

Provider Access Policy (Baker Clause) 2020-21

Ark Charter Academy

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to pupils at the school for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the school's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

Pupil entitlement

All pupils in years 8-13 are entitled:

- to find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeships opportunities, as part of a careers programme which provides information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition point;
- to hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships – through options events, assemblies and group discussions and taster events;
- to understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

Management of provider access requests

Ark Charter Academy uses the Gatsby Benchmarks as a guide to plan our Pathways and Enrichment programme. As part of our commitment to informing our students of the full range of learning and training pathways on offer to them, we are happy to consider requests from training, apprenticeship and vocational education providers to speak to students.

Ark Charter Academy also proactively seek to build relationships with these partners as we plan our Pathways and Enrichment activity throughout the school year to ensure that providers have multiple opportunities to speak to students and their parents across years 7-13, to offer information on vocational, technical and apprenticeship qualifications and pathways. Ark Charter Academy ensures that Academy staff involved in personal guidance and pastoral support are up to date on their knowledge of these post 16 and post 18 pathways, through a programme of Continuing Professional Development.

Opportunities for providers to speak with students may include school assemblies, employer and provider engagement events or opportunities to speak with students and parents on a one-to-one basis supporting GCSE, post 16 or post 18 option choices. Ark Charter Academy's Pathways and Enrichment programme is monitored for quality and impact by the Academy's Senior Leadership and Governance Teams.

In the first instance, requests by providers should be sent to the Academy's Careers Lead with a minimum of 6 weeks' lead time. All requests will be considered on the basis of staffing availability to support the activity, clashes with other planned activity, trips or visits to the Academy, interruption to preparation for examinations or rooming and space availability to host the activity.

For questions on this or Ark Charter Academy's wider Pathways and Enrichment programme, please contact the Academy's Careers Lead, Ms Ollie Riches on careersoffice@charteracademy.org.uk

COVID-19 UPDATE

NB! Due to the current public health situation, access to the school for external providers remains restricted and is reviewed on a case-by-case basis, pending satisfactory risk assessment and in accordance with government guidelines on social distancing.

Opportunities for access

Ark Charter Academy runs a series of events which offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils and/or their parents/carers:

- KS4 Careers Fair
- Enrichment Days
- STEM Weeks
- Careers Assemblies
- PSHE Careers Lessons – CV writing, application forms, employability skills, finance, careers in the curriculum, real world encounters, inspirational talks

Please contact Ark Charter Careers Office on careersoffice@charteracademy.org.uk or call 023 9282 4204 and ask to speak to Ms Ollie Riches, Careers Lead.

Premises and facilities

The school will make the main hall, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. The school will also make available AV and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Lead.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at the careers resource centre, which is managed by the Careers Lead. The resource centre is available to all students at lunch and break times.

Approval and review

Approved on 05.09.2020 by the Principal

Next review: 05.09.2021

Signed: Ms E Morey