



**Stanchester**  
Academy

# **Stanchester Academy Provider Access Policy Statement (PAL)**

**2024 - 26**

**Written by:** Gemma Glentworth

**Governor Approval Date:**

**Review Date:** July 2026

### **Our Vision**

*Stanchester Academy is a community built on the values of mutual respect and ambition for everyone.* This vision underpins this policy and is reflected in the decisions we have made about this policy.

### **Access for colleges, training providers, university technical colleges, universities and all other post 16 providers, including technical, vocational and academic routes and apprenticeships**

This policy statement sets out the arrangements for managing the access of providers to students 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 students 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;
- 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.

In line with the updated Provider Access Legislation, from January 2023, all schools must provide a minimum of six encounters for all students with post 16 providers, as above. This is broken down into key phases: -

#### **Year 8 or 9 Two encounters for students that are mandatory for all to attend**

#### **Year 10 or 11 Two encounters for students that are mandatory for all 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 students from the provider)
- answer questions from all students, including our most vulnerable and those with additional learning needs

## Stanchester Academy Provider Access Policy Statement (PAL)

### Provider Access Policy Statement 2024-26 v2

Stanchester Academy defines an encounter as at least 30 min, during the school day. The school days runs from 8.20 am until 2.50pm.

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.

Stanchester Academy will also approach providers directly when planning and organising key career related events throughout the school year, such as school assemblies, webinars within the curriculum, including live events, careers engagement events and parents evenings. Meaningful encounters may be planned using the [Making it Meaningful checklist](#).

The quality and impact of careers provision at Stanchester Academy is monitored by our Senior Leadership Team, and the Heart of the South West Careers Hub through Compass+ auditing. Access and opportunity to engage with technical, vocational and training providers will form part of this process.

### **Premises and Facilities**

Stanchester Academy has a range of facilities available for providers to use in support of our careers programme. This includes a school hall, sports hall, classrooms, IT suites, meetings rooms and outdoor spaces.

The school will also make available access to IT support provider presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Leader.

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

We welcome literature such as prospectuses and appropriate material that provides information on future pathways for our students to read, and for display in relevant places around the school campus. This can be both hard copies and electronic. The latter can be shared in mail outs/careers notices sent to pupils, staff and parents.

### **Teachers/ Curriculum**

Our PSHE / Careers and British Values Curriculum, ensures that the key skills and essential knowledge permeate our curriculum from year 7 to year 11, allowing our pupils to make links in their learning as well as develop the ability to think more deeply about what they are learning.

All teachers include careers into their lessons and develop student's employability skills. Staff have access to a wide range of resources on the school portal to showcase careers in their subject lessons.

Teachers are encouraged to implement the below into the curriculum:

- Have a prominent display that links subject learning and skill development to different careers.
- Develop links with businesses and organisations.
- To invite alumni and other external speakers to come into school.
- Where appropriate to organise external visits for students to local businesses.
- Record careers learning opportunities for students.

## Stanchester Academy Provider Access Policy Statement (PAL)

### Provider Access Policy Statement 2024-26 v2

- Take part in whole school careers events, such as the Careers Fair by actively engaging with the exhibitors, building links in their own curriculum areas.
- Consider the needs and interests of all students and ensure that information challenges career stereotyping including gender, race and disability.

### **Employers & Training Providers**

At Stanchester Academy we are busy growing your employees of the future. We welcome the help of local businesses to raise the career aspirations of our students, develop their employability skills and learn more about the exciting industries in Somerset.

We welcome Training Providers and employers to come into school and talk to our students. Please see our Provider Access Policy / Baker Clause for events and contact details (link to ours)

### **How Employers and Training Providers Can Help Our Students:**

Book to attend a local Careers Fair, usually held in the autumn term.

Give a short careers talk about your company, apprenticeship scheme, your role and career path and answer students' questions.

Providing Work Experience to our students. Year 10s complete a five-day placement in March which they start arranging from July of the previous academic year. We currently work with over 200 businesses and always welcome more.

Assisting with the Year 10 Mock Interview event. This is in May and around 60 interviewers are needed for either one full day or two to give all our Year 10 students an interview experience.

We aim where possible to bring the careers and workplace application into curriculum lessons. We welcome links with employers who can contribute to a specific subject department by either allowing students to visit their company on a school trip, or come into school to deliver an aspect of subject curriculum to a class.

If you have an apprenticeship you wish to fill please email details to our Careers Leader and this will be forwarded to the students who are planning the workplace and looking for that type of employment

If you are able to assist or would like to find out more information about the work of our Careers department, please email our Careers Leader at [gemma.glentworth@stanchester.co.uk](mailto:gemma.glentworth@stanchester.co.uk)

Stanchester Academy has the benefit of a key business volunteer who works with us on a strategic level, encouraging the development of our careers programme and connecting us to the business community across the county. This role is recognised nationally as an Enterprise Adviser (EA) and they are part of the Somerset Careers Hub community of support driving the connection between careers education and the business sector

Our Enterprise Adviser is Lucy-Ella Robinson [Lucy-Ella Robinson | LinkedIn](#) email [Lucy-Ella.robinson@yeovil.ac.uk](mailto:Lucy-Ella.robinson@yeovil.ac.uk), Lecturer Supported Internship & Enterprise at Yeovil College.

### **Destinations of our students**

Last year our year 11 students moved to range of providers both in the local area:

- Yeovil College
- Strode College
- Bridgwater and Taunton College
- Exeter College
- Richard Huish
- Sexey's School
- The Gryphon School
- Leonardo Helicopters
- Army/Navy apprenticeship

### **Management of provider access requests**

All requests by providers should be sent to: -

Gemma Glentworth [gemma.glentworth@stanchester.co.uk](mailto:gemma.glentworth@stanchester.co.uk)

Or alternatively contact our reception team: [office@stanchester.co.uk](mailto:office@stanchester.co.uk)

Telephone: 01935 823200

### **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 to share with our students and parents before the session. This may be a prospectus, letter, presentation to share with students and 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?
- Provide 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.

## Stanchester Academy Provider Access Policy Statement (PAL)

### Provider Access Policy Statement 2024-26 v2

- All requests will also be considered in line with the school's Safeguarding policy. For questions on this policy statement or the wider careers programme at Stanchester Academy please do not hesitate to contact us.
- Stanchester Academy will keep a log of all provider requests for access and the outcomes and record on Compass+ to support the delivery and evaluation of the careers programme.

### Opportunities for access

Stanchester Academy offers the four provider encounters required by law, and a number of additional events, integrated into the school careers programme. We will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to students or their parents or carers. There are 30 minute year group assemblies, drop down days & various other opportunities throughout the year – please see the careers calendar on our website for further details.

Examples of providers we have worked with include:

- Yeovil College
- Strode College
- Bridgwater and Taunton College
- Army
- Navy
- Wessex Water
- Somerset Skills and Learning
- ASK Apprenticeships
- Leonardo
- Thales
- NHS Yeovil
- Kingston Maurward
- Plymouth University
- Trinity Hall

### Complaints

If a provider has reason to make a complaint in relation to this provider access statement, please email our Headteacher via reception: [office@stanchester.co.uk](mailto:office@stanchester.co.uk) who will investigate further. Or subsequently you can contact The Careers & Enterprise Company on [provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk](mailto:provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk) or [Somerset Careers Hub](https://www.somersetcareers.co.uk).