

PROVIDER ACCESS STATEMENT

Lincroft Academy

INTRODUCTION

This policy statement sets out the Lincroft Academy 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.

PUPIL ENTITLEMENT

All pupils in years 8 to 11 are entitled:

- to find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship 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 year 8 to 9 pupils and two encounters for year 10 to 11 pupils.

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.

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.

PREVIOUS PROVIDERS

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

- Bedford College – FE College, Apprenticeship Provider
- Shuttleworth College – FE College
- Amazing Apprenticeships – Apprenticeship Provider

DESTINATIONS OF OUR PUPILS

Last year our year 11 pupils moved to range of providers in the local area after school:

- Kimberley Sixth Form College – 31%
- Bedford Sixth Form – 14%
- Sharnbrook School Sixth Form - 16%
- Bedford college incl Shuttleworth - 20%
- Apprenticeships - 3%
- Other Higher Education Destinations - 19%

MANAGEMENT OF PROVIDER ACCESS REQUESTS

PROCEDURE

A provider wishing to request access should contact:

Evelyn Hood, Careers Leader ehood@lincroft.academy

George Lewis, SLT Careers Link glewis@lincroft.academy

Joanne Ripley, Careers Coordinator and Adviser jripley@lincroft.academy

School telephone number 01234 822147

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACCESS

FOUR ENCOUNTERS YEAR 8 – YEAR 11

The school offers the four provider encounters required by law (marked in bold text in the table below) and a number of additional events, integrated into the school careers programme.

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

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 7	Introduction to Unifrog Life skills Future Skills Questionnaire	National Careers Week and National Apprenticeships Week – activities/assemblies at school	Unifrog Life Skills
Year 8	Unifrog introduction and quizzes RAF Cadets Assembly – apprenticeship provider	GCSE Options and Career event March 2026 Speed Networking with Employers and Alumni National Careers Week and National Apprenticeship Week – activities/assemblies Small Groups Options Advice with Level 6 Careers Adviser	Unifrog Life Skills
Year 9	Unifrog access and research Army Cadets Assembly – apprenticeship provider	National Careers Week and National Apprenticeship Week – activities/assemblies Networking breakfasts – career/industry themed events	No encounters – legislation requires encounters to take place by 28 February if in year 9.
Year 10	Life Skills – work experience preparation sessions. Future Skills Questionnaire	Networking breakfasts – career/industry themed events NCW/NAW – activities/assemblies Post 16 technical education/apprenticeship options assembly	Careers guidance one to one appointments Pre Work Experience Event – Speed Networking with Employers and Alumni Work experience one week Jun/July 2026
Year 11	Next steps Provider Fair and Parents Eve	Networking Breakfasts – career/industry themed events	No encounters – legislation requires encounters to take

	<p>Post 16 assemblies – sixth forms and colleges visit</p> <p>Post 16 apprenticeships assembly – Amazing Apprenticeships</p> <p>Meetings with Level 6 Careers Adviser continue</p> <p>Post 16 application and interviews</p>	<p>Post-16 interviews</p> <p>NCW/NAW – activities/assemblies</p>	<p>place by 28 February if in year 11.</p> <p>Confirmation of post-16 education and training destinations for all pupils.</p>
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PREMISES AND FACILITIES

The school will make the main hall, classrooms or private meeting rooms 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, which will be accessible to pupils.

COMPLAINTS

Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised through the Meridian Trust complaints procedure.

APPROVAL AND REVIEW

Approved by the school's Academy Council, reviewed every 2 years or at the point of new legislation.

Next review: 1st January 2027