

The Duston School: Provider Access Policy Statement

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

Ownership: The Duston School Trust

Date updated: June 2025

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.

Commitment

The **Duston 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 **Duston 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.

The **Duston 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

The **Duston 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).

Student Entitlement

The **Duston 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. This will be done in assemblies throughout the academic year, drop down days, visits to local colleges, academic review days, careers fairs as well as attending careers events.

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader, Diane Fisher and Line Manager Simon Beal Senior Assistant Principal, based on current good practice guidelines by the Department for Education.

Links with other policies

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 **Duston 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 Diane Fisher, Careers Leader. Diane Fisher may be contacted by telephone or email, dfisher@thedustonschool.org , Tel 01604 460004.

Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers or Character Culture lessons, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that **The Duston School** is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of any trips which are organised by **The Duston School**.

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

The **Duston 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 Leader 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 a member of the Careers Team who will facilitate.

Live/Virtual encounters

The **Duston 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.

Management

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

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to Diane Fisher, email: dfisher@theduston.school.org

Diane Fisher will raise the complaint to Simon Beal, Senior Assistant Principal of The Duston School

Monitoring review and evaluation

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

Policy Coordinator: Simon Beal

Policy Reviewed: January 2023

Appendix

Providers who have been invited into The Duston School to date include:

Moulton College
Northampton College
Northampton University
Silverstone UTC
Staff Select Ltd
Starting Off
The Apprentice Academy Limited
Tresham College
WORKPAYS
Department of Work and Pensions
JBC Skills Training Limited

Destinations of previous pupils from The Duston School include:

Anglia Ruskin University
Arts University Bournemouth
Aston University, Birmingham
Bath Spa University
Birmingham City University
Bishop Grosseteste University
Coventry University
Durham University
Greater Brighton Metropolitan College
Imperial College London

Keele University
Lancaster University
Leeds Beckett University
Loughborough College
Loughborough University
Manchester Metropolitan University
Nottingham Trent University
Swansea University
UCFB
UCL (University College London)
University of Birmingham
University of Bolton
University of Brighton
University of Cambridge
University of Greenwich
University of Kent
University of Leicester
University of Lincoln
University of Lincoln
University of Liverpool
University of Northampton
University of Nottingham
University of Oxford
University of Portsmouth
University of Salford
University of Sheffield
University of Warwick
University of Westminster, London