

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance

Provider Access Policy Statement



BOWER PARK
ACADEMY

Review Date: January 2025



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

The Bower Park 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. The Bower Park 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.

The Bower Park 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

The Bower Park 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

The Bower Park 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 delivered through assemblies, SMSC, tutorials and promoting activities during National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week, in addition to providers attending careers events.

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader – Kelly Porter and Line Manager Jo Scott in consultation with Empower Learning Academy Trust CEIAG team. It is 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 (CEIAG), 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. The Bower Park Academy is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Requests for access

We welcome approaches from providers who wish to provide support to students in our School.

Any provider wishing to request access to student information should contact the Careers Lead (Kelly Porter) porter@elatschools.co.uk or the Careers SLT Link (Jo Scott) jscott@elatschools.co.uk. A number of events are integrated into our careers programme where we offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to students and/or their parents/carers. Individual post-16 providers are invited to support events, run assemblies and deliver talks about what they have to offer our students after Bower Park Academy throughout Key Stages 3 and 4.

Please contact our Careers Lead to identify the most suitable opportunity for your organisation.

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 The Bower Park Academy is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with Empower Learning Academy Trust.

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

The Bower Park 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

The Bower Park 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.

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 Jo Scott who will forward the complaint to Simon London CEO Empower Learning Academy Trust.

Monitoring review and evaluation

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students is monitored by the Careers Lead.

We promote and facilitate a number of physical and virtual careers events throughout the year, targeted at different year groups. We are seeking volunteers to run **Parental or Alumni Careers talks** to Years 7 to 11 students, if you are interested in being involved in this please contact porter@elatschools.co.uk or jscott@elatschools.co.uk.

All students have an individual Careers interview during Key Stage 4 with the **Trust's Independent Careers Advisor, Kirsten Witchalls**, and may repeat this if required. Parents are welcome to attend with their child. Please contact kwitchalls@elatschools.co.uk if you have any questions regarding individual Careers interviews.

A Borough sourced NEET intervention runs from September until May half term for Year 11.

Appendix

Examples of providers who have been invited into Empower Learning Academy Trust schools include (but not exhaustive):

Colleges:

Barking & Dagenham College
Big Creative Education
East London Arts & Music
USP College
London Screen Academy
London Design & Engineering UTC
New City College
Writtle College

6th Forms:

Becket Keys C of E secondary school
Drapers Academy
Francis Bardsley Academy
Robert Clack Secondary school
Sacred Heart of Mary secondary school

Training providers:

Amazing Apprenticeships
IT Training
STC Training Group

Employers and Charitable Trusts:

Access HE
Future Frontiers
Metropolitan Police
NHS
Transport for London
The Army
Wates Construction

Destinations of previous pupils from The Bower Park Academy include:

Barking and Dagenham College
BCE
Becket Keys C of E secondary school
Coopers Company and Coborn School
Drapers Academy
ELAM
Francis Bardsley Academy
New City College – Ardleigh Green, Wingleye Lane & Rainham Construction
Robert Clack Beauty College
Sacred Heart of Mary secondary school
South Essex College
The Champion School
USP College
Writtle College

+ various apprenticeship employers such as Ford, Wylie Veterinary Practice, Wates Construction etc.