West Bromwich Collegiate Academy
Provider Access Statement *(Formally the Baker Clause)*

Careers should be transformational to the lives of young people. At West Bromwich Collegiate Academy careers will provide a platform for motivation, for students to aim higher, achieve more and reach their aspirations.

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

Ownership: West Bromwich Collegiate Academy

Date updated: September 2026

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

West Bromwich Collegiate Academy 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. West Bromwich Collegiate Academy 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.

West Bromwich Collegiate Academy 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

The West Bromwich Collegiate Academy policy for Access to other education and training providers has the following aims:

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.

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To reduce drop out from courses and avoid the risk of students becoming NEET (Young people not in education, employment or training).

Student Entitlement

West Bromwich Collegiate Academy 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 new legal requirement to put on at least six encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships.

Opportunities for access:

Opportunity	Date	Description	Gatsby Benchmark
National Careers Week National Apprenticeship Week	March February	This week celebrates the opportunities for young people aspiring to different careers. It provides an opportunity for external partners to engage with school.	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
Student Assemblies	Throughout the year	Students will have the opportunity to listen to guest speakers from different career backgrounds. This broadens students contact with a range of employers.	3, 6
Open Evenings	Throughout the year	Increased parental awareness of careers support in making decisions about options, future destinations, and opportunities in the academy.	3, 8
Focus Days	Throughout the year	Specific career focused days where students learn a	1, 3, 5, 6
Work experience	Summer Term	Year 10 students will all experience work within different sectors working with employer partnerships.	3, 5, 6,
Careers Events	Throughout the year	Students will have opportunities to network with a number of prospective employers, training providers and HE/FE during events through out the year. E.g Careers Fair	1

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader and Line Manager (***Mr J Bunce – Assistant Principal***) 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. West Bromwich Collegiate Academy is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Requests for access

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Requests for access should be directed to ***Mrs J Evans***, Careers Leader. ***Mrs J Evans*** may be contacted by telephone or email, ***careers@wbca.shirelandcat.net*** , Tel ***0121 393 4850***. All requests should be made at least 6 weeks in advance of the planned session.

Grounds for granting requests for access.

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers lessons, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that West Bromwich Collegiate Academy is arranging.

Grounds for refusal

Requests will be refused if:

- They impinge on student's preparation for public or internal exams
- They clash with other planned school events
- The school is unable to provide staff to support the event
- Rooming is unable to be found due to timetabling clashes

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

West Bromwich Collegiate Academy will provide an appropriate room or assembly hall to be agreed. All rooms have computers, projectors and screens provided. Students also all have access to their own laptop. The Careers Leader will organise this, working 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

West Bromwich Collegiate Academy will 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.

Management

The Careers Leader coordinates all provider requests and is responsible to his/her senior management line manager.

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to Mary Henderson – Associate Principal via email mhenderson@wbca.shirelandcat.net

Monitoring review and evaluation

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Standards and Performance Committee.

Policy Coordinator: Mary Henderson *Policy Reviewed: July 2027*

Providers who have been invited in:

- Sandwell College
- Central Saint Michael's Sixth
- Halesowen College
- Dudley College

- Dudley Sixth
- Sandwell Academy Sixth Form
- King Edwards Stourbridge Sixth Form
- Juniper Training
- Nova Training
- SCL Training
- Walsall College
- George Salter Sixth Form

Destinations of previous pupils from West Bromwich Collegiate Academy

Key stage 4 school summary

Key stage 4 2023/24 leavers – destination measures (activity in the year following key stage 4 completion)

	Number	Percentage
Number of pupils	166	100%
Pupils staying in education for at least two terms after key stage 4	145	87%
Further education college or other further education provider	107	64%
Sixth-form college - state funded	9	5%
School sixth-form - state funded	29	17%
Other education destinations	0	0%
Pupils staying in apprenticeships for at least six months	1	1%
Pupils in education or apprenticeships which were not sustained for two terms	13	8%
Pupils not captured in education or apprenticeships (destination unknown or in employment)	7	4%

Policy Reviewed: September 2026