Provider Access Policy Statement

Ownership: George Eliot Academy

Date updated: Autumn 2026

Rationale

High-quality careers education and guidance in school 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 pupils 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

George Eliot Academy is committed to ensuring there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access pupils, for the purpose of informing them about technical education, qualifications and apprenticeships. George Eliot Academy is fully aware of the responsibility to set pupils 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 statutory duty, and not showing bias towards any route, be that academic or technical.

George Eliot Academy endeavors to ensure that all pupils are aware of all routes to higher education and can access information on technical options and apprenticeships (The Department of Education, July 2021: "Baker Clause": supporting pupils to understand the full range of education and training options, and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023

Aims

George Eliot Academy policy for Access to other education and training providers has the following aims:

- To develop the knowledge and awareness of pupils 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 pupils becoming NEET (Young people not in education, employment or training)

Pupil Entitlement

George Eliot Academy fully supports the statutory requirement for pupils to have direct

access to other providers of further education training, technical training and apprenticeships. The academy 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 through providers attending various careers events at the school.

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers leader and Line Manager Dee Stanton based on current good practice guidelines by the department for education.

Links with other areas

It supports and is underpinned by key school policies including those for careers, child protection, equality and diversity and inclusion policies.

Equality and Diversity

Access to other providers is available and promoted to allow all pupils to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. George Eliot Academy is committed to encouraging all pupils to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Requests for access

Requests for access should be directed to Sophie Smith, the Careers Leader. Sophie Smith may be contacted by telephone at, 02476744000 or email, Sophie.Smith@georgeeliotacademy.org.uk.

Opportunities for access

There are a variety of ways you could be involved with pupils at George Eliot Academy

- Giving talks/ assemblies about FE options
- Offering CV writing advice
- Helping with mock interviews
- Attending our careers fair
- Informing pupils of local apprenticeship opportunities
- College/ sixth form taster days
- Open days/ visits to your premises

Several events, integrated into the school's careers program, will offer providers opportunity to come into school and speak to pupils and/or their parents. These happen across all key stages.

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

George Eliot 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 Lead will organize this, working closely with the provider to ensure the facilities are appropriate for 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

George Eliot Academy will consider live online encounters with providers where requested, and these may be broadcast into classrooms or school assembly hall. Technology checks in

advance will be required to ensure compatibility with 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 his/her senior management line manager.

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this policy should be raised with Sophie Smith – Sophie.Smith@georgeeliotacademy.org.uk

Sophie Smith will raise the complaint to Dee Stanton, Vice Principal of George Eliot Academy

Monitoring review and evaluation

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the senior leadership team.
Policy coordinator: Sophie Smith
Next Policy Review Date: Autumn 2027

Appendix

Providers who have been invited into George Eliot Academy to date include:

- North Warwickshire & South Leicestershire College
- St Thomas More Sixth Form
- Higham Lane Sixth Form
- Etone Sixth Form
- Coventry College
- King Edward VI College
- City Birmingham College
- Haddon Institute of Performing Arts
- Coventry University
- McPhillips construction
- DMU University
- Warwick University

Destinations of previous pupils from George Eliot Academy include:

- North Warwickshire & South Leicestershire College
- King Edward VI College
- South Staffordshire College

- Coventry College
- Bedworth United Academy
- Hereward College
- Warwickshire College Group
- Nicholas Chamberlaine Sixth Form
- Etone College and Etone Football Academy
- JC6
- St Thomas More Sixth Form
- Army Foundation
- Nottingham College
- ASA Theatre Arts
- Higham Lane Sixth Form
- Apprenticeship Providers
- BOA
- George Eliot Hospital Apprenticeships
- Nursey apprenticeships
- Employers
  - Moreton Morrell
  - Strachan Football Academy