



ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY 2026- 27

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1. Aims

At St Michael's Catholic College, we aim to provide all pupils from Year 8 to 13 with meaningful opportunities to explore a wide range of future options.

This policy statement aims to set out our school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to pupils for the purpose of giving them information about their offer. It sets out:

- Procedures in relation to requests for access
- The grounds for granting and refusing requests for access
- Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a provider who is given access

As a school we aim to:

Develop knowledge and awareness among our pupils of all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships

Support pupils in learning more about opportunities for education and training outside of school, before they make crucial choices about their future options

Reduce drop-out from courses and avoid the risk of pupils becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training)

2. Statutory requirements

Schools are required to ensure that there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students in Years 8 to 13 for the purposes of informing them about approved technical education, qualifications or apprenticeships.

Schools must provide a minimum of 6 encounters with technical education or training providers to all pupils in Years 8 to 13 (see more detail in section 2.1 below).

Schools must also have a policy statement that outlines the circumstances in which education and training providers will be given access to these pupils.

This is outlined in:

Section 42B of the [Education Act 1997](#)

[Education and Skills Act 2008](#)

[The School Information \(England\) Regulations 2008](#)

The [Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022](#)

Guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on [careers guidance and access for education and training providers](#)

This policy shows how our school complies with these requirements.

3. Pupil entitlement

All pupils in Years 8 to 13 at St Michael's Catholic College are entitled to:

- Find out about further education training, technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities as part of our careers programme, which provides information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition point
- Hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships, e.g. through activities and events such as options events, assemblies and taster events
- Understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses
- Have a minimum of 6 encounters with providers
- These encounters must happen for a reasonable period of time during the standard school day.
- As a school we can provide complementary experiences but encounters outside of school hours won't count towards these requirements.

Access to providers is available and promoted to allow all pupils to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. We are committed to encouraging all pupils to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Pupils in Year 8 and 9

All pupils in these year groups are offered:

2 encounters with education and training providers

All pupils must attend

Encounters can take place any time during Year 8, and between 1st September and 28th February during Year 9

Pupils in Year 10 and 11

All pupils in these year groups are offered, as a minimum:

2 encounters with education and training providers

All pupils must attend

Encounters can take place any time during Year 10, and between 1st September and 28th February during Year 11

Pupils in Year 12 and 13

All pupils in these year groups are offered, as a minimum:

2 encounters with education and training providers

Pupils can choose to attend

Encounters can take place any time during Year 12, and between 1st September and 28th February during Year 13

3.1 Meaningful encounters with providers

Our school is committed to providing meaningful encounters for all pupils.

A meaningful encounter:

- Is where the pupil can explore what it is like to learn, develop and succeed in that environment
- Involves meeting both staff and learners/trainees
- Has a clear purpose
- Is underpinned by learning outcomes that are appropriate to the needs of the pupil
- Involves a 2-way interaction between the pupil and the provider
- Includes information about the provider, such as their recruitment and selection processes, the qualifications that provider offers and the careers these could lead to
- Describes what learning or training with the provider is like
- Is followed by opportunities for the pupil to reflect on the insights, knowledge or skills gained through the encounter

4. Management of provider access requests

4.1 Procedure

A provider wishing to request access to students in KS5 should contact

Ms T. Rughooputh Assistant Principal Telephone 0207 237 6432

Email: contact@stmichaelscollege.org.uk

A provider wishing to request access to students in KS3 and 4 should contact

Mr A. Daly, Assistant Principal,

Telephone: 0207 237 6432 Email: contact@stmichaelscollege.org.uk

4.2 Information we ask from providers

As a school we ask each provider to provide the following information for our pupils:
Information about your provision and the approved qualifications or apprenticeships you offer
Information about what careers those qualifications and apprenticeships can lead to
What learning or training with you is like
Answers to any questions from pupils

4.3 Opportunities for access:

A number of events, integrated into the school careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils and/or their parents/carers:

Specific Events include: Careers and enterprise week July: Years 8 – 9 and 12
Further Education Evening – June - Year 12
Specific dates for these are available on the college website.

4.4 Granting and refusing provider access requests

Each access request will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
We will grant access requests where there is opportunity for a positive contribution to our careers programme.
Access to students may only take place when it will not disrupt the learning of the students.
Access will be refused when students are sitting exams both internal and public examinations.

4.5 Safeguarding

Our safeguarding/child protection policy outlines the school's procedure for checking the identity and suitability of visitors.
Education and training providers will be expected to adhere to this policy.

4.6 Premises and facilities

Providers will be able to specify the equipment they need once the visit has been agreed.

5. Working with parents and carers

We aim to involve parents and carers in our careers programme and welcome your attendance at encounters with providers in school as appropriate. You will be notified of relevant events that would be useful to attend by a letter home.

6. Pupil destinations:

Pupil destination data is published annually by the DFE and by Southwark.

7. Complaints

Any complaints related to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure which is accessible on the website or by email: contact@stmichaelscollege.org.uk

8. Links to other policies:

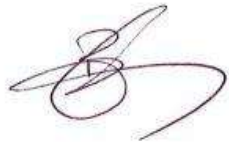
Safeguarding/child protection policy
Careers guidance policy
Curriculum policy

9. Monitoring arrangements

Our school's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to pupils are monitored by Ms C. Sayed Vice Principal.

This policy will be reviewed by Ms Sayed annually and approved by the governing board at every review.

Reviewed June 2026



Signed:

Date: 24/09/26

Chair of the Local Governing Body:

Reviewed by CBR

Review 2027