

UPDATED June 2026

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

**Ownership: Samuel Whitbread Academy**

**Date updated: June 2026**

**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).

To embed and monitor the careers programme via the Gatsby Benchmarks.

**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. Please see here for the full SWA careers mission statement and development plan:

<https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=Careers&pid=307>

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## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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**Policy Coordinator:** Mr Huckle – Assistant Principal

**Policy Reviewed:** May 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  
Morrisons  
The AA  
Norton Way Honda Group  
TUI

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Willmott Dixon

**Destinations of previous year 11 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>

Please see here for overview of SWA destinations:

<https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=Exam+Results&pid=15>