



Connell Coop College Provider Access Legislation (PAL) 2026-27

Access for colleges, training providers, university technical colleges, and all other post 16 providers offering technical vocation and academic routes and apprenticeships.

Approved by: E.Soper Date : 8/9/26

Last reviewed on : 8/9/26

Next review: September 2027

This policy statement sets out our academy's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students for the purpose of giving them information about the various post 16 routes.

It sets out:

- Procedures in relation to requests for access
- The grounds for granting and refusing requests for access
- Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access

1.Statutory requirements

All academies adhere to the updated DfE Statutory guidance (June '26) and are working towards embedding the updated Gatsby benchmarks and preparing for the future introduction of a guarantee of 2 weeks worth of work experience for every young person.

All schools / academies are required to ensure that there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students in years 8 to 13 for the purposes of informing them about approved technical education, qualifications or apprenticeships. This complies with the school's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

In addition to the Baker Clause, an amendment to the above stipulates that schools must allow colleges and training providers access to every student in years 8 - 13 to discuss non-academic routes that are available to them. It is expected that by doing so this will help address the UK's productivity challenges and address skills shortages experienced across several sectors of the economy. In line with the updated Provider Access Legislation, from January 2023, all students will have at least six encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships.

This is broken down into key phases: -

- 1st key phase: Year 8 or 9 two encounters for students that are mandatory for all to attend
- 2nd key phase: Year 10 or 11 two encounters for students that are mandatory for all to attend
- 3rd key phase: Year 12 or 13 two encounters that are mandatory for the academy to offer but optional for students to attend

2.Pupil entitlement (intended learning outcomes)

At Co-op Academy ... we will use Gatsby Benchmarks as a framework of best practice to develop and improve our careers provision to ensure that we not only fulfil legal duties of providing opportunities for a range of education and training providers to access all students in Year 7 to year 13 but to also have CEIAG programs that meet the needs of an ever changing cohort. All of our students are entitled:

1. 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;
2. To hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships
3. To understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

These provider encounters will be scheduled during the main academy hours and there will a minimum expectation that our providers will provide :-

- Information about the provider and the approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships they offer
- Information about the careers to which those technical education qualifications or apprenticeships might lead i.e career routes
- Description of what learning or training with the provider is like, including the opportunity to meet staff and students where possible
- Opportunities for students to ask questions , including our most vulnerable and those with additional learning needs.

Further detail of our CEIAG programme is available on our website

3. Management of provider access requests

3.1 Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact and complete the form below

CEIAG Leader : Erin Rosenberg

Telephone: 0161 231 9200

Email: erin.rosenberg@coopacademies.co.uk

The following information is needed:-

1.Name of provider requesting access and details of provision:

2.Contact name of provider and contact details:

3.Number of staff who propose to visit

4.Aims and objectives of session including suggested year group(s)

5. Proposed format, timings and duration of session including facilities and equipment required:

3.2 Opportunities for access

Our academy will offer the six provider encounters required by law and a number of additional events, integrated into our careers program. We will offer providers an opportunity to come into our academies to speak to students and/or their parents or carers.

<u>Year Group</u>	<u>Autumn Term</u>	<u>Spring Term</u>	<u>Summer Term</u>
<u>12</u>	Making the most of College: Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU) Widening Participation Programmes: MMU WP 1st Generation HE open Access Leeds Uni open UCLAN Medical pathways open Careers Fair Employers, HE and Apprenticeship Providers. UK University & Apprenticeship Search Fair PWC Workplace/Technical Apprenticeships Amazon experience Individual trips/visits/experiences provided by each Faculty	<u>Assembly/workshops</u> WP programmes Sutton Trust UK Summer Schools and Apprenticeships Summer School - January 2027 Next Steps York - Jan 2027 Targeted Intervention Early applicants - University of Manchester HSBC - Financial Independence workshops STEM – Apprenticeships. Individual trips/visits/experiences provided by each Faculty	<u>Bespoke HE visits:</u> University of Edge Hill /Huddersfield/MMU/UA9 2/John Moores/UCFB Individual trips/visits/experiences provided by each Faculty

Career insight days are delivered by each faculty throughout the year, dependent on dates that suit			
13	Next Steps Student Finance Information Evening (Virtual) Personal Statement workshops: Universities of Leeds, Huddersfield, Liverpool, John Moores, Manchester, Salford, York, Law, UCAN, UCEN, UA92. Careers Fair Employers, HE and Apprenticeship Providers. UK University & Apprenticeship Search Fair PWC Workplace/Technical Apprenticeships Amazon experience Individual trips/visits/experiences provided by each Faculty	STEM – Apprenticeships. Individual trips/visits/experiences provided by each Faculty	121 advice/workshops: Career Connect Individual trips/visits/experiences provided by each Faculty

Staff CPD

<u>Autumn Term</u>	<u>Spring Term</u>	<u>Summer Term</u>
Curriculum Mapping Staff audit and review existing curriculum to identify and link careers to their subject areas. This ensures a whole-college approach to careers education, aligning with Gatsby Benchmarks 2 and 4. LMI Briefing Session focused on what Labour Market Information (LMI) is, how to access reliable data (e.g., from the Office for National Statistics or local sources), and how to interpret it to inform students about job growth sectors, required skills, and salary trends. This is a key part of Gatsby Benchmark 2.	Apprenticeship & Technical Education Update A session to ensure staff have up-to-date knowledge on the various apprenticeship routes, including degree apprenticeships, as well as T-Levels and other technical qualifications. This helps staff provide accurate advice on all post-16 and post-18 pathways. Supporting Students with UCAS & HE	Review and Evaluation of Careers Programme A session to reflect on the careers programme's effectiveness, using feedback from students, staff, and employers. This is a crucial step for continuous improvement and helps with the annual Compass Tracker review.

Developing Employer Links Guidance on how to build and maintain relationships with local employers. This can include understanding the needs of different industries and how to arrange employer talks, workshops, and work experience opportunities for students.		
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3.3 Safeguarding

Our policy on safeguarding, which can be found on our website, sets out our approach to allowing providers into our academy as visitors to talk to our students

Education and training providers will be expected to adhere to this policy.

3.4 Premises and facilities

Our academy will make the main hall, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity.

The academy 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 a member of their team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at reception, from here they will be delivered to the Hub. This facility is available to all students at lunch and break times.

4. Monitoring arrangements

Connell Coop College arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to our students is monitored by Erin Rosenberg

This policy will be reviewed by Erin Rosenberg at every review, the policy will be approved by the governing board and the Principal.

5. Student destinations

Last year, our year 13 pupils moved to a range of providers in the local area after College. Here are the destinations of our Y13 students that left our academy in July 2026:

University: 85%

Apprenticeships: 1.38%

Employment: 7.73%

Other: (including medical and other training) 3.86%

