

THE AVON VALLEY SCHOOL PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY

Date of policy: January 2022

Date for review: January 2024

Who the review will involve: the Head teacher, the Careers Lead, SLT, Stakeholders



Senior member of staff responsible for overseeing that this policy is implemented and regularly reviewed: A Davies, Head teacher

RATIONALE

Careers education and guidance programmes play a major part in helping young people choose pathways that suit their interests, abilities and individual needs. A robust careers programme helps avoid disengagement, puts school learning into a wider and more relevant context, and helps raise aspirations.

The Avon Valley School careers programme is designed to help our students plan and manage their careers effectively, ensuring progression which is ambitious and aspirational. It promotes equality of opportunity, celebrates diversity and challenges stereotypes. The policy is designed to meet the Gatsby benchmarks and conforms to statutory requirements.

AIMS

This policy statement aims to set out our school'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

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Schools are required to ensure that there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students in years 8 to 13 for the purposes of informing them about approved technical education, qualifications or apprenticeships.

Schools must also have a policy statement that outlines the circumstances in which education and training providers will be given access to these students. This is outlined in section 42B of the [Education Act 1997](#).

This policy shows how our school complies with these requirements

STUDENT ENTITLEMENT

All students in years 7 to 11 at The Avon Valley School 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
- Hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including sixth forms, technical education and apprenticeships
- Understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses

MANAGEMENT OF PROVIDER ACCESS REQUESTS

A provider wishing to request access should contact Lisa Owen, Achievement Leader and Careers Lead

Telephone: 01788 542355

Email: lowen@avonvalleyschool.uk

4.2 Opportunities for access

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

Summary of the AVS careers programme.

Careers education is an integral part of Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE and tutor periods). The Avon Valley School has its own dedicated Careers Advisor and provides careers education and opportunities for all students. The programme includes:

Year 7

This year the focus is on Becoming part of AVS. All Year 7 students cover the topic 'What I want to be' in PSHE. There is a careers SPLASH day along with a number of assemblies and presentations which help students to start thinking about their future including what qualifications are needed for which careers, the importance of EBacc subjects (English, Maths, Science, Computer Science, Languages, History and Geography) and thinking about university and apprenticeships.

Year 8

This year the focus is on Your Future. Students are supported in choosing their option subjects so they complement any career they might choose to follow in the future. Students have the opportunity to be a duty student for a half a day. There is a careers SPLASH day along with a number of assemblies by employees and employers. In PSHE students study a unit entitled 'Looking after my money' in the spring term.

Year 9

This year the focus is on Achieving your Potential. In the Autumn term students study the topic of 'Careers & Finance'. The careers SPLASH day is called 'Daring to Dream' where students have a careers talk by the Department of Work and Pensions and examine their employability skills. They have assemblies by people from the world of work.

Year 10

This year the focus is on the World of Work. In PSHE students look at 'Big Choices' in PSHE where preparation for work experience is completed. All students write a letter to an employer and take part in a pre-visit, prior to spending a week at work experience placement. Work experience is compulsory for all year 10 students. During this year many students apply, interview for and receive roles of responsibility within the school as prefects, allowing students to develop their leadership skills. There is a number of assemblies by employers and employees.

Year 11

This year focuses on Life after AVS. Students have several assemblies from local post 16 providers and have opportunities to visit many of the providers. In PSHE, students focus on 'Getting ready for work' and time is spent preparing for mock interviews that all participate in. A careers fair is held where students hear about Apprenticeships, university life and local businesses. All year 11 have a careers interview that parents are welcome to attend. Furthermore, students have several encounters with the National Citizenship Service (NCS) with many participating in their summer placement.

All years

The AVS Careers Advisor is present at the parents' evenings for year 8 -11. All students participate in National Careers Week where they experience a wide range of jobs and careers within their curriculum subjects and look at labour market information regarding these jobs. All students can participate in the school council. Students are offered the opportunity to participate on trips, both within curriculum areas and those organised by the careers office. STEM opportunities are offered in addition to this.

Please speak to our careers lead to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

4.3 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 expected to adhere to this policy.

4.4 Premises and facilities

Once visits have been agreed, AVS will provide appropriate facilities to facilitate the visit, along with any equipment requested by the provider, where it is available. Sessions can be held in different venues according to the number of students and the requirements of the provider. Visits can be in the theatre and delivered to over 200 students, or in the classroom with a smaller group. We also have the facility to deliver safe personalised sessions. We are happy to work with providers to provide any resources we can that make their visit possible and we are happy to accommodate those that need to bring extra equipment into AVS in order to showcase what they do. Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at reception for the attention of Mrs Lisa Owen. AVS will place the literature in the careers office so it is available to students.

LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

[Safeguarding policy](#)
[Pupil Premium policy](#)
[Careers policy](#)

REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed bi-annually.