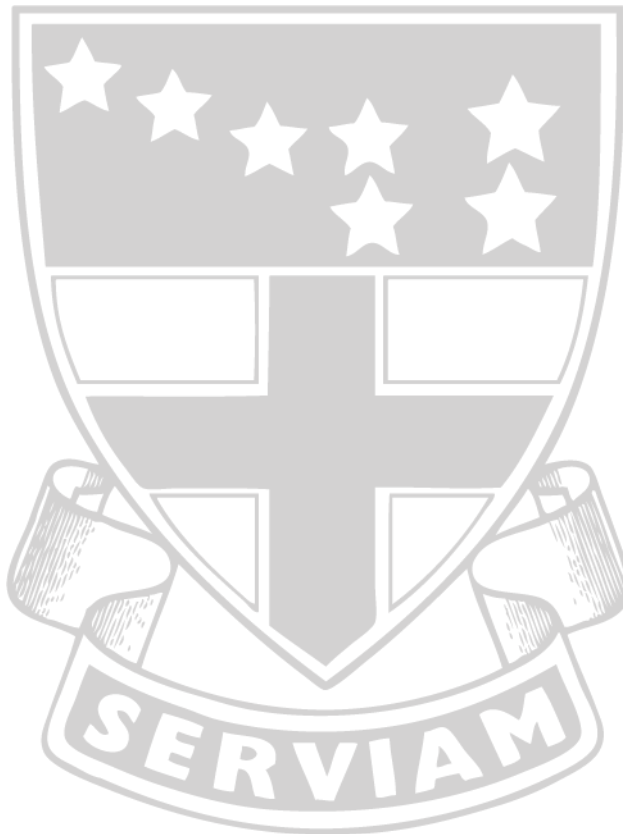


PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY



Date of Review: July 2026

Date of Next Review: July 2028

1. Aims

This policy complies with the school's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997 (amended by the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022).

2. Student entitlement and mandatory encounters

All students in Years 8 – 13 are entitled to a minimum of six statutory encounters with providers of technical education and apprenticeships. These are broken down into three mandatory key phases:

- Two encounters for students during the 'first key phase' (year 8 or 9) that are mandatory for all students to attend
- Two encounters for students during the 'second key phase' (year 10 or 11) that are mandatory for all students to attend
- Two encounters for students during the 'third key phase' (year 12 or 13) that are mandatory for the school to put on but optional for students to attend

Year 9, 11 and 13 encounters must take place between 1 September and 28 February.

3. Mandatory content of provider encounters

To ensure high quality, every provider must take place during the standard school day and give students the following minimum information:

- Information about the provider and the specific vocational, technical qualifications or apprenticeships they offer
- Information about the careers to which those vocational, technical qualifications or apprenticeships lead
- A description of what learning or training with that provider is like
- Opportunity for students to ask questions about the provider or qualifications

4. Past provider engagement and student destinations

To comply with publication regulations, the school tracks the impact of provider access.

- Previous providers: Appendix 1 is an overview of 2025 -2026 providers
- Student destinations: Available on request

5. Management of provider access requests

Providers wishing to request access should contact our [school office](#) for the attention of the Careers Leader at least 8 weeks in advance.

The school is legally required to ensure vocational, technical education and apprenticeship providers have meaningful access to students. However, the school reserves the right to refuse access requests based on specific operational and educational grounds.

5.1 Grounds for granting access

Access requests will generally be granted if:

- The request aligns with a pre-scheduled careers event, assembly slot or designated RISE UP Day
- The provider's offering directly supports the mandatory target outcomes for the student's specific Key Phase
- The request is submitted via the Careers Leader at least 8 weeks in advance, allowing for appropriate planning, venue booking, safeguarding checks and staff adjustments
- The provider explicitly agrees to deliver all four core components of the statutory provider legislation, including interactive activities, such as, Q&A

5.2 Grounds for refusing access

The school will refuse a provider access under the following circumstances:

- Examination and assessment disruptions
Access will not be granted to any year group during public examination windows and assessments, including internal examinations and assessment periods
- Timing restrictions
Requests for specific year groups will be refused if they fall outside the strict legal calendar windows - Year 9, 11 and 13 encounters must take place between 1 September and 28 February
- Curriculum clashes
A request may be refused if it directly conflicts with non-negotiable school calendar fixtures, such as trips, parents' evenings or health and safety drills
- Duplicate provision
If students have already received their statutory allocation of matching provider encounters for that academic key phase, subsequent requests may be refused to prevent unnecessary loss of curriculum time
- Safeguarding and compliance refusal
Access will not be granted if the provider fails to comply with the school's [Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy](#) or cannot provide the required identification upon arrival

5.3 Alternative arrangements upon refusal

If a physical or specific date request is refused due to the reasons stated above (excluding safeguarding and compliance), the school will proactively offer the provider an alternative. This may include:

- Rescheduling at a later date or will be considered for the next academic year
- Hosting a live virtual or blended encounter to eliminate rooming or scheduling issues
- Displaying the provider's literature or digital prospectus in the library and Google Classroom

6. Complaints procedure

If a provider feels they have been unreasonably refused access, they can be raised following the school complaints procedure [here](#) or directly to the SLT Link for CEIAG and Careers Leader.

Provider Access Policy - Careers Provision Map
(Subject to Annual Review and Adjustments)

Appendix I

Key Stage 3

Details of encounter	Year	Provider	Term
Mandatory encounter 1	8	Access Creative College	Summer
Mandatory encounter 2	9	The Hill Group	Spring

Key Stage 4

Details of encounter	Year	Provider	Term
Mandatory encounter 1	10	Newham College	Autumn
Mandatory encounter 2	11	Waltham Forest College	Autumn

Key Stage 5

Details of encounter	Year	Provider	Term
Mandatory encounter 1	12	Capgemini	Spring
Mandatory encounter 2	12	The Hill Group	Summer

Key Stage 4 and 5

Details of other encounters	Year	Provider	Term
Futures Fair	10 – 12	Multiple providers	Autumn

Monitoring

This Policy is monitored by the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team of St Angela's Ursuline School. Specialist staff related to the policy area also monitor its use and suitability making recommendations for development when the need arises.

Evaluation

The evaluation of the effectiveness of this policy is undertaken by the Governing Body of St Angela's Ursuline School as set at Governing Body meetings within a framework of annual/biannual compliance checks