



Bolton College

**Provider Access
Policy**

2025 - 26



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Programme / Business Area:	Business Development
Prepared By:	Head of Apprenticeships & Business Development
Approval By:	Assistant Principal of Curriculum & Stakeholder Engagement
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College Website Link:	Provider Access Policy

1. Introduction

This Provider Access Policy Statement is to comply with the DfE Careers guidance and access for education and training providers (Jan 2023) Careers guidance and access for education and training providers

2. Rationale

High quality careers education and guidance in college 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.

3. Commitment

Bolton College 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. Bolton College 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.

Bolton College 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).

4. Aims

The Bolton College 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 college 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).

5. Student Entitlement

Bolton College fully supports the statutory requirement for students to have direct access to other providers of further education training, technical training and apprenticeships. The college 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 during National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week, in addition to providers attending careers events at college.

6. Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader and Line Manager Catherine Langstreth, based on current good practice guidelines by the Department for Education.

7. Links with other policies

It supports and is underpinned by key college policies including those for Careers, Child Protection, Equality and Diversity, and SEND.

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

9. Requests for Access

Requests for access should be directed to Catherine Langstreth, Careers Leader. Catherine Langstreth may be contacted by telephone or email, catherine.langstreth@boltoncc.ac.uk, Tel 01204 482700.

Grounds for granting requests for access:

Access will be given for providers to attend during college assemblies, timetabled Careers or Life lessons, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that Bolton College is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with Bolton College.

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

Bolton College 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 or 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 a member of the Careers Team who will facilitate.

10. Live/Virtual encounters

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

11. Parents and Carers

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

12. Management

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

13. Complaints

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to Catherine Langstreth email: catherine.langstreth@boltoncc.ac.uk.

Catherine Langstreth will raise the complaint to Liam Sloan, Principal and CEO of Bolton College.

14. Monitoring review and evaluation

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

Appendix 1:

Providers who have been invited into Bolton College to date include:

Alliance Learning	NHS Recruitment
Bolton Council Careers	Cadent Gas Apprenticeships
Bolton Council Play, SEND, Sports & Youth Work	Growth Company
Job Centre DWP Jobs	Robertson Construction North West
Ingeus + Disability Support	Last Drop Village
National Careers Service	William Hare Engineering
Bolton One Leisure	Greater Manchester Higher
Connexions	JLES Road and Sewer Specialist
Unilever	Co-op Bank
DLG Driving Lives Group	CVS _ Council Voluntary Service
Seddon Construction	GM Police
Bolton Deaf Society	Bolton College Community
Anderton Centre - Catering, Admin	Grubsboot UK
Choice Teaching, Leigh	Cara Brickwork
QA Apprenticeships	Juma Construction
Royal Air Force	Warburton
Global Banking School	National Nuclear Laboratory Ltd

Destinations of previous students from Bolton College include:

University of Greater Manchester
University of Manchester
Manchester Metropolitan University
University of Central Lancashire
Edge Hill University