



# Highlands

## School & Sixth Form

**Dare to  
flourish**

**Provider access policy statement (PAL)**

**APPROVED**

Governor committee	School Standards and Performance
Reviewed on	January 2025
Next review	January 2026

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## Section 1: 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.

## Section 2: Commitment

Highlands School 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. Highlands School 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. That means acting impartially, in line with the statutory duty, and not showing bias towards any route, be that academic or technical.

**Highlands School** 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).

## Section 3: Aims

Highlands School policy for Access to other education and training providers has the following aims:

**To develop the knowledge and awareness of our students of all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships.** 'To enhance students' knowledge of diverse career pathways, 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** 'course withdrawals' and avoid the risk of students becoming NEET (Young people not in education, employment or training).

#### **Section 4: Student entitlement**

**Highlands School** fully supports the statutory requirement for students 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 addition to providers attending careers related events at school.

#### **Section 5: Development**

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

#### **Section 6: Links with other policies**

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

#### **Section 7: 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. Highlands School is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

#### **Section 8: Requests for access**

Requests for access should be directed to Silvana Laurenzi, Careers Leader. Silvana Laurenzi may be contacted by telephone or email, [laurenzs@highlearn.uk](mailto:laurenzs@highlearn.uk), Tel 020 8370 1176.

### **Section 9: Grounds for granting requests for access**

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers lessons, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that Highlands School is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with Highlands School.

### **Section 10: Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access**

Highlands School 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 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 staff who will facilitate.

### **Section 11: Live/virtual encounters**

Highlands School 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.

### **Section 12: Parents and carers**

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

### **Section 13: Management**

The careers leader coordinates all provider requests and is responsible to her senior management line manager.

#### **Section 14: Complaints procedure**

Any complaints about this policy should be raised by writing to the school email address - [postbox@highlearn.uk](mailto:postbox@highlearn.uk).

The complaints handler will raise the complaint to the Headteacher, in line with our complaints policy, copy of which are on the school website.

#### **Section 15: Monitoring review and evaluation**

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Senior Leadership Team.

***Policy Coordinator: School manager***