Hall Cross Academy

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Hall Cross Academy

# Provider Access Policy

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| **Author/Owner (Name and Title)** | Tia Hughes - Careers Coordinator |
| **Version Number** | Version 5 |
| **Date Approved/Reviewed** | February 2026 |
| **Date of Next Review** | February 2027 |
| **Approved By** | Full Board of Directors |
| **Policy Category**<br><br>(Please indicate in bold) | **1 - Academy to implement without amendment**<br>2 – Academy specific appendices<br>3 – Academy personalisation required (highlighted) |

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**Policy Introduction & Purpose**

Hall Cross Academy recognises and values the importance of allowing other education and training providers

access to schools to speak directly with students.

Hall Cross not only supports this but encourages this access in order to enable our students to make more informed decisions about their future.

The impact of speaking with other providers and employers can have a real positive effect for our students: they are able to receive impartial advice and guidance along with learning more in depth information regarding their potential future choices. We also want students to be able to understand technical education and apprenticeship opportunities and where these pathways can lead them. We want students to be aware of all routes whether that be post 14,16 or 18.

In addition, this helps support the academy in working towards meeting all Gatsby Benchmarks and develop the careers programme we offer.

**Policy Aims**
The aim of this policy is to set out clear guidance on how other education/training providers can access the academy and speak with students.

This document sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to pupils at 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.

Hall Cross Academy 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.

Hall Cross Academy will ensure the following mandatory requirements are put in place for students in Year 8 - 13:

- **Two encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (year 8 or 9**) that are mandatory for all pupils to attend, to take place any time during year 8 or between 1 September and 28 February during year 9.
- **Two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 10 or 11)** that are mandatory for all pupils to attend, to take place any time during year 10 or between 1 September and 28 February during year 11.
- **Two encounters for pupils during the 'third key phase' (year 12 or 13)** that are mandatory for the school to put on but optional for pupils to attend, to take place any time during year 12 or between 1 September and 28 February during year 13.

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.

**Policy Scope**
The purpose of this policy is to set out the times at which access is to be given and explain how the school will meet the new legal requirement to put on six provider encounters. It also provides clear information and guidance on how providers can seek access to the school and speak directly with students.

The policy supports the statutory requirements of schools to comply with the Provider Access Legislation through the changes to the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022, which come into effect on 1 January 2023 and was updated 8 May 2025.

- Careers Guidance and Access for Education and Training Providers

In addition, the policy applies to the staff at Hall Cross Academy to understand and follow should anyone contact them directly regarding attending the school to speak to students.

**Policy / Controls**

Hall Cross Academy offers a comprehensive Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance programme and is committed to continuing to develop and support its students in their future and progression. Allowing access to education and training providers is not only a crucial element for a student's careers programme but helping educate them and raise awareness of the different opportunities available to them, including technical education and apprenticeships.

**Procedure:** In order to access Hall Cross Academy students, education and training providers will need to contact the Careers Lead/Careers Coordinator, Tia Hughes directly via email; t.hughes@hallcross.elp.org.uk
Contact number: 01302 320626 ext:2165
Hall Cross Academy welcomes both in person activity and virtual.

Below is a table for opportunities for access to the academy however please note that Hall Cross Academy welcomes opportunities that may not be listed below:

| Year Group | Autumn Term | Spring Term | Summer Term |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Assembly | |
| Year 7 | | National Apprenticeship Week | |
| | | National Careers Week | |
| | | Assembly | |
| Year 8 | | National Apprenticeship Week | |
| | | National Careers Week | |
| | | Assembly | |
| Year 9 | | National Apprenticeship Week | |
| | | National Careers Week | |
| | | Assembly | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Year 10 | | National Apprenticeship Week | Year 10 Careers Day |
| | Performing Arts - Next Steps Conference | National Careers Week | |
| | | Assembly | |
| Year 11 | Year 11 Careers Day | National Apprenticeship Week | Future Pathways Evening |
| | Performing Arts - Next Steps Conference | National Careers Week | |
| | | | |
| Year 12 | Performing Arts - Next Steps Conference | National Apprenticeship Week - Academic Tutor | Future Pathways Evening |
| | | | Work Experience preparation - Academic Tutor |
| | | | Future Pathways Week |
| Year 13 | Performing Arts - Next Steps Conference | Apprenticeship workshop - Opportunities available for small groups. | |
| | Student Finance - Presentation | | |
| | Ucas Day | | |

Below is a table on activities taking place to support us in meeting the Provider Access Legislation:

| **Year Group** | **How we are currently meeting the new PAL:** |
|---|---|
| | |
| Year 7 | Apprenticeship Assembly - Doncaster Council |
| Year 8 | Apprenticeship Assembly - Doncaster Council |
| | Attend the We Care into the Future event, able to speak with Doncaster College, Sheffield University, Sheffield Hallam University and BPP. |
| Year 9 | A University visit |
| | Apprenticeship Assembly - Doncaster Council |
| | Assembly from GXO Logistics |
| Year 10 | All students attend Opportunity Live |
| | Year 10 Careers Day (2026 completed in support with HSBC and Zero Gravity) |
| | University visit |
| | T-Level Assembly |
| Year 11 | Year 11 Careers Day - Insight/Taster Day |
| | Future Pathways Evening |
| | T-Level Assembly |
| | Apprenticeship Assembly - Doncaster Council |
| Year 12 | Offer to university open day visits |

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| | Attend What Career Live - NEC |
| | UCAS Fair |
| | Degree Apprenticeship - Virtual workshop |
| | Future Pathways Evening |
| | Law Workshop - Newcastle University |
| | Oxbridge Workshop (Oxford University hosted at Hall Cross) |
| Year 13 | Degree apprenticeship workshop |
| | Interview Preparation |
| | Personal Statement support workshops - University of Nottingham, University of Sheffield, Newcastle University, Lincoln University, and Manchester Metropolitan |
| | Student Finance - Evening event for students and parents<br>Students Finance - virtual session |
| | National Apprenticeship Show |

**Previous Providers**

To evidence our compliance with PAL please see below a list of providers that have previously been invited to attend the academy:

| **Training Providers** | **Universities** | |
|---|---|---|
| • GTA Training<br>• Doncaster College<br>• John Leggott College<br>• Sheffield College<br>• Barnsley College<br>• Club Doncaster<br>• YMCA<br>• White Rose Beauty College<br>• CTS<br>• Northern Racing College<br>• Oracle<br>• HETA<br>• QPD College<br>• Higher Rhythm | • Bath Spa University<br>• Birmingham City University<br>• Cambridge University<br>• Club Doncaster<br>• Doncaster University Centre<br>• University of Law<br>• Derby University<br>• Durham University<br>• Edge Hill<br>• Edinburgh University<br>• Huddersfield University<br>• University of Hull<br>• Imperial College London<br>• University of Leeds<br>• Leeds Beckett University<br>• Lincoln University<br>• University of Liverpool | • Loughborough University<br>• Manchester Metropolitan University<br>• University of Manchester<br>• Newcastle University<br>• University of Nottingham<br>• Oxford University<br>• Sheffield Hallam University<br>• University of Sheffield<br>• Teeside University<br>• York St John University<br>• University of York |

**Destinations of our Pupils**

Furthermore, you can access our students' destinations via our school careers page: Year 11 and 13 Destination Data

**Granting and refusing access** - Please refer to our safeguarding policy for further details on 'Visitors to the Academy, 3.1.1'

All visitors must comply with the policies in place should they wish to enter the school and speak with students.

Safeguarding – Please refer to our safeguarding policy for further details on 'Visitors to the Academy, 3.1.1'

**Premises and Facilities** - The academy will make the main hall, sports hall, sixth form centre, library, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for education and training providers; giving them the opportunity to speak with students.

Advance notice will need to be given in order to book venues and for students to attend.
Additional equipment can be made available such as audio or visual devices but again advance notice will be required.

Providers are more than welcome to leave prospectuses or other relevant course information following events or they can be left with at the school reception who can pass them onto the school's Career Lead.

Should a provider wish to raise a complaint please refer to our complaints procedure on the academies policy webpage: https://hallcrossacademy.co.uk/about-us/policies/

**Consultation**

The focus of this policy is aimed at external parties including education and training providers as well as employers.
In addition, the policy is for the staff at the academy to understand the expectations of the academy and the procedures that should be followed when agreeing or refusing access to external parties.
It is a statutory requirement that schools allow education and training providers access to the academy in order to speak with students.

Furthermore, the Access Policy has been consulted with Senior Lead and the Academy Careers link Governor.

**Sources and References**

Statutory Guidance from the Department of Education:

- Careers Guidance and Access for Education and Training Providers – Updated 8 May 2025
- Provider Access Legislation – The Careers and Enterprise Company

**Policy Review & Development**

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Careers Coordinator (Tia Hughes), Senior Lead and Academy Governor.

**Document version change control**

| Version: | Date: | Details of changes: |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | March 2022 | Document created in consultation with the Governing Body and Senior Leadership team. |
| 2 | April 2022 | Policy Aims - further narrative added<br>Consultation - text added |

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|---|---|---|
| | | Policy/Controls - text added |
| 3 | January 2023 | Changes to the Senior Lead<br>Policy Introduction - New Provider Access Legislation added<br>Consultation - Updated statutory guidance document/link. |
| 4 | December 2023 | Updated the university visit for Year 9.<br>Updated Senior Lead and Governor.<br>Updated Career events. |
| 5 | January 2026 | Changed contact details for new Careers Coordinator.<br>Added additional activities and opportunities.<br>Changed and updated links to documents and websites |