

Franklin Sixth Form College: Provider Access Legislation 2025/26

1. Introduction

This statement sets out the college's arrangements for managing the access of providers to the college students for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the college's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

2. Entitlement

All students 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 careers events, group discussions and taster events;
- To understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

For students at college during the 'third key phase' (year 12 to 13), particularly those that have not yet decided on their next steps, there are two provider encounters available during this period, which are optional for students to attend.

These provider encounters will be scheduled during the main college 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 students from the provider)
- Answer questions from students.

3. Meaningful provider encounters

One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between students and one provider. We are committed to providing meaningful encounters to all students.

Meaningful online engagement is also an option, and we are open to providers that can provide live online engagement with our students.

4. Previous providers

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

- Local educational providers e.g., University of Hull, University of Lincoln, Grimsby University Centre
- Local apprenticeships providers e.g., HETA, CATCH, Avant Partnerships, Grimsby Institute Apprenticeships team
- Local employers e.g., North East Lincolnshire Council, Wilkin Chapman, Forrester Boyd, Phillips 66, Orsted, ABP, RES Renewables, Care Plus Group, NLAG, British Steel, NAVIGO, BAE Systems, Humberside Police, Wren Kitchens, DFDS, Dataplan, Youngs, Tronox, Solenis and many others.

5. Management of provider access requests

5.1 Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Emma Swinburn, Careers Lead and Associate Principal – CfPD & PPD emma.swinburn@franklin.ac.uk or 01472 875000.

5.2 Opportunities for access

The college offers as a minimum, the two provider encounters required by law and several additional events, integrated into the college careers programme.

We will offer providers an opportunity to come into college to speak to students or their parents or carers.

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

5.3 Premises and facilities

The college will make the theatre, classrooms, library, or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. The college 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 Lead or a member of their team.

Meaningful online engagement is also an option, and we are open to providers that can provide live online engagement with our students. Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at the Centre for Professional Development, which is managed by the careers and employability team. The resources are available to all students throughout the day and at lunch and break times.

6. Complaints:

Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised following the college complaints procedure or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk