Provider Access and Technical Education Encounters Policy Statement

Larches High School

September 2026

(Review Date: September 2027)

Introduction

This policy statement sets out Larches High School's arrangements for managing access to pupils by providers of education and training for the purpose of giving them information about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships.

This complies with the school's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997, as amended by the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022, and follows the statutory guidance issued by the Department for Education: *Careers Guidance and Access for Education and Training Providers*

Student Entitlement

All pupils in Years 8-11 are entitled to:

- Find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities as part of the school's careers programme.
- Hear from a range of local and national providers about opportunities available to them.
- Understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.
- Receive information about apprenticeships, T Levels, vocational qualifications, supported internships, further education and employment with training

Opportunities for Access

The school offers a comprehensive careers programme that enables providers to speak with pupils through a range of activities, which may include:

- Careers fairs
- Careers-focused Personal Development lessons
- Assemblies
- Employer engagement activities
- Workplace visits
- Technical education presentations
- Apprenticeship awareness sessions
- Small group workshops
- One-to-one guidance activities

These opportunities are planned throughout the academic year and are integrated into the school's careers programme.

Approved Providers

Approved providers include:

- Further Education Colleges
- Sixth Form Colleges
- Independent Training Providers
- Apprenticeship Providers
- T Level Providers
- Universities and Higher Education Institutions
- Employers and Employer Representative Organisations
- Supported Internship Providers

Provider Access Requests

Providers wishing to request access should contact:

Sharon Settle
Careers Leader

Email: s.settle@larches.lancs.sch.uk
Telephone: 01772 792412

Requests for access should include:

- Name and organisation
- Intended audience/year group
- Proposed activity
- Intended learning outcomes
- Dates and times requested

The school will respond within a reasonable timeframe and will seek to accommodate requests wherever possible.

Granting and Refusing Access

Access will generally be granted where the request:

- Supports the school's careers programme.
- Promotes technical education, apprenticeships or progression opportunities.

- Meets safeguarding requirements.
- Adds value to pupils' understanding of future pathways.

Access may be refused where:

- The activity duplicates provision already planned.
- Safeguarding requirements cannot be met.
- Health and safety considerations prevent the activity taking place.
- The request would cause significant disruption to learning.
- The provider's offer is not considered appropriate for the target age group.

Facilities for Providers

The school will provide:

- Appropriate meeting or teaching rooms.
- Presentation facilities including ICT equipment where available.
- Access to interactive display equipment where appropriate.
- Opportunities to distribute relevant information and literature.
- Support from school staff when required.

All visiting providers will be expected to comply with the school's safeguarding, health and safety, and visitor procedures.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The effectiveness of provider encounters will be monitored through:

- Student feedback.
- Provider feedback.
- Careers programme evaluation.
- Destination data.
- Gatsby Benchmark self-assessment and review.

Related Documents

This policy should be read alongside:

- Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

- Work Experience Policy
- School Careers Programme published on the school website

Policy Approval

Item	Detail
Policy Owner	Careers Leader
Approved By	Governing Body
Date Approved	September 2026
Review Cycle	Annual
Next Review Date	September 2027