Richard Lander School

Provider Access Policy Statement

Policy Effective From: January 2026

Responsibility: Careers Lead/Deputy Head/Head/Governing Body

Reviewed and monitored by: Careers Lead/Deputy Head/Head/Governing Body

Review Date: September 2027

Introduction

Richard Lander School aims to provide all students from year 7 to 11 with meaningful opportunities to explore a wide range of future options. This policy statement aims to set out our school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students for the purpose of giving them information about their offer. This policy should be read in conjunction with the Richard Lander School Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance Policy.

Statutory requirements

Schools are required to ensure that there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students in years 8 to 13 for the purposes of informing them about approved technical education, qualifications or apprenticeships. Schools must provide a minimum of 6 encounters with technical education or training providers to all students from years 8 to 13. Schools must also have a policy statement that outlines the circumstances in which education and training providers will be given access to these Students. This is outlined in:

- Section 42B of the Education Act 1997
- Education and Skills Act 2008
- The School Information (England) Regulations 2008
- The Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022
- Guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on careers guidance and access for education and training providers

This policy shows how our school complies with these requirements.

Pupil entitlement

- All students in years 8 to 11 at Richard Lander School are entitled to:
- Find out about further education training, technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities as part of our careers programme, which provides information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition point

- Hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships, e.g. through activities and events such as options events, assemblies and taster events
- Understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses
- Have a minimum of 6 encounters with providers

These encounters must happen for a reasonable period of time during the standard school day. The school does provide additional experiences but encounters outside of school hours do not count towards these requirements.

These encounters will include college and apprenticeship providers.

Access to Providers

Access to providers is available and promoted to allow all students to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. We are committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Students in year 8 and 9
All students in these year groups are offered:
2 encounters with education and training providers
All students must attend
Encounters can take place any time during year 8, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 9

Students in year 10 and 11
All students in these year groups are offered, as a minimum:
2 encounters with education and training providers
All students must attend
Encounters can take place any time during year 10, and between 1 September and 28 February during year 11

Meaningful encounters with providers

Our school is committed to providing meaning encounters for all students.

A meaningful encounter:

- Is where the pupil can explore what it is like to learn, develop and succeed in that environment
- Involves meeting both staff and learners/trainees
- Has a clear purpose
- Is underpinned by learning outcomes that are appropriate to the needs of the pupil
- Involves a 2-way interaction between the pupil and the provider
- Includes information about the provider, such as their recruitment and selection processes, the qualifications that provider offers and the careers these could lead to
- Describes what learning or training with the provider is like

- Is followed by opportunities for the pupil to reflect on the insights, knowledge or skills gained through the encounter

Management of provider access requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Mrs Nikki Grenfell, Careers Lead
Telephone: 01872 273750
Email: ngrenfell@richardlander.cornwall.sch.uk

Information we ask from providers

As a school we ask each provider to provide the following information for our students:

- Information about your provision and the approved qualifications or apprenticeships you offer
- Information about what careers those qualifications and apprenticeships can lead to
- What learning or training with you is like
- Answers to any questions from students

Opportunities for access

There are a number of events, integrated into our careers programme, that offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to students and/or their parents/carers. Please speak to our Careers Lead to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

The following table outlines examples of the opportunities provided for training and education providers to speak to students and/or their parents/carers

	autumn term	spring term	summer term
Year 8	Careers Fair	Apprenticeship Assembly	Women in Stem/Engineering. Round Robin Employer event
Year 9	Careers Fair	Apprenticeship Assembly Key Stage 4 options event Women in Leadership Event	No encounters – encounters must have taken place by 28 February

	autumn term	spring term	summer term
Year 10	Post-16 technical education options assembly with a general further education college Life skills – work experience preparation sessions Assembly and tutor group opportunities – employability skills	Apprenticeship Assemblies Mock Interviews	Work experience preparation sessions Work experience Technical/vocational tasters at local college/s, training providers
Year 11	Post-16 provider open evenings Post-16 apprenticeships assembly/workshop Meetings with careers adviser Post-16 applications	Post-16 interviews Apprenticeships – support with applications	No encounters – encounters must have taken place by 28 February Confirmation of post-16 education and training destinations for all students

Live online encounters

We will consider requests for live online encounters with providers, which may be broadcast into classrooms or the school assembly hall.

Granting and refusing provider access requests

Each access request will be considered on a case-by-case basis. We will grant access requests where there is opportunity for a positive contribution to our careers programme.

Safeguarding

Our safeguarding/child protection policy outlines the school's procedure for checking the identity and suitability of visitors. You can find the policy here:
https://www.richardlander.co.uk/students/safeguarding/
Education and training providers will be expected to adhere to this policy.

Premises and facilities

We will provide an appropriate room or assembly hall, with the necessary equipment providers require to carry out their visit effectively – details will be agreed with the provider. Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature with our Careers Lead. Providers will be met and supervised by a member of staff who will facilitate their visit.

Working with parents and carers

We aim to involve parents and carers in our careers programme and welcome your attendance at encounters with providers in school. Richard Lander informs parents and carers about upcoming events via Intouch emails, social media and the school website. If you would like to speak to the school about encounters with providers, please contact Nikki Grenfell Careers Lead at 01872 273750.

We also welcome feedback from parents and carers to help improve our offer of encounters with providers. The school collects annual feedback from parents and carers via its online survey.

Previous providers

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

All local colleges and Sixth Forms, Apprenticeship Providers,

Pupil destinations

Last year, our year 11 students moved to a range of providers after school:
Truro College,
Cornwall College Group – Duchy College Stoke Climsland & Rosewarne, Falmouth Marine School
CSMS,
Treviglas Sixth Form,
Truro School Sixth Form

Complaints

Any complaints related to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure Richard Lander School Complaints Procedure

Links to other policies

Richard Lander Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy
Richard Lander Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance Policy
Richard Lander Careers Offer
Richard Lander Curriculum Policy
Richard Lander Equality and diversity policy
Richard Lander SEND Policy
Richard Lander SEND Offer

Monitoring arrangements

Our school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students is monitored by Nikki Grenfell, Careers Lead and Jenny Griffiths Deputy Head. This policy will be reviewed by The Careers Lead and Deputy Head annually and approved by the governing board at every review.