



Careers Provider Access Legislation (PAL) Statement

Member of leadership team with lead responsibility for oversight and update of policy	DOW/SAT
Approved at SLT	
Approved by the School Standards Committee (SSC)	
Policy review cycle	Annual
Policy review date	July 2027

The Polesworth School Provider Access Legislation Policy (PAL) Statement

Date: Academic Year 2025/2026

Rationale

The purpose of this PAL Statement ensures compliancy with **The Department of Education, July 2021: “Baker Clause” and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023.**

As the number of apprenticeships rises every year, it becomes increasingly important that all young people have a full understanding of all the options available to them post-16 and post-18 including wider technical education options such as T-Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications.

This PAL Statements is underpinned by, and is part of, the Polesworth School & Sixth Form whole school careers related learning programme (CRLP). This statement sets out our intention to managing access of providers/employers to the school for the purpose of them giving Polesworth Students information about a providers/employer’s education and training offer into the ‘World of Work’ at key transition points and during key national events such as the National Apprenticeship Week, National Careers Week, Science Week and Music Week.

The statement further sets out the impact of quality careers education and guidance at the Polesworth school which is critical to a students’ future progression outcomes by preparing them for their futures and providing a clear understanding of the world of work, including the routes to jobs and careers that they might find engaging and rewarding. This will enable students to choose their pathways through informed decision making and career planning.

Commitment

The Polesworth school is committed to ensuring there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students, for the purpose of informing them about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships. The Polesworth School is fully aware of the responsibility to set students on the path that will secure the best outcome to enable them to progress in education and work, and of the need to supply employers with the

highly skilled workforce they require aligned to the [UK Modern Industrial Strategy 2025 and the 10 Priority](#) areas in the economy. This requires impartiality, in line with the statutory duty, and not showing bias towards any route, be that academic or technical.

The Polesworth School endeavours to ensure that all students are aware of all routes to higher skills and are able to access information on technical options and apprenticeships (The Department of Education, July 2021: "Baker Clause": supporting students to understand the full range of education and training options, and the [Provider Access Legislation, January 2023](#)).

Aims & Student Entitlement

The Polesworth School PAL Statement has the following aims –

To develop the knowledge and awareness of our students of all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships through a range of methods. To reduce drop out from courses and avoid the risk of students becoming NEET (Young people not in education, employment or training).

To support young people in learning about opportunities for education and training outside of school before making crucial choices about their future options at the key transition points during secondary schooling education phases –

Phase 1 – during key stage 3 to enable access to information on vocational pathways. We intend to provide two mandatory encounters with employers/providers of technical education/training. During the period of 1st September and 28th February of each academic year, and during the whole of the academic year.

Phase 2 – during key 4 to enable access to both information and tangible work experience. We intend to provide two mandatory encounters with employers/providers of technical education/training during Year 10 and during the period of 1st September and 28th February of each academic year, and during the whole of the academic year.

Phase 3 – during key stage 5 to enable access to information, tangible experience during Y12 Enrichment programme and access to all pathway's opportunities onsite and offsite. We understand and intend to deliver the expected mandate during Y12 and ensure opportunities for all KS5 students.

The Polesworth School fully supports the statutory requirement for students to have direct access to other providers of further education training, technical training and apprenticeships. The school will comply with the new legal requirement to offer at least six encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships. This will be done in assemblies in National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week, Science Week, Music Week and throughout the academic year, in addition to providers attending careers events at Polesworth School, such as the annual whole school careers fair and within each key stage CRLP.

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Advisor (Ms Razia Satti) and the member of SLT with responsibility for Careers and Line Manager to the Careers Advisor (Miss Katie Downing) based on current good practice guidelines by the Department for Education and compliance to the Statutory Careers requirements.

Links with other policies

This PAL Statement is integrated into the relational policies of Careers Policy, Whole School CRLP and Careers Strategic Plan and into the wider SDP. It supports and is underpinned by key school policies including those for Careers, Child Protection, Equality and Diversity, and SEND.

Equality and Diversity

Access to other providers is available and promoted to allow all students to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. The Polesworth School is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Requests for access

Requests for access should be directed to Ms **Razia Satti Raising Aspirations & Careers Advisor**, who may be contacted by email careers@thepolesworthschool.com or via the school on 01827 702205.

Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers events or Life lessons (PHSE and Tutor Time), and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that The Polesworth School is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with the local authority, employers, external events & providers etc.

Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access

The Polesworth School will provide an appropriate room or assembly hall to be agreed. All rooms have computers, projectors and screens provided. Computer rooms can also be arranged. The Careers Adviser will organise this, working closely with the provider to ensure the facilities are appropriate to the audience. Appropriate safeguarding checks will be carried out. Providers will be met and supervised by the Career Advisor and as appropriate - a member of the SLT Team and/or teaching and support colleagues.

Live/Virtual encounters

The Polesworth School will consider live online encounters with providers where requested, and these may be broadcast into classrooms or the school assembly hall. Technology checks in advance will be required to ensure compatibility of systems.

Parents and Carers

Parental involvement is encouraged, and parents may be invited to attend the events to meet the providers such as the Pathways Parents Evenings during KS4 and KS5.

Management

The Careers Advisor (Ms Razia Satti) coordinates all provider requests and is responsible to his/her senior management line manager (Miss Katie Downing).

Monitoring review and evaluation

The Policy is monitored, evaluated and approved annually via the SLT and the Schools Standard Committee (SSC)

Appendix

Providers who have been invited into Polesworth School to date include (as per destination data form 2025):

- South Staffs College
- NWSLC
- Army
- RAF
- Civil Service – DWP

Destinations of previous pupils from INSERT Name of School include:

- South Staffs College
- NWSLC
- Derby College
- Rodbaston
- Army
- BBC
- UTC – WMG Academy for Young Engineers.