

PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY STATEMENT

Approving Body	Trust
Date of Last Review	November 2023
Statutory (Y/N)	Y
Responsible Officer	BMAT CEO for and on behalf of the Trust

I. INTRODUCTION – PURPOSE AND STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

1. **Purpose:** This statement sets out BMAT’s arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to BMAT students, to give them information about their offer. To achieve this purpose, this statement sets out:
 - a. Procedures for requests for access;
 - b. The grounds for granting and refusing requests for access; and
 - c. Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access.
2. **Statutory requirements:** Under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997, BMAT and its constituent schools are required to ensure that there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students in Years 8-13, to inform them about approved technical education, qualifications or apprenticeships. As part of this duty, BMAT and its constituent schools must also have a policy statement regarding setting out when education and training providers will be given access to these students. Through the Skills and Post-16 Act 2022 BMAT and its constituent schools must provide a minimum number of six provider encounters, following the parameters around the duration and content of these encounters.

II. STUDENT ENTITLEMENT AND STAFF RESPONSIBILITY

3. All students in Years 7-13 at BMAT’s constituent schools (Beal High School, The Forest Academy, the Beacon Business Innovation Hub and the Beacon Communication School) are entitled to:
 - a. Find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities, as part of a careers programme which provides information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition point;
 - b. Hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships. There will be a minimum of six encounters during year 8 to 13 which will comply with the parameters around the duration and content as per the legislation;
 - c. Understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.
4. All BMAT teaching staff and careers advisers have a responsibility to appreciate and satisfy this entitlement, where applicable and reasonable. BMAT School Principals and members of BMAT Senior Leadership Teams are responsible for overseeing their school’s satisfaction of this entitlement.

III. OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACCESS

5. Provision across BMAT schools includes a range of opportunities for students to access careers focussed events. These events may be ad hoc or integrated into careers programmes and wider curricula.
6. BMAT employs careers advisers to work with all students, to ensure they can make informed decisions about next steps. All students will meet with their careers’ adviser at least once, and repeat appointments may be made.

7. Integrated and/or ad hoc careers events are delivered with contribution from external providers where necessary.
8. Students are welcome to speak with their form tutor and teachers about available opportunities. Parents/carers are welcome to discuss opportunities at parents' evenings, or via general queries.

Year Group	Opportunities (non-exhaustive and subject to change)
Year 8	- Life skills – assembly and tutor group opportunities, with visits from external providers where appropriate. - Department or year group external trips, with a careers or life skills focus, if and when arranged (Educational Visits).
Year 9	- Life skills – assembly and tutor group opportunities, with visits from external providers where appropriate. - Department or year group external trips, with a careers or life skills focus, if and when arranged (Educational Visits). - KS4 Options Events.
Year 10	- Life skills – assembly and tutor group opportunities, with visits from external providers where appropriate. - Department or year group external trips, with a careers or life skills focus, if and when arranged (Educational Visits). - Work experience opportunities - Careers interviews/events/talks.
Year 11	- Life skills – assembly and tutor group opportunities, with visits from external providers where appropriate. - Department or year group external trips, with a careers or life skills focus, if and when arranged (Educational Visits). - Post 16 induction and taster sessions. - Individual careers interviews. - Targeted careers events.
Year 12 Year 13	- Life skills – assembly and tutor group opportunities, with visits from external providers where appropriate. - Department or year group external trips, with a careers or life skills focus, if and when arranged (Educational Visits). - Personal statement workshops, tutoring, presentations. - Mock university and/or careers interviews. - Targeted workshops (e.g. LNAT). - Work experience opportunities.

IV. PROCEDURES FOR GRANTING ACCESS

9. A provider wishing to request access should contact the appropriate BMAT School Principal:
 - a. Beal High School – admin@bealhighschool.co.uk, 020 8551 4954
 - b. Beal Sixth Form – admin@bealsixthform.co.uk, 020 8551 9378
 - c. The Forest Academy – admin@theforestacademy.co.uk, 020 8500 4266
 - d. The Beacon Business Innovation Hub – admin@bbih.org, 020 8418 4760
 - e. The Beacon Communication School – admin@bealhighschool.co.uk, 020 8418 2602
10. Local providers are invited to key relevant events. Other providers who are interested in visiting a BMAT school are encouraged to do so.
11. Granting and refusing access:
 - a. BMAT's duty to ensure that opportunities are available for students in Years 8-13 does not mean that BMAT must grant all provider access requests. In considering a request, BMAT will seek to ensure that granting access would create a material opportunity and benefit for its students. To this end, BMAT may request further information and assurances from providers.
 - b. Providers will not be granted access if they cannot comply with the requirements of the [BMAT Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy](#). This may include DBS checks, if providers request unsupervised access to students under the age of 16.
 - c. Providers who are granted access, but breach a requirement of the [BMAT Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy](#), may be required to leave.

V. PREMISES, FACILITIES AND RESOURCES

12. When access has been granted, BMAT will provide appropriate space and resources to facilitate visits, along with any equipment requested by the provider, if appropriate. Providers may bring equipment on-site and leave copies of literature, to showcase what they do, subject to approval from BMAT.
13. When granting access, BMAT will clarify with providers what room(s) and facilities are required.