

The Vyne School Provider Access Policy November 2025

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 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 and apprenticeships.

Commitment

The Vyne Community School 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 Vyne Community School 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 Vyne School 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 for 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 Vyne School 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).

Pupil Entitlement

Encounters will occur during the standard school day and will be scheduled as follows: two encounters during Key Stage 3 (any time in Year 8 or between 1 September and 28 February in Year 9) and two during Key Stage 4 (any time in Year 10 or between 1 September and 28 February in Year 11).

All students in years 7-11 have the right:

- to receive information about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities as part of a comprehensive careers program.
- to hear from local providers about the various opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships, through events, assemblies, discussions, and taster sessions.
- to understand the process of applying for a wide range of academic and technical courses.

Additionally, we are committed to full compliance with the proposed 'Provider Access Legislation' effective from January 2023. This commitment entails:

- Two mandatory encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (year 8 or 9).
- Two mandatory encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 10 or 11).

Managing Provider Access Requests

Our provider access policy statement covers the following, in line with DfE guidance:

- How to request access (contact details and process).
- Grounds for granting or refusing requests.
- Times when access can be given.
- Premises and facilities that will be made available.
- How the school meets the statutory requirement for provider encounters (four encounters across Years 8–11 for our 11–16 setting).

Procedure

Providers seeking access should contact Giffle Scott (Careers Leader), via Telephone: 01256 473003 or Email: g.scott@vyne.hants.sch.uk

Access Opportunities

The Vyne Community School offers a comprehensive Careers Education, Information, Advice, and Guidance program. Various events within the school careers program will provide opportunities for providers to engage with students and/or their parents/guardians. Please consult our Careers Leader to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

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 Vyne School is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Facilities

The school will provide suitable venues like the community hall, school hall, classrooms, or private meeting rooms for discussions between the provider and students. This will be determined by the nature of the activity. Additionally, the school will offer audio-visual equipment and other specialised resources to support provider presentations. All arrangements will be made in consultation with the Careers Leader or a member of the Pastoral/SLT Team. Providers are encouraged to leave copies of their prospectus or relevant course materials in the school library, which is accessible to all students during lunch and break times.

Safeguarding

Our safeguarding and child protection policy outlines the procedure for verifying the identity and suitability of visitors. Education and training providers are expected to adhere to this policy.

Related Policies

This policy should be read alongside the following:

- Safeguarding policy
- Child Protection policy
- Careers Policy
- Monitoring

The school's procedures for managing access of education and training providers to students are overseen by Giffle Scott. This policy will undergo an annual review by Giffle Scott and will be approved by the governing board at each review.

Concerns about access are handled via the school Complaints Policy. In line with DfE guidance, Ofsted may comment in its inspection report if the school does not meet the provider access duty.

Reviewed November 2025

Next Review November 2026