



**SIR WILLIAM ROBERTSON
ACADEMY**

Provider Access Policy Statement

May 2023

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(To include The Department of Education, July 2021: “Baker Clause” and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023)

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

Sir William Robertson Academy 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. The Sir William Robertson Academy 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.

Sir William Robertson Academy 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

The Sir William Robertson Academy 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 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).

Student Entitlement

The Sir William Robertson Academy 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 legal requirement to facilitate at least six encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships. This will be done in assemblies and National Careers Week, in addition to providers attending careers events at school and students attending visits and completing work experience.

Development

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

Links with other policies

This policy supports and is underpinned by key school policies including those for Careers, Child Protection, 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. Sir William Robertson Academy is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Requests for access

Requests for access should be directed to Sarai Dowding, Careers Leader. Sarai Dowding may be contacted by telephone or email, sarai.dowding@swracademy.org, Tel 01400 272 422.

Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled PSHCE, and careers or raising aspirations events which The Sir William Robertson Academy is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with Sir William Robertson Academy.

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

The Sir William Robertson Academy 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 and office staff 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.

Live/Virtual encounters

The Sir William Robertson Academy 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 her senior management line manager.

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to Sarai Dowding, email: sarai.dowding@swracademy.org

Sarai Dowding will raise the complaint to Mark Guest, headteacher of Sir William Robertson Academy.

Monitoring review and evaluation

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

Policy Coordinator: Sarai Dowding

Policy Reviewed: May 2023

Appendix

Providers who have been invited into Sir William Robertson Academy to date include:

- Bishop Grosseteste University
- Grantham College
- Inspire Plus Apprenticeships
- Lincoln College
- National Horseracing College
- Newark College
- NHS
- Riseholme College
- Royal Air Force
- University of Lincoln
- UTC Lincoln
- You Can Do Sport

Destinations of previous pupils from Sir William Robertson Academy include:

- The British Army
- Lincoln College
- Loughborough University
- Manchester Metropolitan University
- NHS Apprenticeship
- Nottingham Trent University
- Riseholme College
- Sheffield Hallam University
- University of Bath
- University of East Anglia
- University of Lincoln
- York St John University