



The Wilnecote School

Title of Policy:

Provider Access Policy

Member of leadership team with lead responsibility for oversight and update of policy	Mrs S. Ager
Approved at SLT	Dec 24
Policy approval at Governing Body	Awaiting Approval of Governors
Policy review cycle	Annually
Policy review date	January 2026

The Wilnecote School: Provider Access Policy Statement

(To include The Department of Education, July 2021: “Baker Clause” and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023)

Ownership: The Wilnecote School, Part of Community Academies Trust.

Date updated: January 2023

Rationale

High quality careers education and guidance in school or college is critical to young people’s futures. It helps to prepare them for the workplace by providing a clear understanding of the world of work including the routes to jobs and careers that they might find engaging and rewarding. It supports them to acquire the self-development and career management skills they need to achieve positive employment destinations. This helps students to choose their pathways, improve their life opportunities and contribute to a productive and successful economy.

As the number of apprenticeships rises every year, it becomes increasingly important that all young people have a full understanding of all the options available to them post-16 and post-18 including wider technical education options such as T-Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications.

Commitment

The Wilnecote School is committed to ensuring there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students, for the purpose of informing them about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships. The Wilnecote School is fully aware of the responsibility to set students on the path that will secure the best outcome which will enable them to progress in education and work and give employers the highly skilled people they need. That means acting impartially, in line with the statutory duty, and not showing bias towards any route, be that academic or technical.

The Wilnecote School endeavours to ensure that all students are aware of all routes to higher skills and are able to access information on technical options and apprenticeships (The Department of Education, July 2021: “Baker Clause”: supporting students to understand the full range of education and training options, and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023).

Aims of our policy

- To develop the knowledge and awareness of our students of all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships.
- To support young people to be able to learn more about opportunities for education and training outside of school before making crucial choices about their future options.
- To reduce drop out from courses and avoid the risk of students becoming NEET (Young people not in education, employment or training).

Student Entitlement

The Wilnecote School fully supports the statutory requirement for students to have direct access to other providers of further education training, technical training and apprenticeships. The school will comply with the up to date legal requirement to ensure at least six encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships. This will be done through a range of methods including assemblies, tutor time, focus weeks such as National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week, and by inviting providers in to school to attend careers events.

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader , Samantha Ager, and is based on current good practice guidelines by the Department for Education.

Links with other policies

It supports and is underpinned by key school policies including those for Careers, Child Protection, Equality and Diversity, and SEND.

Equality and Diversity

Access to other providers is available and promoted to allow all students to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. The Wilnecote School is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Requests for access

Requests for access should be directed to Samantha Ager, Careers Leader. She may be contacted by telephone or email, careers@wilnecotehighschool.org, Tel 01827 831300.

Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers or PSHE lesson, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that The Wilnecote School is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with the school.

Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access

We will always provide an appropriate room or assembly hall to be agreed with the necessary equipment for presenting to groups of students. Computer rooms can also be arranged on request. The Careers Leader or Careers Adviser will work closely with the provider to ensure the facilities are appropriate to the audience. Appropriate safeguarding checks will be carried out. Providers will be met and supervised by a member of the Careers Team who will facilitate.

Live/Virtual encounters

We are able to consider live online encounters with providers where requested, and these may be broadcast into classrooms or the school assembly hall. Technology checks in advance will be required to ensure compatibility of systems.

Parents and Carers

Parental involvement is encouraged, and parents may be invited to attend the events to meet the providers.

Policy Next Review: January 2025

Appendix

Providers who have been invited into The Wilnecote School to date include:

Equans

National Apprenticeship Team

South Staffordshire College

Landau Forte Academy Sixth Form

Polesworth Sixth Form

HS2 - apprenticeships

Destinations of previous pupils from our school include:

Birmingham Ormiston academy (BOA)

South Staffs College – all campuses

Landau Forte Academy Sixth Form

Polesworth Sixth Form

King Edwards School – Lichfield

Sutton College