SPARK EDUCATION TRUST

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ES & 6TH FORM
EGGLESCLIFFE SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM

PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY

SEPTEMBER 2026

Policy Date: September 2026
Review Cycle: Annual
Responsible Body: Local Governance Committee

Version Control

Review Date	Updates
September 2026	Updated destinations, updated opportunities for access

Lowfields Avenue, Ingleby Barwick, TS17 0RJ

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Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to 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 and the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022.

Student Entitlement

All pupils in years 7 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.

For pupils of compulsory school age these encounters are mandatory and there will be a minimum of two encounters for year 8 to 9 pupils and two encounters for year 10 to 11 pupils. For pupils in year 12 to 13, particularly those that have not yet decided on their next steps, there are two more provider encounters available during this period, which are optional for pupils to attend.

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.

Meaningful Provider Encounters

One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between pupils and one provider. We are committed to providing meaningful encounters to all pupils using the Making it Meaningful Checklist.

Previous Providers

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

- Tees Valley Learning Provider Network
- Askham Bryan College

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- Darlington College
- Middlesbrough College Group
- Northern School of Art
- Education Training Collective (Stockton Riverside College, Bede College, NETA)

Destinations of Our Pupils

Last year our year 11 pupils moved to range of providers in the local area after school, such as but not limited to:

- Egglescliffe Sixth Form – 39%
- Sixth form/FE college – 51%
- Training – 6%
- Apprenticeships (Various Training Providers) – 4%

Last year our year 13 pupils moved to range of providers in the local area after school, such as but not limited to:

- Newcastle University – 16%
- Northumbria University – 13%
- Sunderland University – 5%
- Teesside University – 17%
- Apprenticeships (Various Training Providers) – 4%

Management of Provider Access Requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact:

Steve Wilkinson, Careers Leader

Telephone: 01642 352570

Email: s.wilkinson@egglescliffe.org.uk

Opportunities for Access

The school offers the six provider encounters required by law (marked in bold text) and a number of additional events, integrated into the school careers programme. We will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils and/or their parents or carers.

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

The school policy on safeguarding sets out the school's approach to allowing providers into school as visitors to talk to our students.

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	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 7	Tutor group opportunities and assemblies	Tutor group opportunities Career Fair	Tutor group opportunities
Year 8	Tutor group opportunities and assemblies	Tutor group opportunities **Career Fair - Employer event for pupils. Market stall event giving overview of local, regional and national opportunities and skills requirement**	Tutor group opportunities and assemblies
Year 9	Tutor group opportunities and assemblies	**KS4 options event – colleges and apprenticeship providers attend to give presentations to pupils** Tutor group opportunities Career Fair	Extra and ad hoc encounters. Legislation requires that mandatory encounters take place by 28 February if in year 9
Year 10	Tutor group opportunities and assemblies	Tutor group opportunities Career Fair Work experience preparation sessions	**Post 16 Options Assemblies – colleges attend to give presentations to pupils** Work experience Work experience de-brief Technical/vocational tasters at local college/s, training providers
Year 11	Tutor group opportunities and assemblies **Post 16 apprenticeships assembly** Post 16 provider open evenings Meetings with careers advisor	**Career Fair - Employer event for pupils. Market stall event giving overview of local, regional and national opportunities and skills requirement** Post-16 interviews Post 16 evening – 6th form open evening Meetings with careers advisor	Legislation requires that mandatory encounters take place by 28 February if in year 11 Confirmation of post-16 education and training destinations for all pupils
Year 12	Work experience prep Apprenticeships Information Sessions **University-led finance session** **University-led contextual offers session**	Career Fair Work experience prep Small group sessions: future education, training and employment options	**Careers Day – multiple employers and ITP's invited to speak with students about specific job roles** **UCAS Discovery Exhibition** **University-led personal statement session** Work experience Work experience de-brief
Year 13	**Workshops – HE and higher apprenticeship applications**	Tutor group opportunities Career Fair	Legislation requires that mandatory encounters take place by 28 February if in year 13 Confirmation of post-18 education and training destinations for all pupils

Premises and Facilities

The school will make the main hall, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. The school will also make available AV and other

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specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Leader or a member of their team.

Meaningful online engagement is also an option and we are open to providers that are able to provide live online engagement with our pupils.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature with the Careers Leader, who will hold these in the careers office and make these available to all students.

University prospectuses are updated annually and available in the sixth form common room

Complaints

Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure which can be found at Documentation - Spark Education Trust

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