



RIDGEWOOD
SCHOOL

Provider Access Policy 2026-2027

Version	Author	Summary of Changes	Approved By	Date Published	Date of Review
1.0	RHN	New Policy	AGB	Jan 25	Jan 26
2.0	RHN	2025 leavers info updated	AGB	July 26	July 27

Contents

Contents.....	2
1. Introduction.....	3
2. Pupil Entitlement.....	3
3. Meaningful Provider Encounters	3
4. Previous Providers.....	4
5. Destination of our Pupils.....	4
6. Opportunities for Access	5
7. Management of Provider Access Requests.....	5
8. Premises And Facilities	6
9. Safeguarding	6
10. Complaints.....	6

1. Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to 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.

2. Pupil Entitlement

All pupils in years 8 to 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.
- 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. For pupils of compulsory school age these encounters are mandatory and there will be a minimum of two encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (year 8 to 9) and two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 10 to 11). For pupils 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 pupils 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 pupils.

3. Meaningful Provider Encounters

One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between pupils and one provider. We are committed to providing meaningful encounters to all pupils using the Making it Meaningful checklist.

[Making it Meaningful Checklist- The Careers & Enterprise Company](#)

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

4. Previous Providers

In previous terms/years we have invited the following providers from the local area to speak to our pupils:

ASK Apprenticeships	Advance Apprenticeships
Department for Work and Pensions	Engineering Development Trust
Doncaster College	DMBC Apprenticeships
AMRC Training Centre	GTA Training
National Horseracing College	NHS Doncaster & Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals
Volker Rail	Royal Air Force Careers
Home Instead	Royal Navy Careers
Wates Construction	St Leger Homes
CWE	Aardagh Glass
Eagle Platforms	Oliver King Consulting
BAM Construction	YCSC
Knights Law	Ministry of Defence – Army Careers
Harworth Group	Taylor Wimpy
Allen and Overy	South Yorkshire Fire Service
Rolls Royce	Weldricks
Willmot Dixon	CITB
Holistic IT	Efficiency North
Education & Skills Training and Development	University of York
University of Huddersfield	Virgin Money
HSBC	University of Sheffield
Northumbria University	Leeds Beckett University

5. Destination of our Pupils

2025 Y11 Leavers

Ridgewood Sixth Form	88
Other Sixth Form	31
College	89
Employment without Accredited Training	3
Apprenticeship	15
Other	3

2025 Y13 Leavers

University	97
Apprenticeship	26
Employment	22
Forces	4
Continuing in L3 Education	4
Other	3

6. Opportunities for Access

The school offers the six provider encounters required by law and several additional events, integrated into the school careers programme.

We will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils or their parents or carers. We offer Career spotlights during our staggered lunch times from 12:35-14:10 where students can speak to a range of providers and employers.

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 8	Careers Spotlights	NAW Activities NCW Activities Careers Spotlights	Careers Spotlights Industrial Cadets
Year 9	Careers Spotlights	NAW Activities NCW Activities Careers Spotlights	Careers Spotlights
Year 10	Careers Spotlights	NAW Activities NCW Activities SEND Employability Skills - DWP Careers Spotlights	Careers Spotlights Work Experience DWP – Apprenticeship Support
Year 11	Careers Spotlights DWP – Apprenticeship Support Progress Careers One-one guidance	NAW Activities NCW Activities SEND Employability Skills - DWP Careers Spotlights Careers Fair DWP – Apprenticeship Support Progress Careers One-one	Careers Spotlights DWP – Apprenticeship Support Progress Careers One-one guidance
Year 12	Induction Week Apprenticeships University Talks	NAW Activities NCW Activities Careers Fair University	UCAS Launch UCAS Discovery Visit

7. Management of Provider Access Requests

All requests for access to students will be considered and granted if deemed suitable. A provider wishing to request access should contact Mr Hodgson (Associate Assistant Headteacher – Attendance and Belonging) using the 'Contact Us' link on the school website [Ridgewood School - Contact Us](#) giving as much notice as possible.

8. Premises And Facilities

The school will make the dining hall stand, classrooms or private meeting room available for discussions between the provider and pupils, as appropriate to the activity. The school 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.

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

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at the main reception, and this will be sent to our careers areas.

9. Safeguarding

Our safeguarding and child protection policy outlines the school's procedure for checking the identity and suitability of visitors. Education and training providers will be expected to adhere to this policy.

10. Complaints

Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk.