



Provider Access Policy

2026 – 2027



Catshill Middle School

Reviewed and Ratified by the Trust Board: October 2026

Next Review Date: September 2027

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to pupils 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.

At Catshill Middle School, we are committed to ensuring that our pupils are offered a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to prepare them for life in modern Britain. As part of this commitment, we want all our pupils to understand the full range of opportunities that will be available to them and to develop the transferable skills that will help them succeed in a future job market.

Pupil entitlement

All pupils in key stage 3 have a statutory entitlement:

- 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.

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 qualifications and apprenticeships that the provider offers
- explain what career options for these routes 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

Management of provider access requests

Procedure: a provider wishing to request access should contact Laura Marshall, Careers Lead.

Telephone: 01527 872431; Email: careers@catshill-middle.worcs.sch.uk

Opportunities for access

Our provision includes various opportunities for students to access a range of events. These are integrated into our careers programme and curriculum, as well as attending or hosting specific one-off events. We often receive contributions from external providers for events. For specific students we arrange visits to potential providers.

The year's proposed plan (subject to change):

	Opportunities for providers
Year 5	• KS2 assembly • KS2 inspirational speaker workshop • Subject specific careers lesson
Year 6	• KS2 assembly • KS2 inspirational speaker workshop • Subject specific careers lesson
Year 7	• KS3 assembly • Future Careers entry questionnaire • Small business challenge • Visit Big Bang show • Inspirational speaker workshop • Ambassador visit • Enterprise club • PSCE lesson unit • Subject specific careers lesson/curriculum visitor talks within subject areas • All external school trips to have a careers element, with learning done before about careers seen whilst on the trip, talks with staff about their careers and work completed after the trip to analyse the careers seen.
Year 8	• KS3 assembly • Future Careers exit questionnaire • Visit Worcestershire Skills Expo • PSCE lesson unit • Inspirational speaker workshop • Careers fair event • Enterprise club • Future planning feedback • Subject specific careers lesson/curriculum visitor talks within subject areas • All external school trips to have a careers element, with learning done before about careers seen whilst on the trip, talks with staff about their careers and work completed after the trip to analyse the careers seen.

Refusing access

All providers' requests for access will be considered, however, access may not be granted if the timing is inappropriate or causes disruption to the school calendar and student learning. An alternative opportunity may be offered.

Safeguarding

Our safeguarding/child protection policy outlines the school's procedure for checking the identity and suitability of visitors. Education and training providers will be expected to adhere to this policy.

Premises and facilities

The school will make the main hall and classrooms available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. The school 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 Miss L Marshall.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at reception. The school will decide where and when it is appropriate for pupils to access this.