



## **St Mary's Catholic Academy Provider Access Policy**

**Version:** 1.0

**Adopted:** Autumn Term 2021

**Next Revision Date:** Autumn Term 2023

## **Provider Access policy.**

### **Key contacts:**

School Careers Lead – Jane Leigh (Senior Assistant Headteacher)

Independent Careers Adviser – Angela Callagher

### **Introduction**

This policy defines the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to students during school hours with the purpose of supplying them with the provider's educational, training or employment offer. This follows the school's legal obligations under Section 42B 'Information about technical information: access to English Schools' of the Education Act 1997.

### **Student entitlement:**

All students in Years 7-13 are entitled:

- To information regarding educational qualifications, apprenticeship opportunities and higher education routes as part of the inclusive careers programme designed to cover each transition point during their time at St Marys.
- Chances to interact and listen to local providers about opportunities available locally and further afield
- To receive the necessary skills and support to apply for a variety of educational, vocational and employment-based work settings upon departure from St Marys Academy.

### **Management of provider access requests:**

Any provider wishing to gain access to students for the purpose of delivering information on any of the above points should contact:

*Beth Stott - Lead Administrator.*

*Email -* BST@St-Mary.blackpool.sch.uk

*Telephone -* 01253 396286

### **Access considerations:**

To be granted access as a provider, the following will be taken into consideration:

- Curriculum time
- Availability of staff to support
- Availability of facilities required
- Appropriate content
- Other departmental requirements on the same day

### **Opportunities for access:**

During the course of an academic year there are a number of opportunities where providers can present to students and on occasion parents/carers through a variety of access points. These include but are not exclusive to the following:

- Yr7 Assemblies/PSHE lessons/Educational visit where appropriate/Access to Independent Careers Advisor/STEM activities and competition
- Yr8 Assemblies/PSHE sessions/Taster sessions during Options process and Blackpool Pleasure Beach Annual Careers Event (contact details for organiser to be given upon request)/ Educational visit where appropriate/ Access to Independent Careers Advisor/STEM activities
- Yr9 Assemblies/PSHE sessions/ Taster sessions for option choice/ Educational visit where appropriate/ Access to Independent Careers Advisor
- Yr10 Assemblies/PSHE sessions/Taster Sessions for higher education/ Annual Careers Evening/Educational visit where appropriate/Mock Interviews/ Access to Independent Careers Advisor/ Lunchtime drop in sessions with local Post 16 providers/Work Experience./ Employer online interaction day.
- Yr11 Assemblies/PSHE sessions/Induction session for Higher education/Educational visit where appropriate/ Access to Independent Careers Advisor/ Lunchtime drop in sessions with local Post 16 providers/ Work Experience where appropriate/

In addition to the embedded Careers programme St Marys works with Unifrog as part of an initiative to ensure all students have an extended access to employers in line with Government National Careers Strategy based on Gatsby Benchmarks.

### **Premises & Facilities**

St Marys where possible will ensure that providers are facilitated with rooms/appropriate space for activities with the students within the school. Required equipment (i.e. White boards, laptops, microphones) will be discussed and arranged prior to the event to ensure smooth running for the provider and students.

Our Careers advisor is there to ensure that all students have the opportunity to access impartial information and the necessary skills to make a well informed & rational decision regarding any transitional periods during their schooling careers and indeed the transferrable skills to apply the knowledge once they have left St Marys Academy.

More recently we have subscribed to Unifrog, this is a dedicated resource for supporting student careers education. This resource allows students to virtually meet employers and providers as well as personal presentations. This will also play a crucial part in Careers embedded in subject areas, with relevant and timely interventions from employers which link directly to studied subject areas.

Students also have access to Blackpool's online careers hub which lists information about all of the 16-19 providers in the local area.

### **Curriculum and Benchmark information**

The curriculum for careers is published on the school website for students/parents/employers to access throughout the year.

### **Assessment, Measures and Impact of Careers Information on pupils**

The academy reviews the Careers programme as detailed in [Gatsby Benchmark Overview](#) annually to ensure that all provision provides a positive impact on pupils' experience, knowledge and understanding. Any new opportunities which have been included throughout the year are also reviewed and if impactful are added to the stable careers programme.

In addition, the academy completes the Gatsby Benchmark Compass+ evaluation termly to ensure we are always working towards ensuring the Gatsby Benchmarks or being worked towards.

Finally, all schools work towards Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) targets. All destination data is published on the school website yearly.

All the above measures are used to rigorously assess the efficacy and impact of the careers programme.

### **Contact Information**

Contact information for the schools Careers Leader is also published on the school website to ensure they can be contacted when required either by email or telephone.

**October 2021**