Platanos College

Provider Access Policy Statement

The Department for Education, July 2021: "Baker Clause" and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023

Ownership: Platanos Trust - Platanos College
Date updated: January 2026

Rationale

High quality careers education and guidance in school or college is critical to young people's futures. It helps to prepare them for the workplace by providing a clear understanding of the world of work including the routes to jobs and careers that they might find engaging and rewarding. It supports them to acquire the self-development and career management skills they need to achieve positive employment destinations. This helps students to choose their pathways, improve their life opportunities and contribute to a productive and successful economy.

As the number of apprenticeships rises every year, it becomes increasingly important that all young people have a full understanding of all the options available to them post-16 and post-18 including wider technical education options such as T-Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications.

Commitment

Platanos College is committed to ensuring there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students, for the purpose of informing them about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships. **Platanos College** is fully aware of the responsibility to set students on the path that will secure the best outcome which will enable them to progress in education and work and give employers the highly skilled people they need. That means acting impartially, in line with the statutory duty, and not showing bias towards any route, be that academic or technical.

Platanos College endeavours to ensure that all students are aware of all routes to higher skills and are able to access information on technical options and apprenticeships (The Department

for Education, July 2021: "Baker Clause": supporting students to understand the full range of education and training options, and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023).

Aims

Platanos College's policy for access to other education and training providers has the following aims:

- To develop the knowledge and awareness of our students of all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships.
- To support young people to be able to learn more about opportunities for education and training outside of school before making crucial choices about their future options.
- To reduce drop out from courses and avoid the risk of students becoming NEET (Young people not in education, employment or training).

Student Entitlement

Platanos College fully supports the statutory requirement for students to have direct access to other providers of further education training, technical training and apprenticeships. The school will comply with the new legal requirement to put on at least six encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships. This will be done in PSHE, tutor time, assemblies in National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week, in addition to providers attending careers events at school.

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Lead and Line Manager **Ms T. Williams** & **Ms A. Henry,** Heads of School, and then recommended to trustees, based on current good practice guidelines by the Department for Education.

Links with other policies

It supports and is underpinned by key school policies including those for Careers, Child Protection, Equality and Diversity and SEND.

Equality and Diversity

Access to other providers is available and promoted to allow all students to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. **Platanos College** is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Requests for access

Requests for access should be directed to Mr Roger Edwards, Careers Lead. Mr Edwards may be contacted by telephone on *020 7733 6156* or email at edwards.r1@platanoscollege.com

Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers or Life lessons and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that **Platanos College** is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with **Platanos College.**

Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access

Platanos College 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 or Careers Adviser 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 the Careers Team who will facilitate.

Live/Virtual encounters

Platanos College will consider live online encounters with providers where requested, and these may be broadcast into classrooms or the school assembly hall. Technology checks in advance will be required to ensure compatibility of systems.

Parents and Carers

Parental involvement is encouraged, and parents may be invited to attend the events to meet the providers.

Management

The Careers Leader coordinates all provider requests and is responsible to their senior management line manager.

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to Mr Roger Edwards via email, ***edwards.r1@platanoscollege.com***. Mr Edwards will raise the complaint to **Ms T. Williams** and **Ms A. Henry, Heads of School of Platanos College.**

Monitoring review and evaluation

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Senior Leadership Team and trustees.

Policy Author: *Mr Roger Edwards*

Policy Reviewed: *January 2026*