

This provider access policy is designed for Fairfax Academy, which is part of the **Fairfax Multi-Academy Trust (FMAT)**. It incorporates mandatory requirements from the [updated Provider Access Legislation \(PAL\)](#) and specific operational procedures used by FMAT schools.

Fairfax Academy Provider Access Policy Statement

1. Aims and Rationale

Fairfax Academy is committed to ensuring that all students in Years 7–13 are aware of the full range of education and training options available to them at each transition point. This policy aims to:

- Develop student knowledge of all career pathways, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships.
- Support students in making informed choices to reduce the risk of becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment, or Training).
- Ensure impartial guidance that does not show bias toward any specific route, whether academic or technical.

2. Statutory Requirements (The "Baker Clause")

This policy complies with Section 42B of the Education Act 1997. As of January 2025, Fairfax Academy ensures all students receive at least six encounters with providers of apprenticeships and technical education:

- **First Key Phase (Years 8/9):** Two mandatory encounters. In Year 9, these must happen by **28th February**.
- **Second Key Phase (Years 10/11):** Two mandatory encounters. In Year 11, these must happen by **28th February**.
- **Third Key Phase (Years 12/13):** Two encounters that the school *must* offer, though attendance is optional for students

3. Management of Provider Access Requests

A provider wishing to request access should contact the **Careers Team** that consists of

- Ms A Blake – Strategic Career Lead
- Mrs Knowles -Operational Career Lead
- **Contact:** FF-Careers@fairfax.fmat.co.uk
- **Notice Period:** Requests should be emailed at least **8 weeks** in advance of the planned session.

4. Grounds for Granting and Refusing Access

All requests will be reviewed by the CEIAG lead and Senior Leadership. Requests may be refused if:

- They impinge on student preparation for public or internal exams.

- They clash with other scheduled school events (e.g., sports days, parents' evenings, or school photos).
- The school is unable to provide staff to support the presentation.
- No appropriate rooming is available due to timetabling clashes.

5. Premises and Facilities

For approved visits, Fairfax Academy will provide:

- **Spaces:** The school hall, classrooms, or private meeting rooms as appropriate.
- **Equipment:** AV facilities including computers, projectors, and screens.
- **Materials:** Providers are welcome to leave prospectuses at Reception FAO: The Careers Team or directly with the Career Team.
- **Virtual Access:** Live online encounters via platforms like MS Teams are also supported.

6. Safeguarding

Fairfax Academy is committed to keeping children safe. All visitors must adhere to the [FMAT Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy](#), which includes identity and suitability checks.

7. Monitoring and Review

This policy is reviewed annually by the FMAT Education Board and the local Academy Governing Body.
