

St Katherine's School



St Katherines - Provider Access Policy Statement

Next Review: February 2027

Signed : Justin Humphreys
Headteacher

Dated : June 2025

Signed: William Harding
Chair of Governors

Dated : July 2025

St Katherine's School: Provider Access Policy

1. Introduction

- Providing high-quality careers education and guidance in schools and colleges is essential for shaping young people's futures. It equips them with a solid understanding of the world of work, including the various pathways to jobs and careers they may find fulfilling and rewarding. This guidance also helps them develop crucial self-awareness and career management skills, enabling them to make informed decisions and pursue positive employment outcomes. Ultimately, it empowers students to take control of their futures, enhances their life prospects, and supports a thriving, productive economy.
- With the number of apprenticeships growing each year, it is more important than ever that all young people are fully informed about the full range of post-16 and post-18 options available to them — including broader technical education pathways such as T Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications.
- St Katherine's School is dedicated to providing students with access to a wide range of education and training providers, ensuring they are well-informed about approved technical qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities. The school recognises its responsibility to guide students toward pathways that lead to successful outcomes in both education and employment, helping to develop the skilled workforce that employers need. In fulfilling this duty, St Katherine's remains impartial, upholding its statutory responsibility to present all post-16 and post-18 routes — academic and technical — without bias.
- St Katherine's is committed to ensuring that all students are informed about the full range of pathways to higher-level skills, including access to up-to-date information on technical education and apprenticeships. This commitment aligns with the Department for Education's guidance (July 2021) under the "Baker Clause" — supporting students to understand all available education and training options — as well as the updated Provider Access Legislation (January 2023).

2. Aims

The St Katherine's policy for access to other education and training providers is guided by the following aims:

- To broaden students' knowledge and awareness of the full range of career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships.
- To enable young people to explore education and training opportunities beyond school, supporting them in making well-informed decisions about their future.

3. Pupil Entitlement

- St Katherine's fully supports the statutory requirement for students to have direct access to a range of providers offering further education, technical training, and apprenticeships. The school is committed to meeting the legal duty to provide a minimum of six meaningful encounters with approved providers of technical education and apprenticeship opportunities. These encounters will take place through activities such as assemblies during National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week, as well as through provider participation in careers events hosted by the school or across the Trust.

Development

- This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader and Line Manager (Sara Gardiner and Alan Francis-Black), in line with current best practice guidelines issued by the Department for Education.

Links with other policies

- It is supported by, and aligned with, key school policies, including those relating to Careers, Child Protection, Equality and Diversity, and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

Students are entitled

- To learn about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities as part of a comprehensive careers programme, which outlines the full range of education and training options available at each key transition point.
- To hear from a variety of local providers about the opportunities they offer – including technical education and apprenticeships – through events such as assemblies, group discussions, taster sessions, and options evenings.
- To understand how to research, prepare for, and apply to the full range of academic and technical courses.

Management of provider access requests

Procedure

- Providers wishing to request access should contact Sara Gardiner, Careers Leader, at **01275 373737** or via email at gardiners@skdrive.org.

Opportunities for access

- A range of events, integrated into the school's careers programme, will provide opportunities for providers to visit the school and speak with students and/or their parents and carers.

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest speakers in assembly • Whole School Careers Fair 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employer Encounters • Career insights • Guest speakers in assembly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employer Encounters • STEM workshops
Year 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole School Careers Fair • Providers event 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest speakers in assembly • Year 9 options evening 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employer Encounters • STEM workshops
Year 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employee Encounters/career insights in enrichment program throughout the whole academic year. • Whole School Careers Fair • Skills Workshops • Encounters with FE, HE, Apprenticeship providers • CV writing workshops 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work Experience
Year 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest Speakers in Assembly • Understanding 6th form and college options post 16 • Understanding employment career pathways • Understanding about Independent Training Providers • Whole School Careers Fair • Year 11 Futures Day • Mock Interviews • Career insight sessions • Post 16 Providers Event • Apprenticeship awareness assembly. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6th form options evening • Step into 6th Form Day
Year 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post 18 Assembly/options • Employer Encounters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work Experience • Employer Encounters

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole School Careers Fair • Enrichment session opportunities • Understanding employment career pathways • Understanding about Independent Training Providers • Apprenticeship Talks and application sessions • Work experience workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encounters • Post 18 opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding next steps and UCAS. • Work Experience • Revision techniques
Year 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops - HE and high apprenticeship applications • UCAS applications • Post 18 Assembly in HE options • Employer Encounters • Careers Fair • Encounters with HE • Enrichment session opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employer Encounters • Mock Interviews • University Visits • Personal Statement/CV writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revision techniques

Premises and facilities

- The school will make appropriate facilities available for provider-student interactions, including the main hall, classrooms, or private meeting rooms, depending on the nature of the activity. Audio-visual and other specialist equipment will also be provided to support presentations where required. All logistical arrangements will be discussed and agreed in advance with the Careers Leader or a member of their team.
- Providers are welcome to leave copies of their prospectuses or other relevant course materials at the Future's Office, which is managed by the Careers Leader. The resource centre is accessible to all students during lunch and break times.
- We warmly welcome all visitors to the school to deliver sessions in person. Additionally, we can facilitate virtual sessions via Google Meet and Microsoft Teams.

Please contact our Careers Leader, Miss Sara Gardiner, to discuss the most suitable opportunity for you.