

Provider Access Policy

Mission Statement

Empowering everyone to be the best that they can be.

1. **Excellence** – We will provide students with opportunities in which to excel, to empower them to make free choices as a foundation for the best possible future; with outcomes in line with or better than their peers nationally.
2. **Equality** – We will provide high quality teaching and learning, delivering a broad, knowledge rich curriculum, where high aspirations are the norm and success is celebrated, to all students regardless of their background, ethnicity, religion, gender, educational need.
3. **Truth** – We will pursue truth open-mindedly, seeking to help students to enquire, question and challenge, helping them to be well-rounded, resilient, confident, independent learners with a love for learning.
4. **Respect** – We will create a safe community that has at its core an understanding of deep respect for self, for others and for the environment; strong relationships are key.

Person(s) responsible:	Naveed Khan, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Policy type:	WeST Guidance/Generic School Policy
Approval level:	WeST Community Council 7 (WCC7)
Date approved:	To be ratified by WCC 7 21/06/2026
Person(s) responsible for adapting template policy to local school needs	Julie Randell, Careers Advisor/Teacher
Date of next review:	March 2027
Review frequency:	Annual
Published on:	School website

South Dartmoor Community College

Introduction

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

Student 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.

For students of compulsory school age these encounters are mandatory and there will be a minimum of two encounters for students during the 'first key phase' (Year 8 to 9) and two encounters for students during the 'second key phase' (Year 10 to 11). For students in the 'third key phase' (Year 12 to 13), particularly those that have not yet decided on their next steps, there are two more provider encounters available during this period, which are optional for pupils to attend.

These provider encounters will be scheduled during the main school hours and the provider will be given a reasonable amount of time to, as a minimum:

- share information about both the provider and the approved technical education qualification and apprenticeships that the provider offers;
- explain what career routes those options could lead to provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with that provider (including the opportunity to meet staff and students from the provider);
- answer questions from pupils.

Meaningful Provider Encounters

One encounter is defined as one meeting / session between students and one provider. We are committed to providing meaningful encounters to all students using the 'Making it meaningful' checklist. Meaningful online engagement is also an option, and we are open to providers that are able to provide live online engagement with our students.

Previous providers

In previous terms/years we have invited the following providers from the local area to speak to our students:

- South Devon College
- Bicton College
- Arts University Plymouth
- Exeter College
- Armed Forces
- Skills Group
- Building Plymouth

South Dartmoor Community College

Destinations of Our Students

Last year, Year 11 students moved to a range of providers in the local area after leaving school, including:

- Local Sixth Forms
- Exeter College
- South Devon College
- Bicton College
- Skills Group

Last year, Year 13 students moved to range of providers in the local area after leaving school, including:

- Plymouth University
- Exeter University
- Arts University Plymouth
- Forces (RAF)

Management of Provider Access Requests Procedure:

A provider wishing to request access should contact Julie Randell, Careers Leader.

email: careers@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk

Opportunities for Access

The College offers the six provider encounters required by law (highlighted in bold text in the table below) and a number of additional events, integrated into the school careers programme. We offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to students or their parents or carers. If you are a provider reading this, please speak to our Careers Leader to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

Below is a table giving an outline of a selection of our annual career events. In keeping with new Provider Access requirements from January 2023, we will ensure that the programme for annual careers events will contain the following:

	Autum Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 7	Daily morning welcome assemblies with 'Who do you want to be?' slides linked to career aspirations. Aspiration display board where every student chooses a future careers pathway that they aspire to. This is revisited every year .	Daily morning welcome assemblies with 'Who do you want to be?' slides linked to career aspirations. Careers lesson with an induction to Unifrog, an online platform for students to track career pathways.	Daily morning welcome assemblies with 'Who do you want to be?' slides linked to career aspirations. Career Assembly – with a local employer.
Year 8	Daily morning welcome assemblies with 'Who do you want to be?' slides linked to career aspirations. Aspiration display board – all students choose future careers that they aspire to.	Daily morning welcome assemblies with 'Who do you want to be?' slides linked to career aspirations. Careers lesson, using Unifrog to track career pathways.	Daily morning welcome assemblies with 'Who do you want to be?' slides linked to career aspirations. Event/Assembly/Visit by technical education or apprenticeship providers.

South Dartmoor Community College

	Assembly as part of the PSHE curriculum with a focus on Employment.		
Year 9	<p>Daily morning welcome assemblies with 'Who do you want to be?' slides linked to career aspirations.</p> <p>Aspiration display board – all students choose future careers that they aspire to.</p> <p>PSHE - Employment Assembly.</p> <p>PHSE - Next Steps Assembly.</p> <p>Careers Fair with HE providers, Apprenticeship Providers and Armed Services</p>	<p>Daily morning welcome assemblies with 'Who do you want to be?' slides linked to career aspirations.</p> <p>Careers lesson using Unifrog to track career pathways.</p> <p>Options evening support via one-to one parent meetings.</p>	<p>Daily morning welcome assemblies with 'Who do you want to be?' slides linked to career aspirations.</p>
Year 10	<p>Careers Fair As above.</p> <p>Assemblies preparing students for work experience.</p> <p>Future Pathways evening, supporting students to understand next steps for further and higher education.</p>	Emergency Services Visit.	<p>Work Experience</p> <p>CIAG – 1-1 Sessions.</p> <p>EHCP – 1-1 Careers Support.</p> <p>EHCP students visit from training providers to support post 16.</p>
Year 11	<p>Post 16 Career Assemblies. A series of assemblies from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical Education - Apprenticeship Providers - Local Colleges. <p>Careers Fair – Post 16 Apprenticeship and Training Providers.</p> <p>CIAG – 1-1 Sessions.</p> <p>EHCP – 1-1 Careers Support.</p> <p>Future Pathways evening (as above).</p>	<p>CIAG – 1-1 Sessions. Post 16 destinations.</p> <p>Apprenticeship support lessons.</p>	CIAG – 1-1 Sessions.
Year 12	<p>Careers Fair as above</p> <p>Work Experience</p>	<p>Apprenticeship Assembly.</p> <p>UCAS Assembly.</p> <p>UCAS exhibition (Exeter).</p>	<p>CIAG – 1-1 Sessions.</p> <p>Next Steps lessons – looking at options for the future.</p>

South Dartmoor Community College

		1-1 Careers Guidance. Next Steps lessons – looking at options for the future.	
Year 13	Student Finance Talk Application Support (UCAS and Apprenticeships). Careers Fair as above. CIAG – 1-1 Sessions. Post 18 Assemblies with Higher and Degree Apprenticeship Providers.	Gap year – stay safe travelling Sessions. Application Support (Employment and Apprenticeships). CIAG – 1-1 Sessions.	Confirmation of Post 18 destinations.
Parent/ carer	Future Pathways Evening.	Work experience evening. Visiting speaker – Bristol University (year 12 students).	SEND Careers Morning – years 9 and 10 – visit from local colleges.

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 Leader or member of their team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at the Careers library, which is managed by the career's administrator. The Resource Centre is available to all students at lunch and break times.

Complaints:

Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via:

provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk