

Northfield School
Provider Access Policy

Introduction

Under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997, as of January 2018, we have a duty to provide students in years 8 – 13 with access to providers of post-14, post-16 and post-18 education and training. This policy statement sets out how we manage access requests from these providers.

Student entitlement

Students 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 to them at each transition point.
- Hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships – through Annual Reviews of Education Health and Care plans, taster events, e.g. in house vocational workshops in hospitality, and group discussions within lessons
- Understand how to make applications for a range of academic and technical courses appropriate to them and their SEND.

Management of provider access requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact: Ellie Desmond, Acting Deputy Headteacher, on 01865 771703.

Opportunities for access

Where appropriate, we offer providers the opportunity to speak with students and/or their parents, usually during an Annual Review meeting.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus and other relevant course literature in reception, for the initial attention of Ellie Desmond, Acting Deputy Headteacher.

Providers may also be invited into school to support with class-based discussions about careers, future educational placements, apprenticeships, etc.

Guidelines for granting and refusing access

Northfield School will grant access requests that meet the following criteria:

1. The provider has detailed knowledge of the nature of the SEND of Northfield school students

2. The provider can offer appropriate pathways for the students, on both an academic and pastoral level

Northfield School will refuse any access request that:

1. The school believes is not in the best interests of the students
2. Does not meet the educational requirements of the students e.g. the provider offers unrealistic academic qualifications

Premises and facilities

Once the provider has been approved, the school will work with them to identify the best method for providing access to the students.

The academy will make the hall, classrooms or meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity.

This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Safeguarding

Northfield School's Child Protection and Safeguarding policies outline the academy's approach for welcoming providers into school to speak with the students.

Bibliography:

DfE (2017) 'Technical education and apprenticeships: raising awareness in schools', <<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/technical-education-and-apprenticeships-raising-awareness/technical-education-and-apprenticeships-raising-awareness-in-schools>>