

Provider Access Statement OA-North View

Document control table	
Title	Provider Access Statement: OA-North View
Date updated & approved	March 2026
Approved by	Olive Academies Independent Schools Board
Date of next review	March 2027
Updates/revisions included:	<p>1. Add an explicit statement that careers guidance is impartial This clarifies compliance with statutory careers guidance, which requires impartiality.</p> <p>2. Add a reference to the Independent School Standards (ISS) A short sentence confirming that the statement supports compliance with ISS Parts 1, 6 and 8.</p> <p>3. State how the Provider Access Statement is made available to parents Add a line confirming it is published on the website or available on request, in line with ISS Part 6</p> <p>4. Clarify that CEIAG (careers education, information, advice & guidance) forms part of the planned curriculum This strengthens alignment with ISS Part 1 (Quality of Education), which requires appropriate preparation for future pathways.</p> <p>5. Expand the statement on how SEND pupils can access provider encounters</p>

	<p>ISS requires education and opportunities to be accessible to all learners.</p> <p>6. Reference that complaints are handled in line with ISS Part 7 This simply tightens the link between your existing complaints section and the ISS requirement.</p> <p>7. Add a reference to the legal basis for the six mandatory encounters This links the policy back to DfE statutory guidance and Provider Access Legislation (PAL).</p>
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Olive Academies (OA) understands the duty to provide pupils in Years 8-13 with access to providers of post-14, post-16 and post-18 education and training. This statement sets out how OA manage access requests from these providers.

This Provider Access Statement supports OA–North View’s compliance with the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014, particularly Part 1 (Quality of Education), Part 6 (Provision of Information), and Part 8 (Leadership and Management).

What are pupils entitled to?

In line with the DfE’s [‘Careers guidance and access for education and training providers’](#), OA will ensure that all pupils, regardless of background or needs, can access provider encounters and encounters are made accessible to pupils with SEND.

OA is committed to ensuring all careers information and provider encounters are impartial, accurate and in the best interests of pupils, enabling them to make informed decisions about a full range of post-14, post-16 and post-18 pathways.

All provider encounters and careers activities are adapted where necessary so that pupils with SEND can access the full range of information and opportunities, in accordance with the Independent School Standards.

Pupils in Years 8 to 13 are entitled to:

- Learn more about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities as part of a careers programme which informs pupils of the full range of education and training options available to them at each transition point.
- Hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities on offer, for example, technical education and apprenticeships – this will be achieved through group discussions, professional visitors, career lessons, and taster events.
- Understand how to apply to the full range of academic and technical courses available to them.

All pupils in Years 8 to 13 will receive at least **six encounters** with accredited providers of technical education and apprenticeships. As a minimum, OA will provide:

- Two encounters that are mandatory for all pupils to attend that take place any time during year 8 or between 1 September and 28 February during year 9.

- Two encounters that are mandatory for all pupils to attend that take place any time during year 10 or between 1 September and 28 February during year 11.

As OA do not have pupils in year 12-13 the final two encounters will be delivered by their post-16 providers.

These requirements reflect the statutory Provider Access Legislation (PAL) within the DfE Careers Guidance statutory guidance issued under Section 45A of the Education Act 1997.

What opportunities are provided to allow access to pupils?

Via the school careers programme and Preparation for Adulthood, OA offer providers numerous opportunities throughout the school year to speak to pupils and/or their parents. These sessions will be scheduled during the school's standard opening hours.

The school offers the six provider encounters that are legally required – these are marked with bold text below – and a number of additional events.

We use the [Making it Meaningful checklist](#) from the Careers & Enterprise Company to help us ensure we provide meaningful encounters for all pupils.

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

Annual Programme

Year	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 9	Life skills – assembly and tutor group opportunities	Life Skills – work experience preparation sessions	Provision of careers advice and targeted support from Prospects
Year 10	Life Skills – work experience preparation sessions	Life Skills – work experience preparation sessions	Provision of careers advice and targeted support from Prospects
Year 11	Life Skills – assembly on opportunities at 16	Post 16 evening Post 16 taster sessions	Provision of careers advice and targeted support from Prospects

During these sessions, at a minimum, providers will be given enough time to:

- Share information about the provider and the approved technical qualifications and apprenticeships they offer.
- Explain what career routes these qualifications and apprenticeships could lead to.
- Provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with that provider.
- Answer pupils' questions.

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) forms part of our planned curriculum and contributes to preparing pupils effectively for the next stage of their education, as required under Part 1 of the Independent School Standards.

Who should providers contact to discuss events and options?

Providers can speak to the school's career lead: Miss Kerry Geary (Head of School) on 01375 541661.

Our [Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy](#) set out OA's approach to allowing providers into academies to speak to our pupils.

What are the rules for granting and refusing access requests?

We will grant access requests that meet the following criteria:

- Have been introduced (and checked) by the Head of School

The school reserves the right to decline requests for a number of reasons, including (but not restricted to) the following:

- if such attendance would provide an imbalanced view of available provision (e.g. several apprenticeship providers at an event and no colleges)
- if the provider's input would not be relevant to a particular event
- if the request is not timely (e.g. students have already heard from similar providers during the year, or if they are involved in end of year exams)
- if the information is not seen to be in the best interest of pupils (e.g. if the provider is promoting a 'hard sell' of their provision, rather than enabling students to make an informed decision; or there are concerns about the ethics or quality of the provision).

In such cases, the Career Lead (who supports the delivery of impartial Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance [CEIAG] across the school) would inform the provider of this decision and the reason why.

If the provider wishes to appeal this decision, they can contact the head of school with overall responsibility for Careers & Employability at the school. If the provider wishes to appeal the decision received, they should contact the Interim Director of Standards at OA central.

What can providers expect once a request has been accepted?

Once OA have approved a provider, they will work with them to identify the best method for providing access to our pupils.

We will make the classrooms and private meeting rooms available to host discussions between providers and pupils. We will also make presentation equipment, available to providers.

Arrangements will be discussed in advance between our career lead and a nominated member of the provider's team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus and other relevant course literature with the careers lead for distribution in the school.

How are complaints regarding provider access managed?

If you have a complaint relating to the school's provider access arrangements, these will be managed in accordance with the School's [Complaints Policy](#) or you can contact The Careers and Enterprise Company directly on provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk.

Monitoring arrangements

OA's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students are monitored by the Director of Education who will also review this statement annually.

The OASB will approve changes to this statement.

In line with Part 6 of the Independent School Standards, this Provider Access Statement is published on the academy website and is available upon request from the school office.