

PROVIDER ACCESS STATEMENT

This policy statement sets out the arrangements for managing the access of providers to students across The Gosport and Fareham Multi Academy Trust for the purpose of giving 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 and the updated Provider Access Legislation which came into force in January 2023.

All students 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 options available at each transition point
- to hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships
- to understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

For students of compulsory school age there will be a minimum of two encounters during Years 8 and 9 and two encounters during Years 10 and 11 - attendance during Years 8 to 11 is mandatory. Students in Years 12 and 13, particularly those that are undecided on their next steps, will have two more encounters - these are optional for Year 12 and 13 students to attend. These provider encounters will be scheduled during school hours, by 28 February if taking place in Years 9 or 11, and the provider will be given a reasonable amount of time to:

- share information about both the provider and the approved technical education qualification and apprenticeships that the provider offers
- explain the career routes those options could lead to
- provide insights into what it may be like to learn or train with that provider, including the opportunity to meet staff and students from the provider
- answer questions from students.

The Gosport and Fareham Multi Academy Trust uses the Gatsby Benchmarks, a framework of best practice, to plan the Careers programme. As part of our commitment to informing students about the full range of learning and training pathways available, we are very happy to consider access requests from Sixth Form and Further Education Colleges, University Training Colleges, Institutes of Technology, apprenticeship providers, independent training providers, universities and employers.

The Gosport and Fareham Multi Academy Trust proactively builds relationships with all these partners when planning the Careers programme for the academic year, ensuring providers have multiple opportunities to speak to students and parents across Years 3 to 13 to offer information on vocational, technical and apprenticeship qualifications and pathways. By hearing directly from providers, every student is able to build a broad picture of the options available and consider how the opportunity to study or train in different ways, and in different environments, may suit their skills, interests and aptitudes.

Opportunities for providers to speak with students may include school assemblies, employer and provider engagement events or activities to support GCSE, Post-16 or Post-18 option choices.

We are committed to providing meaningful encounters to all students in-person or online; an encounter is defined as one meeting or session between students and a provider. Previously we have invited a number of providers into school to speak about technical education and apprenticeships including, but not limited to, BAE Systems, Fareham College, First Bus, HaHa Training, NHS, PETA, Portsmouth City Council, QinetiQ, The Gosport

and Fareham Multi Academy Trust, UTC Portsmouth.

Destinations

Draft data for 2021-22 indicates our Year 11 students moved on to a range of destinations after school including St Vincent College (41.7%), Fareham College (40.4%), Bay House Sixth Form (7.7%) and City of Portsmouth College to study A Levels, Level 1-3 Technical options and GCSEs:

95.2% Raising the Age of Participation (RPA) destinations

- 51.5% sixth form
- 46.4% FE college
- 0.4% other education including Traineeship
- 1.7% full time employment including Apprenticeship

1.6% Non RPA destinations

- 0.8% In Education, Employment or Training, including part time work (EET)
- 0.8% Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

3.2% Other destinations - including students reengaging, personal development opportunities, unwell, moved out of area or unknown.

Procedure

In the first instance, requests by providers should be sent to **The Gosport and Fareham Multi Academy Trust's** Careers Leader, Nicki Craven, at careers@gfmat.org with a minimum of 6 weeks' request time. All requests will be considered on the basis of staff availability to support the activity, any clashes with other planned activity, trips or visits to schools within the GFM, interruption to the preparation for examinations or rooming and space availability to host the activity. Providers should refer to the GFM's Safeguarding Policy.

The Gosport and Fareham Multi Academy Trust will make a suitable space and equipment available for interactions between providers and students, appropriate to the activity; this will be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Leader or a member of the Careers Team. Providers are very welcome to leave prospectuses and relevant literature at Brune Park Reception marked for the attention of the Careers Team.

The GFM's Careers programme is monitored for quality and impact by the Trust's Senior Leadership and Governance Teams and a review of access and opportunities to engage with technical, vocational and training providers forms part of this process; this policy statement is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader and agreed by the Board of Trustees.

For questions on this or **The Gosport and Fareham Multi Academy Trust's** wider Careers programme, please contact the GFM's Careers Leader at careers@gfmat.org.