



1. **Policy Aims** - This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to students at the school for the purposes of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the school's legal obligation under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

2. **Statutory Requirements** - Schools are required to ensure that there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access pupils in Years 7 to 11 to inform them about approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships.

Bowman Academy ensures that:

- All pupils in Years 8 -11 have access to independent careers guidance.

- Pupils are informed about academic, vocational, and technical pathways, including apprenticeships and T Levels.

- Education and training providers are given reasonable access to pupils

3. Pupil Entitlement - Pupils in year 7-11 at Bowman Academy 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.
- Learn about a range of post-16 pathways.
- 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.
- Understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

4. Management of provider access requests - A provider wishing to request access should contact: Mr Sam Rose, Careers Lead at Sam.Rose@bowman-cit.co.uk. Please contact our Career Leader to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

5. Opportunities for access - A number of events, integrated into the school's careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come into school (this could be virtually) to speak to students and / or their parents. We will consider requests from approved training, apprenticeship and vocational education providers to speak to students. The proposed format, timings and duration of the planned session will be considered as well as the number of staff from the provider's organisation who propose to visit. We would need to know in advance of any support requirements needed from the school. All requests will be given due consideration from the designated Careers Leader and Senior Leadership. We may also approach providers when planning and organising key events throughout the school year. Please speak to our Careers Lead to identify the most suitable opportunity for you. The school policies on Safeguarding and visitors' sets out the school's approach to allowing providers into school as visitors to talk to our students. Please see the Bowman website for the safeguarding policy.

- 6. Refusal of access** - Requests for provider access will be given due consideration and will only be refused in exceptional circumstances. Any refusal will be based on reasonable and practical considerations (such as safeguarding, timetabling, or the specific needs of pupils) and will be clearly documented, including the rationale for the decision.
- 7. Premises and facilities** – The school will make the Hall, Front Meeting room or classroom(s) available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity.

The school will also make available IWB's and other equipment to support provider presentations. The use of Microsoft Teams can also be arranged if required. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Lead or a member of the SLT team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at the main reception or provide an electronic copy to the careers lead. The area is available to students during the school day.

- 8. Accessibility** - As a SEND school, Bowman Academy is committed to ensuring that all provider access activities are fully accessible and inclusive. Reasonable adjustments will be made to meet individual needs, including (but not limited to) support for anxiety, communication differences, sensory needs, and learning needs. Information may be provided in alternative formats where required, and activities will be adapted to ensure all pupils can engage meaningfully and equitably.
- 9. Safeguarding** - All providers accessing Bowman Academy must adhere to the school's safeguarding policies and procedures. Providers will be supervised by a member of staff at all times.

Bowman Academy **Provider Access Policy – The Baker Clause**

Last Reviewed: January 2026

Review Date: January 2027

10. Complaints - Any provider who believes they have been unreasonably or unfairly denied access to pupils may raise a complaint through the school's complaints procedure in the first instance, by contacting a member of the Senior Leadership Team. If the matter cannot be resolved at this stage, it may be escalated in line with the Trust's complaints process.

11. Review of Policy – Bowman Academy recognises the importance of the Provider Access Policy and ensures that it is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader.

Approval and review

Assistant Headteacher: Mr S Rose

Date: January 2025

Date of next review: January 2026