

Name of School: Provider Access Policy Statement for Samuel Whitbread Academy

Ownership: Samuel Whitbread Academy

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

Samuel Whitbread Academy 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. Samuel Whitbread Academy 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.

Samuel Whitbread Academy 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

Samuel Whitbread Academy's 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

Samuel Whitbread Academy 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 during the school day with drop down sessions, in addition to providers attending careers events at school or at each Trust school. These sessions will also happen during year 9 Engaging Minds lessons.

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader and Line Manager (**Mr Lee Huckle – 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, SEND and PP.

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. Samuel Whitbread Academy 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 Mr Lee Huckle – Assistant Principal, Careers Leader. Mr Huckle may be contacted by telephone or email: lhuckle@bestacademies.org.uk

Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers or Life lessons, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that Samuel Whitbread Academy is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised.

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

Samuel Whitbread Academy 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.

Live/Virtual encounters

Samuel Whitbread Academy 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 his/her senior management line manager.

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to Mr Huckle Assistant Principal, email: lhuckle@bestacademies.org.uk

Mr Huckle will raise the complaint to *the* Principals PA at Samuel Whitbread Academy

Monitoring review and evaluation

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

Policy Coordinator: Mr Huckle – Assistant Principal

UPDATED June 2025

Policy Reviewed: June 2025

Date ratified by Governors – July 2025

Next review date – July 2026

Appendix

Providers who have been invited into Samuel Whitbread Academy to date include:

4YP
ALTR Rise
ASK Apprenticeships
Bedfordshire Police
BLMK AHP Faculty
Central Bedfordshire Council
Chiltern Training Group
Conamar Building Services
DLRC
Doorstep Promotions
East London NHS Foundation
Easy Jet
Foxley Kingham
George Hay Chartered Accountants
Hertfordshire Football Academy
HSM Aero
Jordans Dorset Ryvita
Kyle Smart Associates
MJ Hillson
M & DH Insurance
Neville Trust Group
PoetsIN
Royal Navy
Stageworks College
Bedford College Group
North Herts College
TRAC
Woburn Park
Unilever
University of Bedfordshire
University of Derby
University of Hertfordshire
University of Portsmouth
HSBC
GSK
Greggs
Champneys
Co-op Group
Centre Parcs
Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue
Anglian Water
Kier Group
Lockheed Martin
Liebherr
Kramp

UPDATED June 2025

Morrisons

The AA

Norton Way Honda Group

TUI

Willmott Dixon

Destinations of previous pupils from Samuel Whitbread Academy include:

Samuel Whitbread Academy Sixth Form

Bedford College

North Herts College

Wide range of apprenticeships at different levels

A wide range of universities – see here for University destination maps:

<https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=University+Applications&pid=65>