



Provider Access Policy

Erdington Academy

Part of Fairfax Multi-Academy Trust

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Erdington Academy Provider Access Policy

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

Erdington Academy 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. Erdington Academy 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.

Erdington Academy 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 of 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

Erdington Academy 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

Erdington Academy 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 assemblies and lessons, National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week, in addition to Futures Week (a week dedicated to Careers in the curriculum) PSHE careers focus, Enrichment days, trips and events & school website to provide students with opportunities to find out more about FE, Apprenticeships, training, Careers, Jobs and Higher Education.

All students in years 8 to 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 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).

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 who can 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:

- Access Creative College
- Aim Higher
- Amey PLC
- Army
- Arthur Terry School
- Aston Manor School
- Aston University
- Aston Villa Football Club
- Aston University Engineering Academy and Sixth Form
- Aston University Maths School
- The Belfry Hotel and Resort
- Birmingham City University
- Birmingham Metropolitan College (BMet)
- Birmingham University
- Bishop Vesey Grammar School
- BOA
- BOA Stage and Screen Academy
- British Academy of Jewellery
- Cadbury College Sixth Form
- Cambridge University
- Cardiff University
- CILEX -Law
- Coventry University
- Crackerjack Training
- De Montfort University
- Fairfax Sixth form
- Graham Construction
- Halesowen College
- Hampstead Hall Sixth Form
- Heart of England Training
- Hollyhead Sixth Form
- IM Properties
- IMI Truflo Marine
- Joseph Chamberlain Sixth Form College
- JLR
- King Edward School Aston
- King Edward School Handsworth
- KPMG
- Make Uk Ltd
- NCATI
- Navy
- North Birmingham College
- Newman University
- NHS
- Plantsbrook School
- Protocol Training
- Precision Micros
- PwC
- RAF
- Reflections
- Sandwell College
- Solihull College
- Solihull Sixth Form
- St Edmund Campion
- St Michaels Sixth Form
- Staffordshire University
- University of Birmingham School
- University of Law
- Walsall College
- West Midlands Police
- Winvic Construction Ltd
- WMG UTC Academy

Destinations of our students

Last year our year 11 students moved to range of education providers after school:

DESTINATION	NO.	%
BMET SC/JW/MB/ES	56	28%
UCB	54	27%
AUEA	16	8%
Fairfax Academy	7	3.50%
Cadbury College	6	3%
Pro Direct Football Academy	6	3%
NEET/ UNKNOWN	5	2.50%
South and City College	5	2.50%
BOA	4	2%
Joseph Chamberlain College	3	1.50%
Sandwell College	3	1.50%
Aston Manor Academy	3	1.50%
Walsall College	3	1.50%
Apprenticeship Make UK	2	1%
Fortis Academy	2	1%
Handsworth Grammar King Ed	2	1%
St Edmund Champion School	2	1%
Bordesley Green 6 th form	2	1%
Apprenticeship EMD Exclusive Motorsport	1	0.50%
Apprenticeship Happy Days Nursery	1	0.50%
Apprenticeship IMI True Flow Marine	1	0.50%
Apprenticeship Kilnbridge Construction Service	1	0.50%
Apprenticeship Reflections Training	1	0.50%
AUMS	1	0.50%
Sutton Girls Grammar School	1	0.50%
UoB Sixth	1	0.50%
Solihull Sixth Form College	1	0.50%
Shirewood Biomedical	1	0.50%
Arthur Terry Sixth Form	1	0.50%
Coventry College	1	0.50%
Broadway Academy.	1	0.50%
Bishop Walsh	1	0.50%
Halesowen College	1	0.50%
NBA	1	0.50%
Plantsbrook	1	0.50%
St Gregory's RC School	1	0.50%

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader, Lisa Millward, Careers Advisor, Mohammed Hassnain & Louise Hillier (SLT Link) 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. Erdington Academy is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Management of provider access requests

Requests for access

Requests for access should be directed by email to *Lisa Millward* , Careers Leader, l.millward@erdington.fmat.co.uk or Mohammed , Careers Advisor m.hassnain@erdington.fmat.co.uk

Grounds for granting requests for access.

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

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

Erdington Academy 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

Erdington Academy 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.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature in the careers section in the school library, which is managed by the school librarian. The school library is available to all students at lunch and break times.

Parents and Carers

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

Management

The Careers Leader & Careers Advisor coordinate all provider requests and are responsible to their senior management line manager.

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this policy should be raised following the school complaints procedure [SWJ-Complaints-Policy-Jul-21-Jul-24.pdf \(fmat.co.uk\)](#) or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk

Monitoring review and evaluation

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Executive Leadership Team and board of associates for the trust.

Related documents:

<https://erdingtonacademy.bham.sch.uk/academy> [https://erdingtonacademy.bham.sch.uk/academy-](https://erdingtonacademy.bham.sch.uk/academy-life/careers-)

Opportunities for access

The school offers the six provider encounters by law (marked in highlighted text) and a number of additional events, integrated into the school careers programme. We will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to students or their parents and careers.

Please speak to our Careers Lead to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Futures Week – Whole School Careers Fair Everfi STEM Workshop for 120 students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everfi STEM Workshop for 60 students Apprenticeship Week – Apprenticeship Assembly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Big Bang STEM Show at NEC Build the Future Construction Fair and Conference
Year 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Futures Week – Whole School Careers Fair M&G Enterprise Challenge for 50 students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apprenticeship Week – Apprenticeship Assembly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build the Future Construction Fair and Conference Girls' Into Engineering Amey Challenge
Year 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Futures Week – Whole School Careers Fair Enrichment Day 1 – All of year 9 to have a meaningful encounter with a FE/HE provider or employer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apprenticeship Week – Apprenticeship Assemblies and Fair Year 9 Careers Fair and Options Evening 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls' Into Engineering Amey Challenge
Year 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Futures Week – Whole School Careers Fair Fort Work Experience Placement 1 for 7 students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apprenticeship Week – Apprenticeship Assemblies and Fair Fort Work Experience Placement 2 for 7 students Subject Specific Taster Days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work Experience Week Mock interviews Subject Specific Taster Days
Year 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Futures Week – Whole School Careers Fair Year 11 post 16 assemblies with outside providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 11 Post 16 assemblies Year 11 Targeted students to Fairfax Academy 6th Form 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work Experience Opportunities for students after exams

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apprenticeship Week – Apprenticeship Assemblies and Fair	
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