

# GORDON'S SCHOOL

## POLICY

### PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY STATEMENT

(To include The Department of Education, July 2021: “Baker Clause” and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023)

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

##### 1.1 RATIONALE

High quality careers education and guidance in school or college is critical to young people’s futures. It helps to prepare them for the workplace by providing a clear understanding of the world of work including the routes to jobs and careers that they might find engaging and rewarding. It supports them to acquire the self-development and career management skills they need to achieve positive employment destinations. This helps students to choose their pathways, improve their life opportunities and contribute to a productive and successful economy.

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 as well as Degree Apprenticeships.

##### 1.2 Commitment

Gordon’s 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. Gordon’s School is fully aware of the responsibility to set students on the path that will secure the best outcome which will enable them to progress in education and work and give employers the highly skilled people they need. That means acting impartially, in line with the statutory duty, and not showing bias towards any route, be that academic or technical.

Gordon’s 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).

#### Careers Responsibilities

- Senior Leadership – Mr J Greggor (Head of KS3)
- Careers Link Governor – Mr D Horton
- Careers Lead – Mrs A Kennedy
- Independent Careers Advisor – INNERVATE
- Head of KS3 – Mr J Greggor
- Head of KS4 – Mr B Gallagher
- Head of KS5 – Mr W Jones

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Careers Lead

Reviewed: September 2024

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### 2. INTENT

Gordon's School policy for access to other education and training providers 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.
- To support young people to be able to learn more about opportunities for education and training outside of school before making crucial choices about their future options.
- To reduce drop out from courses and avoid the risk of students becoming NEET (Young people not in education, employment or training).

### 3. IMPLEMENTATION

#### 3.1 STUDENT ENTITLEMENT

Gordon's 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 put on at least six encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships.

Gordon's Careers Week, National Careers Week and National Apprenticeship Week provide the natural opportunity for a series of speakers to address students during assemblies, PSHE, Form time and in P7 but we welcome input from providers at numerous points during the year including:

- Gordon's Careers Week (October)
- KS4 Post 16 Parents Information evening (October)
- KS5 Post 18 Parents Information evening (October)
- 6<sup>th</sup> Form Options evening (October)
- Careers Fair (February)
- National Apprenticeship Week (February)
- National Careers Week (March)
- Post 18 Options Day

#### 3.2 DEVELOPMENT

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Lead based on current good practice guidelines by the Department for Education.

#### 3.3 LINKS WITH OTHER POLICIES

It supports and is underpinned by key school policies including those for Careers, Work Experience, Equality and Diversity, and SEND.

#### 3.4 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

Access to other providers is available and promoted to allow all students to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. Gordon's School

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is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

#### 3.5 REQUESTS FOR ACCESS

Requests for access should be directed to Careers Lead, Augusta Kennedy by email [akennedy@gordons.school](mailto:akennedy@gordons.school), or by contacting the school via phone on (01276) 858084.

#### 3.6 GROUNDS FOR GRANTING REQUESTS

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers or PSHE lessons, and Careers or raising aspirations events including the school Careers Fair, National Apprenticeship week and National Careers Week. Students may also travel to visit another provider.

A provider, to whom access is given, must deliver an encounter that includes the following:

- Information about the provider and the approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships that the provider offers
- Information about the careers to which those technical education qualifications or apprenticeships might lead
- A description of what learning or training with the provider is like
- Responses to questions from the students about the provider or approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships.

#### 3.7 DETAILS OF FACILITIES

Gordon's School will provide an appropriate room or assembly hall to be agreed. Rooms have computers, projectors and screens provided on request. Students have access to their own tablets if required. The Careers Leader will organise an event 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 a member of the Careers Team who will facilitate. Parking and registration details must be emailed to providers ahead of time.

#### 3.8 LIVE/VIRTUAL ENCOUNTERS

Gordon's School are keen to offer a blended approach to broaden access and will accept live online encounters with providers where requested which may be broadcast into classrooms or the school assembly hall. Technology checks in advance will be required to ensure compatibility of systems.

#### 3.9 PARENTS AND CARERS

Parental involvement is encouraged, and parents may be invited to attend the events to meet the providers.

### 4. MONITORING, REVIEW AND EVALUATION

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Senior Leadership Team.

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Careers Lead

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#### 4.1 MANAGEMENT

The Careers Leader coordinates all provider requests and is responsible to his/her senior management line manager.

#### 4.2 COMPLAINTS

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to the Careers Lead via email [akennedy@gordons.school](mailto:akennedy@gordons.school) for escalation to Andrew Moss, Headteacher.

### Appendix

#### **Post - 16 Alternative Providers who have been invited into Gordon's School during 2023-2024:**

Farnborough College of Technology/ University Centre Farnborough

Activate Learning (Guildford College, Merrist Wood, Farnham College, Reading College)

Brooklands College

In addition; open days for local alternative providers such as Sixth Forms and Colleges have been published and shared with students and parents in Careers Bulletin of Autumn 2022 and will do so annually.

#### **Post - 16 Alternative Providers Destinations of previous students from Gordon's School include:**

Farnborough College of Technology

Farnborough Sixth Form

Godalming College

Brooklands College

Activate Learning/ Merrist Wood

#### **Post - 18 Providers who have been invited into Gordon's School during 2023-2024:**

Royal Holloway University

University of Surrey

BIMM

UCA

University Campus of Football

Apprenticeship providers including PWC, BAE Systems, IBM, Sky Sports, Disney Imagineering, British Army, Royal Navy, RAF

**Destination data is available on the school website: [www.gordons.school](http://www.gordons.school)**

Augusta Kennedy

Careers Lead

Reviewed: September 2024