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| Policy Title: | Provider Access Policy |
| Version: | 1.1 |
| Member of Staff Responsible: | SLT Lead: Careers (Head of 6 th Form) |
| Approval Level: | Governing Body |
| Status: | Statutory |
| Date adopted by Governing Body: | Feb 2023 |
| Cycle of Review: | Annual |
| Date for next review: | Jun 2025 |

Change Record

| Version | Date | Description of Changes |
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| 1.0 | Feb 2023 | New Policy |
| 1.1 | Jun 2024 | Reference to additional guidance, responsible staff names added; instructions for complaints added; provider & destinations update |
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“Settle College promotes the safeguarding and welfare of children in its care; all policies support the “Child Protection Policy”

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Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school’s arrangements for managing the access of providers to pupils at the school for the purpose of giving them information about the provider’s education or training offer. This complies with the school’s legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997 (Baker Clause), as amended by The Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022. Also informed by Careers guidance and access for education and training providers, January 2023.

Rationale

High quality careers education and guidance in school 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

Settle College 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. Settle College 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.

Settle College 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

Settle College's 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.

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

Student Entitlement

Settle College 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.

This will be done in assemblies in National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week, in addition to providers attending careers events at school such as parents evenings.

All pupils in years 7-13 are entitled:

- to find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeships opportunities, as part of a careers programme which provides information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition point;
- to hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships – through options events, assemblies and group discussions and taster events;

- to understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses. For pupils of compulsory school age these encounters are mandatory and there will be a minimum of two encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (year 8 to 9) and two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 10 to 11). For pupils in the 'third key phase' (year 12 to 13), particularly those that have not yet decided on their next steps, there are two more provider encounters available during this period, which are optional for pupils to attend.

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader and Line Manager (**TBA and GWH**) 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. Settle College 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 Mrs Gill Walker, Careers Leader. Mrs Gill Walker may be contacted by telephone or email, g.walker@settlecollege.n-yorks.sch.uk , Tel 01729 822451.

Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers or PSHE, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that Settle College is arranging. Students may also travel to visit other providers and request this through an absence form.

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

Settle College will provide an appropriate room or assembly hall to be agreed. All rooms have computers, projectors and screens provided. Computer rooms can also be arranged. 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 staff who will facilitate.

Live/Virtual encounters

Settle College 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, with communications home to stimulate discussion with students and parents may also be invited to attend some events to meet providers.

Management

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

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this policy should be raised through the complaints policy online.

Monitoring review and evaluation

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Leadership Team and through Governance.

Appendix

Providers who have been invited into *Settle College* to date include:

Craven College

Lancaster and Morecambe College

Northumbria University

Coventry University

Edge Hill University

Lancaster University

British Army (as training provider)

BAE Systems (as training provider)

Destinations of previous Yr11 pupils from *Settle College* include:

Settle College 6th form

Craven College

Lancaster and Morecambe College

Kendal College

Nelson and Colne College

Keighley College

Leeds City College

Preston College

Myerscough College

Askham Bryan College

York College

Reaseheath College

Blackburn College

Employment/Part -time training