

## **OUSEDALE SCHOOL - PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY**

At Ousedale School we believe in creating a full, varied and active careers programme for all students. We aim to inspire students and inform them of the vast array of career options and the multiple routes available. We hope that by the end of their education with us, whether at year 11 or year 13, they leave properly equipped to face the challenges of the modern workplace and to compete and succeed in a changing world. It is very important to us that each student, regardless of their ability, has the opportunity to shine.

The information below outlines the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to students 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.

The new statutory guidance for schools was published in January 2018 which outlines the following:

All pupils in years 8-13 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.

### **Management of provider access requests and procedure**

A provider wishing to request access should contact the Careers Lead:

Email: [donna.montague@ousedale.org.uk](mailto:donna.montague@ousedale.org.uk) or Phone: 01908 327429

We are always looking to widen our careers offering to students and current areas of interest include:

- Site visits
- Work experience opportunities
- Activities in school run by employers or training providers
- Engagement with employers who feel there are skills gaps in their sector

If you feel you or your organisation would be able to help us develop our careers provision and support students, please get in contact.

A copy of our safeguarding policy can be found [here](#)

### **Opportunities for access**

We operate a large number of events integrated into the school curriculum and careers programme and are able to offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak with students and/their parents/carers.

The current Careers Programme includes:

**Career talks:** Years 8 – 13 receive talks from a range of visitors to gain information about skills and qualifications required to pursue different careers from both employers and education providers. Using a diverse range of

speakers helps to broaden their knowledge, and, we have previously welcomed politicians, sporting professionals, engineers, business people, and public services.

**Careers PSHE:** Years 8 – 11 receive careers focused PSHE lessons including:

- Year 8: Focus on where to begin with career planning, myth-busting and thought challenging gender stereotyping ('girls' and 'boys' jobs).
- Year 9: Focus on subject choices and how these relate to different careers and continuing to explore the growing range of jobs available.
- Year 10: Focus on developing workplace skills, creating CVs and preparing for interviews and further exploring possible careers and education/training opportunities.
- Year 11: Continue to develop their workplace skills, learning about rights and responsibilities in relation to employment, further exploring career opportunities and next steps for education following their GCSEs.

**Impact Morning:** Year 10 have a careers focused day, usually in July. This takes the form of rotating around different sessions which include CV and interview workshops, motivational talks and speed or panel interviewing. Visitors from a broad range of employers and training providers are welcomed in to school to take part. The day is designed to:

- Broaden knowledge of the diversity of the modern workplace;
- Inform on the skills and qualifications required to follow the different career options;
- Build confidence, networking and communication skills

**Careers Enrichment:** Year 12 receive a careers enrichment programme which aims to build skills and knowledge for the modern workplace, including CV and interview workshops, information on apprenticeships, contracts, professional etiquette, etc.

**Careers Day:** Year 12 spend a day focused on career opportunities, and attend a careers fair. Visitors from many working sectors and further education providers are present, offering information on a range of employment and training options, including apprenticeship schemes.

**Tutor Time Activities:** Every fortnight year 10 and 11 look at different employment areas which are open to them. This can involve looking at jobs in a particular sector i.e. IT or within a specific role i.e. Project Management. The aim is to continue to challenge established ideas of available careers and to broaden knowledge of the range of opportunities available to all students and the level of training/education needed.

**Work Experience:** Year 10 and 12 students are offered the chance to take up work experience placements and throughout the school we encourage all students to explore the opportunities of gaining workplace experience. This is important for building essential skills but it also helps students identify what they are looking for in a career (as well as what they are not) and also provides them with experiences that will make them stand out to further education providers and employers in an increasingly competitive environment.

**Job Shows:** We have attended the local National Apprenticeship Show and Skills Show and plan to continue offering these invaluable experience. When the school is unable to attend an event the details of relevant opportunities are advertised to students. These include job shows such as the MK Job Show, further education shows such as What Uni Live?, career pathway shows such as What Career Live?

**Site Visits:** When available, we offer students the opportunity to visit local employers. This is a great way for students to gain an insight into workplaces and see first-hand how the business works and what job roles they entail.

**Employer Led Career Events:** We have attended several employer led career events, designed to inform students on specific sectors i.e. STEM or IT careers. Like the site visits, these are fantastic opportunities for employers to share knowledge of their business and the skills and qualifications required.

**Labour Market Information:** Through our links with local business groups, the National Careers Service and the Local Enterprise Partnership SEMLEP, we keep students up to date with relevant local labour market information. This is shared and updated monthly through our teachers and associate staff, social media and the school newsletter.

### **Premises and facilities**

The school can make appropriate provision for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. The school can also make available AV and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit. Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus, details of opportunities or other relevant course literature.

*Reviewed and amended on: 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019 by Donna Montague Careers Manager*