



Millom School and Sixth Form



Provider Access Policy Statement

Date: September 2026 -

Review: September 2027



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Millom School: Provider Access Policy Introduction

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.

The January 2018 "Careers guidance and access for education and training providers" statutory guidance states:

"This statutory guidance has been updated to expand on the aim set out in the strategy to make sure that all young people in secondary school get a programme of advice and guidance that is stable, structured and delivered by individuals with the right skills and experience."

Schools and academies have an "existing duty to secure independent careers guidance and the new duty to provide opportunities to a range of providers of technical education and apprenticeships to access pupils to inform them about technical education qualifications or apprenticeships."

At Millom School, we are committed to ensuring all students receive high-quality careers education and have meaningful encounters with a wide range of providers. In line with the updated Provider Access Legislation (May 2025), our Provider Access Policy sets out how external education and training providers can access our students to inform them about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships.

The statutory duties:

"The governing body must ensure that the independent careers guidance provided:

- is presented in an impartial manner, showing no bias or favouritism towards a particular institution, education or work option;*
- includes information on the range of education or training options, including apprenticeships and technical education routes;*
- is guidance that the person giving it considers will promote the best interests of the pupils to whom it is given."*

"The Technical and Further Education Act 2017 inserts section 42B into the Education Act 1997 and came into force on 2 January 2018. This new law requires the proprietor of all schools and academies to ensure that there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access all pupils in year 8 to year 13 for the purpose of informing them about approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships."



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In January 2023, the updated provider access legislation (PAL) came in effect. The PAL aims to develop and strengthen the existing legislation (the Baker Clause)

It specifies schools must provide at least six encounters with approved providers of apprenticeships and technical education for all their student

Pupil entitlement

All student 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;
- hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer about approved technical education and apprenticeships¹; and
- understand how to make applications for 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 students 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 pupils from the provider)
- answer questions from students

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.

Meaningful online engagement is also an option, and we are open to providers that are able to provide live online engagement with our pupils.



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Management of provider access requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Mr S Olliver, Assistant Headteacher

Telephone: 01229 772300

Email: stollivers@millom.cumbria.sch.uk

Opportunities for access

A number of events, integrated into the school careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils and/or their parents/carers:

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 7		Supply Chain workshops with Inspira	Unifrog Launch
Year 8	Curriculum workshops Inspira	Young Enterprise – learn to earn.	
Year 9	Options Assembly	Progression Assembly	Festival of Work Event Careers of the future with ATOS
Year 10	Build my Skills FESP and Furness Building Society Work Experience Preparation Credit Union – finance workshops	Build my Skills – Furness College and BAE Work Experience Preparation Work Experience Placement	Build my Skills – University of Cumbria Inspira – CV workshops
Year 11	Hello Future workshops BAE careers assembly. BAE SASK open day	Mock Interviews Inspira – aptitude tests workshops Post-16 Information Evening Hello Future workshops Employer Engagement Event	
Year 12	Dream Placement – CfLP University open day visits	UCAS fair visit Hello Future workshops Unifrog seminars	Work Experience Preparation University open day visits, including London Universities trip. University of Cumbria UCAS workshop Inspira – apprenticeship day.



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	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 13	Dream Placement – CfLP Gen 2 – application workshop Unifrog seminars Personal statement workshops	Hello Future workshops Student Finance workshops	

Please speak to our Careers Leader to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

Premises and facilities

The school will make the Alex Hall and classrooms available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity and subject to availability during the normal timetabled uses of those spaces. The provider will bring their own resources and other specialist equipment to support their presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Leader or a member of their team.

The provider will give the school proof, in accordance with the guidance, that the individuals delivering the guidance have the “right skills and experience”.

The provider will give assurance, in accordance with the guidance, that they are attending “the purpose of informing them about approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships” and not to promote their institution for the purposes of recruiting students from the school.

From time to time there may be providers who are offering the same academic, technical qualifications and apprenticeships. The school reserves the right to decide to remove duplication and choose which provider attends an event as part of any programme.

Meaningful online engagement is also an option and we are open to providers that are able to provide live online engagement with our pupils, as long as students have the opportunity to ask questions within the session.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature with Mr Olliver or the Personal development staff.



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Approval and review

Approved

Next review: *September 2027*

Signed Chair of Governors

Signed Headteacher

