

## **Leigh Academy Mascalls: Provider Access Policy Statement 2025-2026**

**Written in line with the following Statutory Guidance: The Department of Education, July 2021: “Baker Clause” and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023**

### **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**

Leigh Academy Mascalls 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. Leigh Academy Mascalls 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.

Leigh Academy Mascalls 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**

Leigh Academy Mascalls 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**

We fully support 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 through assemblies and careers talks. These may take place in whole year groups or through the school curriculum.

## **Development**

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader, Emma Honey - Vice Principal and the Senior Leadership Team 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. Leigh Academy Mascalls 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 Emma Honey, Vice Principal responsible for Careers. She can be contacted by telephone or email:

Email - [emma.honey@mascalls.latrust.org.uk](mailto:emma.honey@mascalls.latrust.org.uk)

Tel - 01892 835366

## **Grounds for granting requests for access**

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies or during mutually convenient timetabled lessons or any Careers or Raising Aspirations events that Mascalls is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of their careers learning.

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

Mascalls will provide an appropriate room or assembly hall for the session agreed. Most rooms have computers, projectors and screens provided and this will be confirmed in discussions before the session. All students have Chromebooks, which can be used during sessions. The Careers Leader or delegated member of staff 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 Mascalls staff body who will facilitate the visit.

### **Live/Virtual encounters**

Mascalls 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 as appropriate.

### **Management**

The Careers Leader coordinates all provider requests and is a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

### **Complaints Procedure**

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to Emma Honey on [emma.honey@mascalls.latrust.org.uk](mailto:emma.honey@mascalls.latrust.org.uk)

### **Monitoring review and evaluation**

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually by the Vice Principal responsible for Careers and reports to the Senior Leadership Team and Governing Body.

***Policy Review Date: September 2026***

### **Appendix**

#### **Providers who have been invited into Leigh Academy Mascalls to date include:**

North Kent College

Mid Kent College

Hadlow College

BBC

Water Bear Music College

University of Kent

Mears Group