVIDER ACCESS REQUIRMENTS

Procedure: A provider wishing to request access should contact Rachel Hopwood the Careers Lead or Sally Devlin the Employability Coordinator on the main Academy telephone number 01934 742608 or email office@kovessex.co.uk/sdevlin@kovessex.co.uk.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACCESS

Several events integrated into the school's careers programme could offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to students and/or their parents/carers:

Term	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Autumn	Careers Fair	Careers Fair	Careers Fair	Careers Fair	Careers Fair Making higher education applications, apprenticeship applications, small group discussions

Spring	Life Skills day – transferable skills	Employability Skills day – preparation for work experience	Post 16 assemblies – apprenticeship, Sixth form, colleges Careers Cafe	Higher education conference and alternatives to higher education conference, finance beyond 16 conference Mock interviews	
Summer	Careers Cafe	Work experience placement week		Making post 18 choices assembly series Work experience placement week	

Please speak to our Careers Lead/Employability Coordinator to find the most suitable opportunity for you.

GRANTING REQUESTS AND REFUSAL OF REQUESTS

Once your request has been submitted, our Careers Leader will respond to you within 10 working days. All requests will be given due consideration by the Careers Leader and Senior Leadership Team.

Once the request has been granted, we will ask you for a range of information before the session. This may be a prospectus, letter, presentation to share with students and/or parents in advance of your session.

This should include: -

- Details of the opportunities you offer including technical education, courses and entry requirements
- What is learning like with your institution?
- How do you prepare students for their best next step on successful completion of your course/training?
- Examples of linking courses with careers relating to the labour market and recent positive destinations of students who have completed their learning with you
- Requests will be considered against: -
- Clashes with other planned activities or visits.
- Interruption to preparation for public or internal examinations.
- Availability of school staff, space and resources to host the session.
- All requests will also be considered in line with the Academy’s Safeguarding Policy. For questions on this policy statement or the wider careers programme please do not hesitate to contact us.
- Kings Academy will keep a log of all provider requests for access and the outcomes to support the delivery and evaluation of the careers programme.

PREMISES AND FACILITIES

The Academy will make the main hall, gym, or theatre available for assemblies and year group talks, and classrooms available for discussions, as appropriate, for an activity. Please note that any such activity will need to be accompanied in accordance with the Academy’s Safeguarding Policy. The school will also make available IT and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature with the Employability Coordinator for the Employability and Learning Hub or the Library which is managed by the Librarian. The Employability and Learning Hub and the Library are available to all students at break and lunchtimes.

Complaints

If a provider has reason to make a complaint in relation to this statement please email Rachel Hopwood, Deputy Headteacher and Careers Lead via office@kovessex.co.uk at Kings of Wessex Academy who will investigate further. Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised using the school's complaints procedure. Subsequently you can contact [The Careers & Enterprise Company](#) on provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk.