

THE AVON VALLEY SCHOOL PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY

Date of policy: January 2026

Date for review: January 2028

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: Blake Francis, 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 7 to 11 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 Careers guidance and access for education and training providers January 2023.

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
- 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

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

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.

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.

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.