



POLICY STATEMENT ON PROVIDER ACCESS 2023

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to 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.

Student Entitlement

All students in years 8-13 are entitled:

- to find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship 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 option events, assemblies and group discussions and taster events;
- to understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

For students of compulsory school age these encounters are mandatory and there will be a minimum of two encounters for students during the 'first key phase' (year 8 to 9) and two encounters for students during the 'second key phase' (year 10 to 11). For students 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 p students to attend.

These provider encounters will be scheduled during the main school hours and the provider will be given a reasonable amount of time to, as a minimum:

- 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 students from the provider);
- answer questions from students.

Meaningful Provider Encounters

One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between students and one provider. We are committed to providing meaningful encounters to all students using the [Making it Meaningful Checklist](#).

Meaningful online engagement is also an option, and we are open to providers that are able to provide live online engagement with our students.

Previous Providers

In previous terms/years we have invited the following providers from the local area and beyond to speak to our students. These are just a few:

- Cirencester College
- Gloucestershire College
- St James's Place
- Bank of England
- Intel
- Crown Prosecution Service

Management of Provider Access Requests

A provider wishing to access the school should contact Lisa Mitchell, Careers Leader. Lisa Mitchell may be contacted by email or telephone, lmitchell@farmors.gloucs.sch.uk, Tel. 01285 712302 ext 130.

Requests for Access

The school offers the six provider encounters required by law and a number of additional events, integrated into the School Careers Programme. Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled careers sessions and career events that Farmor's School is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider for events such as an Apprenticeship Fair or a higher education event.

Farmor's School 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.

Parents and Carers

Parental involvement is encouraged, and parents may be invited to attend the events to meet the providers. Information will be disseminated weekly via a newsletter from Farmor's and parents will also have the opportunity to speak directly with the Careers Leader at key transition points such as the year 9 and year 11 options events.

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this policy should be raised through the Farmor's School [complaints policy](#) and emailed to complaints@farmors.gloucs.sch.uk in the first instance.

Monitoring Review and Evaluation

This Policy Statement is monitored and evaluated every 3 years by the Senior Leadership Team with the CIAG Policy.

Statement Co-ordinator : Lisa Mitchell

Statement to be next reviewed : July 2026