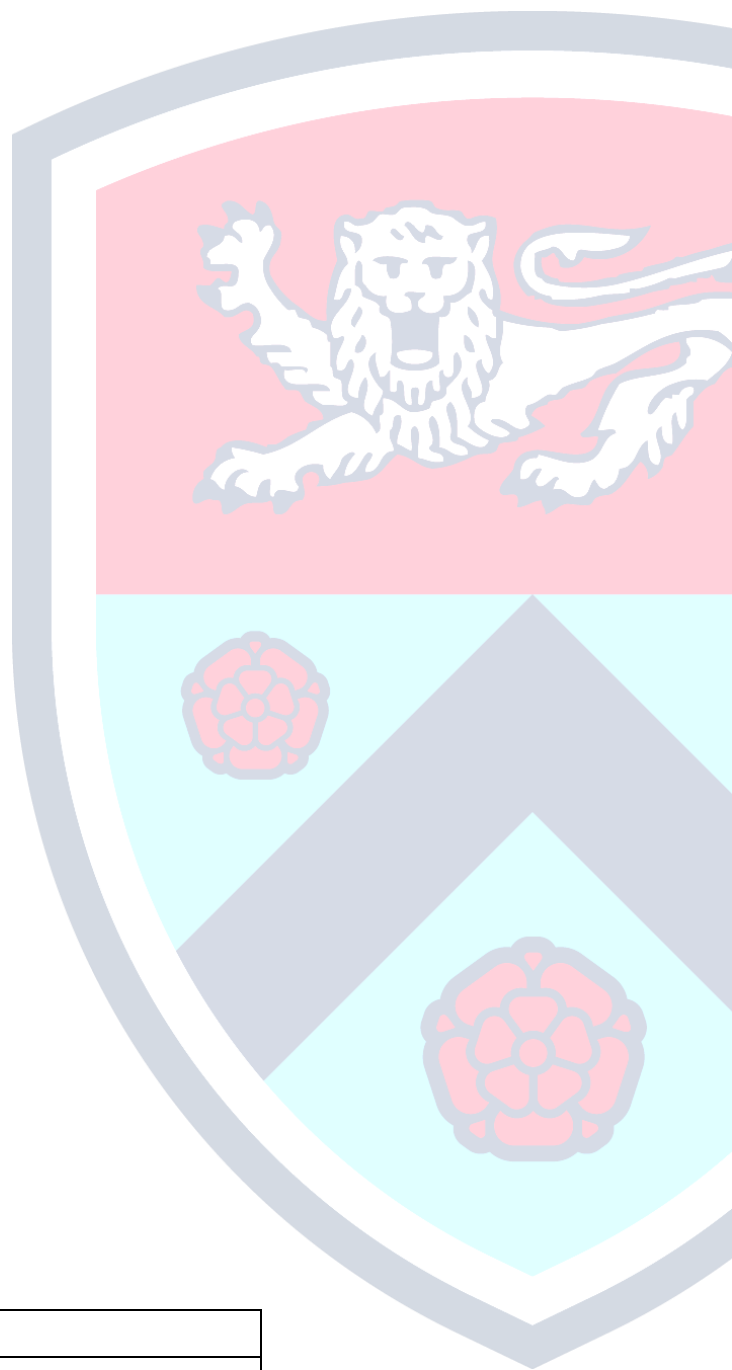




Provider Access Policy



Author	Emmet McGauran
SLT Lead	Emmet McGauran
Governors' Committee	Student Welfare
Next review Date	July 2025

Confidence Purpose Respect

Introduction

This policy statement sets out Carnforth High School's arrangements for managing the access of providers to students at the school for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer, and how the school meets the legal entitlements for all students.

Student Legal Entitlement

Students in Years 8-11 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 evenings, assemblies and group discussions and taster events.
- To understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

Specifically, the updated provider access legislation (PAL) has now been enacted by the government (as of January 2023). It specifies schools must provide at least six encounters with approved providers of apprenticeships and technical education for all their students (or four if they do not have a post-16 offer):

- 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
- Two encounters for pupils during the 'third key phase' (year 12 or 13) that are mandatory for the school to put on but optional for pupils to attend

This new legislation will become a key mechanism to further help learners understand and take-up, not just apprenticeships, but wider technical education options such as T-Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications.

All six encounters must happen for a reasonable period of time during the standard school day. Provider encounters that take place outside of school hours, for example parents' evenings, do not count towards fulfilment of the legal requirement for six provider encounters, but schools are still encouraged to provide these complementary experiences for students and their parents.

Schools and providers should work together, and schools must ask each provider to provide information to pupils that, as a minimum, includes:

- information about the provider and the approved technical education
- qualifications or apprenticeships that the provider offers,
- information about the careers to which those technical education qualifications or apprenticeships might lead,
- a description of what learning or training with the provider is like,
- responses to questions from the pupils about the provider or approved
- technical education qualifications and apprenticeships.

You can read more about the government guidance on this issue here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/careers-guidance-provision-for-young-people-in-schools>

How Carnforth High School Complies with these Entitlements

Interactions with providers are chiefly provided in school time through:

- **Assemblies.** One careers-based assembly is held each half term, organised by the Careers Leader. Some of these assemblies will be attended by providers who will outline their offer, as described above. All students in the year are required to be at the assembly.
- **Careers Fairs.** At least one Careers Fair will take place each academic year. In 2024/25 this will be in November. This will be an opportunity for Year 9 and Year 11 students to hear talks and visit stands to speak to providers. All students in the year groups are required to be at the talks and attend the fair in the hall.
- **Enrichment Days and Events.** There are two to three full day Enrichment Days each year (in addition to other events). All students in each year are off timetable and are required to attend all five workshops/lessons/talks that take place during the day. In 2024/25 these days take place in November and March. Providers will be present at each event.

Management of Provider Access Requests

Requests for provider access can be made to the CHS Careers Team. We accept in-person and online visits from providers, generally during usual school hours (9.00am—3.25pm) to provide the widest range of encounters for our students. Details are available from the Careers area of the school website and are also shown here:

Mr Emmet McGauran – Careers Leader

Email: emgauran@carnforthhigh.co.uk

Tel: 01524 732424

The Careers Leader will respond to any request in a timely manner and be in touch to organise specific details that meet the needs of the student and the provider. These discussions will usually result in access being granted, but requests can be refused if students have recently had a similar presentation from a similar provider, if safeguarding (see below) or GDPR requirements cannot be met, if the requested type of facilities are not available, etc.

Premises and Facilities

We will make a suitable space available for discussions between the provider and the student, as appropriate to the activity. The school will also make audio visual equipment available to support provider presentations. This will be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Leader. In most cases this will be the Main Hall for large groups or a classroom for smaller groups (such as on Enrichment Days). Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus and other relevant course literature; this will be displayed and made available for students in the Library and Careers Office.

Safeguarding

Where a provider is visiting the school, they will be asked to provide DBS details, will be provided with safeguarding information and will only be able to show resources which have been vetted by the DSL in advance. There are circumstances where we may feel that resources provided are not suitable, previous convictions shown via DBS mean an individual cannot be allowed in school, or where we may decide that the content of the presentation, or nature of the provider, is such that it is not right for our students. This may result in a refusal of access.

Providers will have to comply with all other elements of our school's safeguarding procedures as outlined in our policy here: <https://www.carnforthhigh.co.uk/app/uploads/2024/09/CHS-Safeguarding-CP-Policy-2024-25.pdf>

Opportunities for Access

Opportunities are available for provider access at a number of events integrated into the school's Careers and Life Skills programmes. These will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to students and/or their parents/carers. Chiefly, these are in assemblies, Careers Fairs and Enrichment Days, as outlined above, as well as Life Skills lessons where there is a focus on Careers. Details about the Life Skills curriculum can be found on our website here: <https://www.carnforthhigh.co.uk/school-life/subjects/life/>. This is an overview of the Life Skills lessons to be delivered in 2024/25, with areas that might be of interest to providers highlighted. Additionally, opportunities for access can be organised through visits to specific school subject departments. To organize these, please contact the Careers Leader in the first instance (details can be found within this policy).

Complaints Procedure

If a provider has any complaints related to a visit to the school, they should speak to the Careers Leader in the first instance (details can be found within this policy). The Careers Leader will meet with them to establish the nature of the complaint and determine any required next steps for action.

If a provider feels that the contact they have made with the Careers Leader has not been sufficiently responded to, or if they feel like a complaint has not been sufficiently addressed, they may contact the school's Headteacher. The details for this are below:

Mr Tim Iddon – Headteacher

Email: headteacher@carnforthhigh.co.uk

Tel: 01524 732424

Student Destinations

Our published figure for "Pupils staying in education or employment for at least 2 terms after key stage 4" on the government's 'compare school performance' website is 93%. This is based on data collected by the government for the year 2021.

To help providers understand the most recent destinations of our leavers, the following data is provided for 2024 leavers (based on known students' stated intended destinations post-results in August 2024):

Intended Destination Type	Percentage of Year 11 Leavers
Studying A-Levels at a college/sixth form (most popular institution was Ripley St Thomas Sixth Form)	26%
Studying a college course (most popular institution was Lancaster and Morecambe College)	50%
Apprenticeship	19%
Employment (including Armed Services)	1%

Previous Post-16 Provider Visits

Below is a list of providers who have visited the school in the last two years:

- Ripley St Thomas Sixth Form
- Morecambe Bay Academy Sixth Form
- Lancaster Girls' Grammar Sixth Form
- Queen Elizabeth School Sixth Form
- Lancaster and Morecambe College
- Kendal College
- Myerscough College
- Lancaster University
- The National Health Service (NHS)
- Siemens
- EDF Energy
- JTL Training
- Lancaster Training Services (LTS)
- Colin Briscoe Construction
- The Department of Work and Pensions (DWP)
- The British Army
- The Royal Air Force