

PETER SYMONDS COLLEGE



PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY FOR THE SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

Date Reviewed by SMT:

February 2023

Date Approved by Governors:

February 2023

Member of Staff Responsible:

Deputy Principal (Welfare & Progression)

Next Review Date:

February 2025



Introduction

This document sets out the college's arrangements for managing the access of providers to students studying at the college for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

Student Entitlement

All students at Peter Symonds Sixth Form College 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 focused events including compulsory Careers Day, Symonds Lecture Programme/Level 2 Careers Programme which includes apprenticeship talk, Progression Fair, Curriculum Subjects, and optional lunch time talks
- To understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses

All students in Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth will have the opportunity to attend at least two provider encounters. Providers will be given a reasonable amount of time to: -

- Share information about both the provider and the approved technical education qualification and apprenticeships that the provider offers
- Explain what career routes those options could lead to
- Provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with that provider (including the opportunity to meet staff and trainee employees from the provider)

The majority of students at Peter Symonds Sixth Form College Study A levels and progress onto higher education courses (around 85-90%). Approximately 5% of students' each year progress onto employment, which includes apprenticeships and training. Examples of recent employment destinations include Student Police Constable with City of London Police; Apprentice Administrator with VTCT; Apprentice Financial Analyst with IBM; Aircraft Control Position Operator with NATs; Investment Analyst with Mercer and Trainee Pharmacy Advisor with Boots.

Management of Provider Access Requests

A provider wishing to request access should contact Debbie Mahoney, Head of Careers & Careers Lead.

Telephone: 01962 857552 Email: dmahoney@psc.ac.uk

Requests for visits need to be made well in advance, considering the term dates and important dates published on the [college website](#).

Previous providers to the college include talks by BAE systems covering Apprenticeships in Engineering; Rathbone Legal Services covering Apprenticeships as a Solicitor; along with EY, NHS & Virgin Media O2 covering Apprenticeships available with their organisation. Exhibitors to the annual Progression Fair include Steve Willis Training Centre; L3Harris Airline Academy; Morgan Sindall Infrastructure; Hampshire & Isle of Wight Police and JP Morgan.

Opportunities for Access

The College offers a comprehensive Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance programme and an overview of this programme can be seen on the College website. Varied events, integrated into the College's careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come in to speak to students and/or their parents.

The College will make our premises available to allow fair access between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity and will be during the college day (9.00am - 4.30pm). The College will also make available ICT and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Head of Careers. Our only event offered virtually is Careers Day, all other provider access requests are for physical visits and talks to students.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature with the Head of Careers, so that they can be displayed in the Careers Department.

The College policies on [safeguarding](#) will need to be followed by any providers accessing our premises to talk to our students and providers will be briefed on the staff code of conduct upon arrival. A copy of this can be found on the Peter Symonds College website.

Complaint Procedure

The Careers Lead will grant or refuse requests based on the number of requests received, along with ensuring there is a range of providers attending the two large careers events – Careers Day and Progression Fair which take place in the spring term and which all students attend. Careers Talks take place across the academic year in the students' lunch time, which is from 1.00 – 1.55pm each day.

Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised following the College's Complaints Procedure which can be found on our website or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk

Links to other policies

The Provider Access Policy supports and is underpinned by key college policies including those for teaching and learning; information, advice and guidance; careers, education and guidance; and work experience.