The Salesian Academy of St. John Bosco

Proud to be part of Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Trust

# Provider Access Policy Statement

**'We learn not for school, but for life'**

**Respect Understanding Affection**

**Happiness & Humour**

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| **Approved by:** | GOVERNING BODY | **Date: 12th October 2026** |
| **Last reviewed on:** | September 2026 | |
| **Next review due by:** | October 2027 | |

# Salesian Academy of St. John Bosco
# Provider Access Policy

Under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997 and the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022, schools must provide pupils with opportunities to meet providers of technical education and apprenticeships. The provider access legislation requires schools to provide the meaningful encounters that are legally required.

As an 11–16 secondary school, The Salesian Academy of St John Bosco will provide the provider encounters applicable to pupils during Years 8–11 and will support and signpost pupils to appropriate post-16 provider encounters following transition.

This Provider Access Statement aligns with the updated Gatsby Benchmarks, introduced for implementation from September 2025, and the DfE statutory guidance 'Careers guidance and access for education and training providers', updated June 2026. It ensures that all encounters with FE, HE, apprenticeship and technical education providers are planned, meaningful, interactive, and evaluated for impact.

**What are pupils entitled to?**

Pupils in Years 8 to 11 are entitled to meaningful opportunities to learn about technical education, apprenticeships and the full range of education and training pathways available to them.

The school will provide the provider encounters required during the first two key phases of the provider access legislation:

**First key phase: Years 8 and 9**

- Two meaningful encounters with providers of technical education and/or apprenticeships, which are mandatory for all pupils to attend.

**Second key phase: Years 10 and 11**

- Two meaningful encounters with providers of technical education and/or apprenticeships, which are mandatory for all pupils to attend.

These encounters will be planned and sequenced progressively so that pupils develop their understanding of technical education, apprenticeships and other post-16 progression routes.

As an 11–16 school, we do not have pupils in Years 12–13. Pupils will therefore be supported and signposted to appropriate post-16 provider encounters and information following transition.

Provider encounters will be accessible to all relevant pupils. We will consider the needs of pupils with SEND, disadvantaged pupils and other pupils who may require additional support to participate fully. Appropriate adjustments and support will be put in place where required.

**What opportunities are provided to allow access to pupils?**

The Salesian Academy of St John Bosco will identify and clearly record the encounters which fulfil the statutory provider access requirements. These will be delivered by appropriate providers of technical education and/or apprenticeships and will meet the requirements for meaningful encounters.

Other careers activities, including Careers Fairs, university visits, employer encounters, careers adviser meetings and parent events, will complement the statutory provider access programme but will not automatically be counted towards the statutory provider access requirement.

Via our school careers programme, we offer providers numerous opportunities throughout the school year to speak to pupils and/or their parents.

Requests for access should be directed to Mrs Joanne Welsh, Careers Leader. Mrs Joanne Welsh may be contacted by telephone or email, j.welsh@sjb.pfcmat.org, Tel (0151) 521 3088.

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers or Life lessons, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that The Salesian Academy of St John Bosco is arranging. Pupils may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with Sixth Forms, FE and HE providers.

The Salesian Academy of St John Bosco 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 Leader or Careers Adviser will organise this, working closely with the provider to ensure the facilities are appropriate to 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.

The Salesian Academy of St John Bosco will consider live online encounters with providers where requested, and these may be broadcast into classrooms or the school assembly hall. Technology checks in advance will be required to ensure compatibility with systems.

Parental involvement is encouraged, and parents may be invited to attend events to meet the providers.

The Careers Leader coordinates all provider requests and is responsible to the Headteacher and Governors.

Statutory provider encounters will take place during the normal school day and will be accessible to all pupils in the relevant year group. The school will not restrict invitations to selected groups of pupils or schedule statutory provider encounters outside normal school hours.

The Salesian Academy of St John Bosco will provide the four mandatory provider access encounters applicable during pupils' time at the school: two encounters during the first key phase (Years 8–9) and two encounters during the second key phase (Years 10–11). Additional provider encounters and careers activities will also be provided as part of the wider careers programme.

All statutory provider access encounters will be meaningful and will:

- have a clear purpose and learning objectives;

- provide direct two-way interaction between pupils and the provider;
- provide information about the provider and the technical qualifications and/or apprenticeships available;
- explain the careers and progression routes to which these qualifications or apprenticeships may lead;
- provide an opportunity for pupils to understand what learning or training with the provider is like;
- allow pupils to ask questions;
- be appropriate to pupils' age, needs and stage of decision-making; and
- where appropriate, include preparation and reflection.

Our annual schedule of events will include:

| Year group | Term | Provider/Activity | Type of encounter | Purpose |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Years 7-11** | Two | Elevate-at least 20 providers present. Post-16, Apprenticeship Providers, Universities, Training colleges. Interactive sessions for all pupils | Careers Activity | Options/careers exploration across employers, colleges, universities and apprenticeships |
| **Years 7-11** | All Year | Job of the Week (MyPath) | Careers Activity | Gatsby 2 and 4: understanding labour market information and linking careers to the curriculum |
| **Year 7** | One | Dell Workshop | Employer Encounter | Employer encounter (Gatsby 5): introduce the world of work and tech careers |
| **Year 7** | One | Enterprise Challenge | Employer Encounter | Gatsby 5: developing teamwork, problem-solving and enterprise skills |
| **Year 8** | Two | University Visit | Higher education encounter | Gatsby 7: raise aspirations and introduce HE routes |
| **Year 8** | **Two** | **Pathway CTM - Apprenticeships** | **Technical/apprenticeship encounter** | **Statutory provider encounter – Key Phase 1** |

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| **Year 9** | **Two (Before 28th February 2027)** | **Pathway CTM – Apprenticeships**<br><br>**Hugh Baird – T Levels** | **Technical/apprenticeship encounter** | **Statutory provider encounter – Key Phase 1** |
| **Year 9** | Three | KPMG | Employer Encounter | Employer encounter (Gatsby 5): professional services careers and routes in |
| **Year 10** | Two | RISE workshop | Employer Encounter | Employer encounter (Gatsby 4 and 5): raise aspirations and connect curriculum learning to careers |
| **Year 10** | **Two** | **Pathway CTM – Apprenticeships** | **Technical/apprenticeship encounter** | **Statutory provider encounter – Key Phase 2** |
| **Year 10** | Two | University Visit | Higher education encounter | Gatsby 7: explore post-18 HE options |
| **Year 10** | Three | Work experience | Experience of the workplace | Gatsby 6: first-hand experience of work, building skills and informing post-16 choices |
| **Year 10** | Three | Employability interviews | Employer/workplace encounter | Gatsby 5/6: interview practice and employability skills |
| **Year 11** | **One (Before 28th February 2027)** | **Hugh Baird College, The City of Liverpool College and South Sefton College assembly** | **Technical/apprenticeship encounter** | **Statutory provider encounter – Key Phase 2** |

Statutory provider encounters will be scheduled within the legal timeframes for each key phase.

Providers will be expected to provide:

- information about themselves;
- information about the technical qualifications and/or apprenticeships they offer;
- information about the careers to which these routes can lead;
- information about what learning or training with the provider is like; and
- opportunities for pupils to ask questions.

The Salesian Academy of St John Bosco will monitor participation and evaluate the quality, inclusion and impact of provider encounters through Compass+ and other appropriate evidence. Findings will contribute to the annual review of the careers programme and Provider Access Policy Statement.

**Which providers and organisations have previously been invited to the school?**

In previous terms and academic years, the school has invited the following providers to speak topupils:

- ACC
- Anthony Walker Foundation
- Apprenticeship Assembly Performance by ‘Open the door’
- Army
- Archbishop Beck Catholic High School
- BAM
- Barclays
- Burbo Project
- Chester University
- Choose Life Project
- Christ The King Sixth Form
- City of Liverpool College
- David Campbell
- D’Fuse Project (Venus)
- Edge Hill University
- Everton Football Club
- Everton in the Community
- Grant Thornton
- Hands, Face and Headspace
- HMRC
- Holy Family
- Hugh Baird College
- Jan Agger (Apprenticeships)
- JM Education
- KGV
- LIPA
- Liverpool Hope University
- Liverpool John Moores University
- Liverpool Naval Careers Office

- Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine
- LLS Online
- Love Music, Media and Arts
- M&G Talent Enterprise Challenge
- Mersey Care NHS
- Myerscough College
- Orrell Trust ‘Eat the frog’
- Peter Eaton Racing Bike Engineer
- Police
- RAF
- Royal Court ‘Terriers’ Production
- Santander
- SMART Factory Expo
- Smashed ‘live’
- Southport College
- South Sefton Sixth Form
- St. Helens / Knowsley Community College
- Steven Gerrard Academy
- Stories High Theatre
- Talent Foundry
- ‘The big idea’ workshop
- Urban Plan Workshop
- Windmill Project

Last academic year (2026), our Year 11 pupils moved on to a range of providers in the local area after finishing school.

- Ashley Jade
- Christ the King Catholic High School
- City of Liverpool College
- Holy Family RC High School
- Hugh Baird College
- Liverpool Progressive School and Resource Centre
- Merchant Taylors School for Girls
- Myerscough College
- North Liverpool Academy
- Sixth Form outside the Merseyside Area x 2
- South Sefton Sixth Form
- Steven Gerrard Academy

**Destinations of previous pupils – Year 11 Leavers 2026**

The school will publish relevant destination information in line with current DfE requirements. Destination data will be used to inform evaluation of the careers programme and to help ensure that provider encounters and wider careers provision meet the needs of pupils.

| Destination | Number of Pupils |
|---|---|
| College of Further Education | **71** |
| School – Year 12 | **31** |
| Study Programme (Training) | **2** |
| NEET Seeking employment or training | **2** |
| Grand Total | **106** |

**Who should providers contact to discuss events and options?**

Providers wishing to request access to pupils should contact the Careers Leader using the contact details provided in this policy statement. Requests will be considered in accordance with the school's Provider Access Policy and safeguarding procedures.

Our **Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy** sets out the school's approach to allowingproviders into school to speak to our pupils.

**Granting and refusing access requests?**

We will always try to grant access wherever possible but may refuse based on the following criteria. Please note this list is not exhaustive and each request will be considered on a case by case basis.

- Nature of the request from provider
- The needs of the students
- The needs of the curriculum
- Number of requests received from provider
- Number of requests received for a particular cohort of students
- Timing of the academic day
- Availability in our calendar
- Quality of previous interactions with our students
- Failure to pass safeguarding checks
- Safety of our pupils, staff and visitors
- Whether the proposed encounter duplicates existing provision or would result in an imbalance in the range of providers and pathways offered to pupils.

**What can providers expect once a request has been accepted?**

Once we have approved a provider, we will work with them to identify the best method for providing access to our pupils.

Arrangements will be discussed in advance between our careers leader and a nominated memberof the provider's team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus and other relevant course literature with the school.

**How are complaints regarding provider access managed?**

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to Joanne Welsh email: j.welsh@sjb.pfcmat.org. Joanne Welsh will also raise the complaint to Sue Bourgade, Headteacher of The Salesian Academy of St John Bosco.

Or you can contact The Careers and Enterprise Company directly on provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk.

**Approval & Review**

Responsibility for Review:  Governing Board

This policy will be reviewed annually (as outlined on page 1) or sooner if statutory guidance or Gatsby Benchmarks are updated.