

MULBERRY STEPNEY GREEN MATHS, COMPUTING & SCIENCE COLLEGE

PROVIDER ACCESS LEGISLATION POLICY

Ratified on: November 2025

Ratified by: LGB

Date of next review: November 2026

Approval Body	Full Governing Body
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Version	Reviewed	Changes since last version
Version 1	June 2024	New Policy
Version 2	Nov 2024	Amendments: Opportunities for Access table Contacts for provider requests Policy review details
Version 3	Nov 2025	Amendments: Commitment Pupil Entitlement Opportunities for access table SEN support added Added evaluation methods

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Mulberry Stepney Green Maths, Computing and Science College

Provider Access Policy Statement

Introduction

This policy statement sets out Mulberry Stepney Green College 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 and the Provider Access Legislation (PAL), updated May 2025. Our school ensures that every student has access to impartial and comprehensive careers guidance and encounters with a wide range of providers. The school recognises its statutory duty to provide at least six meaningful encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships for all pupils in Years 8–13.

Rationale

High quality careers education and guidance in school or college is critical to young people's futures. It helps to prepare them for the workplace by providing a clear understanding of the world of work including the routes to jobs and careers that they might find engaging and rewarding. It supports them to acquire the self-development and career management skills they need to achieve positive employment destinations. This helps students to choose their pathways, improve their life opportunities and contribute to a productive and successful economy.

As the number of apprenticeships rises every year, it becomes increasingly important that all young people have a full understanding of all the options available to them post-16 and post-18 including wider technical education options such as T-Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications.

Commitment

Mulberry Stepney Green Maths, Computing and Science College is committed to ensuring there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students, for the purpose of informing them about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships. Mulberry Stepney Green Maths, Science and Computing College is fully aware of the responsibility to set students on the path that will secure the best outcome which will enable them to progress in education and work and give employers the highly skilled people they need. This means meeting the statutory requirement to provide six meaningful encounters with providers of technical education and apprenticeships, acting impartially and not promoting one pathway over another.

Mulberry Maths, Computing and Science College endeavours to ensure that all students are aware of all routes to higher skills and are able to access information on technical options and apprenticeships (The Department of Education, July 2021: "Baker Clause": supporting students to understand the full range of education and training options, and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023).

Aims

Mulberry Stepney Green Maths, Computing and Science College policy for Access to other education and training providers has the following aims:

To develop the knowledge and awareness of our students on all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships.

To support young people to be able to learn more about opportunities for education and training outside of school before making crucial choices about their future options.

To reduce drop out from courses and avoid the risk of students becoming NEET (Young people not in education, employment or training).

Pupil Entitlement

Mulberry Stepney Green Maths, Computing and Science College fully supports the statutory requirement for all students in years 8 to 13 to have direct access to other providers of further education training, technical training and apprenticeships. The school will comply with the new legal requirement to put on at least six encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships. This will be done in assemblies in National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week, in addition to providers attending careers events at school or at each Trust school.

Mulberry Stepney Green ensures that:

- Pupils will have at least six provider encounters across their secondary education
- Two encounters in Years 8–9 (first key phase) mandatory for all pupils.
- Two encounters in Years 10–11 (second key phase) mandatory for all pupils.
- Two encounters in Years 12–13 (third key phase) – organised by the school; attendance optional for pupils.

Encounters will take place during normal school hours and each encounter will involve different providers within each key phase delivered through assemblies, workshops, small group sessions, and other encounters. Encounters will be designed as meaningful experiences, allowing students to:

- 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.

Development of the policy

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader and SLT based on current good practice guidelines by the Department for Education.

Links with other policies

It supports and is underpinned by key school policies including those for Careers, Child Protection, Safeguarding, Equality and Diversity, and SEND.

Equality and Diversity

Access to other providers is available and promoted to allow all students to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. Mulberry Stepney Green Maths, Science and Computing College is committed to encouraging all students, **inclusive of disadvantaged, SEN and other minority groups**, to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Monitoring review and evaluation

Provider access activities will be evaluated against the refreshed Gatsby Benchmarks, particularly Benchmarks 5 and 7 (Encounters with Employers and Providers).

Quality assurance will be conducted through:

- Internal review each term by the Careers Leader
- Annual review against the Quality in Careers Standard framework
- External feedback from local enterprise partnerships, employer networks, or careers hubs

Feedback will be collected from students, staff, and providers following each encounter to assess relevance and impact. Findings will inform the design of future activities and will be reported annually to the Senior Leadership Team and Governing Body as part of the school's careers programme review. Destination data and student progression will also be used as long-term indicators of impact.

The school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students is monitored by the Careers Leader (Assistant Headteacher). The policy is reviewed by the Headteacher annually. At each review, the policy will be approved by the board of Governors.

Policy Coordinator: Careers Leader, *Ms. Anna Paczynski* (Assistant Headteacher)

Requests for Access

Management of provider access requests

A provider wishing to request access should contact/email the Careers Leader (Assistant Head Teacher)

Telephone: 0207 790 6361

Email: mail@mulberrystepneygreen.org

Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers or Life lessons, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that Mulberry Stepney Green Maths, Computing and Science College is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with Mulberry Trust.

Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access

Mulberry Stepney Green Maths, Computing and Science College 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. Our school's child protection and safeguarding requirements can be found in the Child Protection and Safeguarding policy accessible on the school website. Providers will be met and supervised by a member of the Careers Team who will facilitate. **All visiting providers must comply with the school's safeguarding and visitor policies. A DBS certificate may be required depending on the nature of contact with pupils**

Live/Virtual encounters

Mulberry Stepney Green Maths, Computing and Science College 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 of systems.

Parents and Carers

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

Management

The Careers Leader coordinates all provider requests and is responsible to his/her senior management line manager.

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to: ***mail@mulberrystepneygreen.org***

The complaint will be raised to the Headteacher at Mulberry Stepney Green College, Maths, Science and Computing College.

Appendix

Providers who have been invited into Mulberry Stepney Green Maths, Computing and Science College to date include:

The Switch

J.P. Morgan

HSBC Bank

City Bank

Barclays Bank

New City College

Mulberry UTC

MET Police

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. The calendar varies from year to year so providers need to contact the school's Career Leader to identify the most suitable opportunity. The events are usually arranged well in advance so it is essential that providers contact us early in the academic year to be involved in our planning.

Year	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
7	<p>Careers Discussion A - tutor one to one career and pathway guidance</p> <p>Switch: Employability Programme</p> <p>Unifrog workshop</p>	<p>Assembly (life skills & pathways) with Q & A session held by careers advisor</p> <p>Careers Discussion B- tutor one to one career and pathways discussions</p> <p>Apprenticeship week tutor time activities and assembly.</p>	<p>Unifrog workshop</p> <p>College provider/University presentation with Q&A session</p> <p>Career Advisor: Small group discussions: Future education, training and employment options</p>
8	<p>Careers Discussion A - tutor one to one career and pathway guidance</p> <p>College provider presentation with Q&A session</p> <p>Unifrog workshop</p> <p>Switch: Employability Programme</p>	<p>Assembly (life skills & pathways) with Q & A session held by careers advisor</p> <p>TDB tutor one to one career and pathways discussions</p> <p>Alumni assembly (apprenticeships)</p> <p>Apprenticeship week tutor time activities and assembly.</p>	<p>Unifrog workshop</p> <p>Career Advisor: Small group discussions: Future education, training and employment options</p> <p>College provider/University presentation with Q&A session</p>
9	<p>Careers Discussion A - tutor one to one career and pathway guidance</p> <p>College provider presentation with Q&A session</p> <p>Unifrog workshop</p> <p>Switch: Employability Programme</p>	<p>Assembly (life skills & pathways) with Q & A session held by careers advisor</p> <p>Careers Discussion B- tutor one to one career and pathways discussions</p> <p>Alumni assembly (apprenticeships)</p> <p>Apprenticeship week tutor time activities and assembly.</p>	<p>Unifrog workshop</p> <p>Career Advisor: Small group discussions: Future education, training and employment options</p> <p>College provider/University presentation with Q&A session</p>
10	<p>Careers Discussion A - tutor one to one</p>	<p>Assembly (life skills & pathways) with Q & A session held by Careers Advisor</p>	<p>Unifrog workshop</p>

	<p>career and pathway guidance</p> <p>College provider presentation with Q&A session</p> <p>Unifrog workshop</p> <p>Switch: Employability Programme</p>	<p>PSHE: Mapping a Career Path</p> <p>Life Skills: Work experience preparation sessions</p> <p>Careers Discussion B- tutor one to one career and pathways discussions</p> <p>Switch: Employability Programme – work experience</p> <p>Apprenticeship week tutor time activities and assembly.</p>	<p>Career Advisor: Small group discussions: Future education, training and employment options</p> <p>College provider/University presentation with Q&A session</p>
11	<p>Careers Discussion A - tutor one to one career and pathway guidance</p> <p>College provider presentation with Q&A session</p> <p>PSHE: Apprenticeships and alternative provisions. What are they? What's on offer? What suits me?</p> <p>Unifrog workshop</p>	<p>Assembly (life skills & pathways) with Q & A session held by careers advisor</p> <p>Careers Discussion B- tutor one to one career and pathways discussions</p> <p>Alumni assembly (apprenticeships)</p> <p>Apprenticeship week tutor time activities and assembly.</p> <p>PSHE: Are apprenticeships right for me?</p> <p>PSHE: Apprenticeship vs higher ed</p>	<p>Career Advisor: Small group discussions: Future education, training and employment options</p> <p>College provider/University presentation with Q&A session</p>
12	<p>Careers Discussion A - tutor one to one career and pathway guidance</p> <p>Futures Fridays</p> <p>Post-18 technical options provider</p> <p>Switch: Employability Programme</p>	<p>Assembly (life skills & pathways) with Q & A session held by careers advisor</p> <p>Futures Fridays</p> <p>Apprenticeship week tutor time activities and assembly.</p> <p>Careers Discussion B- tutor one to one career and pathways discussions</p> <p>Alumni assembly (apprenticeships)</p>	<p>Unifrog tasks</p> <p>Career Advisor: Small group discussions: Future education, training and employment options</p> <p>Parent workshops</p> <p>Futures week</p> <p>College provider/University presentation with Q&A session</p>

		PSHE – careers and apprenticeship routes	
13	Careers Discussion A - tutor one to one career and pathway guidance Futures Fridays Post-18 technical options provider Unifrog tasks	Assembly (life skills & pathways) with Q & A session held by careers advisor Futures Friday Careers Discussion B - tutor one to one career and pathways discussions Apprenticeship week tutor time activities and assembly. Alumni assembly (apprenticeships) LIS – London Interdisciplinary School	Career Advisor: Small group discussions: Future education, training and employment options College provider/University presentation with Q&A session
All	Careers Advisor guidance during parents evening, weekly drop-in sessions and on results day PSHCE curriculum Trips/Visits		
SEN	Careers advisor present at annual review meetings with SEND students and parent to support with appropriate career advice and support. Appropriate adjustments will be made to ensure SEND students can access all provider encounters meaningfully, in line with the school's SEND policy.		

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

Approval and review

The policy will be reviewed by the Headteacher annually.

At every review, the policy will be approved by the board of Governors.

This policy is published on the school website under the Careers section and will be updated annually.

Next review: November 2026