

Rotherham Aspire Provider Access Policy Statement

(To include The Department of Education, July 2021: “Baker Clause” and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023)

Ownership: Rotherham Aspire

Date updated: January 2023

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

Rotherham Aspire 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. Rotherham Aspire 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.

Rotherham Aspire 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

Rotherham Aspire’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

Rotherham Aspire 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.

All students are entitled to be fully involved in an effective CEIAG programme. Students are encouraged to take an active role in their own career development, as such the careers programme emphasises student participation with a focus on self-development; learning about careers and the world of work and developing career management and employability skills.

During their time at school, all students can expect:

- The support they need to make the right choices for Post 16 Education
- Access to up-to-date and unbiased information on future learning and training, careers and labour market information
- Support to develop the self-awareness and career management skills needed for their future
- Career activities during form/tutor time and ethics lessons from Y7 to Y11 covering options after school, the world of work, the job market and the skills needed for the future
- A meaningful encounter with a representative from the world of work each school year; this could be through work experience, World of Work Week activities, assemblies, careers talks (in or outside lessons), projects and visits
- To hear from a range of education and training providers, including colleges, universities and apprenticeship organisations; this could include visits and taster days, as well as talks and meetings at school
- The opportunity to relate what they learn in lessons to their life and career beyond school
- The opportunity to talk through their career and educational choices with staff including form tutors and the careers team
- Access to one-to-one guidance with a trained, impartial careers adviser, by appointment; this is available to students of any year group. A meeting with an adviser independent of the school can also be requested
- The school to keep parents/carers informed of their progress and provide parents/carers with information to support students' career planning and decision-making. Parents/carers can attend careers meetings, by prior arrangement
- To be asked their views about the service they have received to ensure that the service continues to meet the needs of the students

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Lead and Line Manager (Maxine Hughes – Leanne Camaish) 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. Rotherham Aspire 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 Maxine Hughes Careers Lead. Maxine Hughes may be contacted by telephone or email, mhughes@rotherhamaspire.org Tel 07708114147.

Grounds for granting requests for access

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

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

Rotherham Aspire will provide an appropriate room to be agreed. All rooms have computers, projectors and screens provided. The Careers Lead 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

Rotherham Aspire will consider live online encounters with providers where requested, and these may be broadcast into classrooms. Technology checks in advance will be required to ensure compatibility of systems.

Parents and Carers

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

Management

The Careers Lead coordinates all provider requests and is responsible to his/her senior management line manager.

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to Donna Hissitt, email: dhissitt@rotherhamaspire.org.

Donna Hissitt will raise the complaint to Leanne Camaish Head of Rotherham Aspire

Monitoring review and evaluation

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Executive Leadership Team and the Career Lead

Policy Coordinator: Donna Hissitt

Policy Reviewed: January 2023

Appendix

Providers who have been invited into Rotherham Aspire to date include:

- RNN College Group
- RUST Post 16 Provider
- MLT Engineering
- NHS
- Tesco
- British Army

Destinations of previous pupils from Rotherham Aspire include:

- RNN Group Colleges
- RUST
- Armed Forces
- Morthyng Post 16 Education
- Doncaster College
- Sheffield City College