

Emmanuel Middle School: Provider Access Policy Statement

(To include The Department of Education, July 2021: “Baker Clause” and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023)

Ownership: Emmanuel Middle School (Initio Trust)

Date updated: January 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

Emmanuel Middle School 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. The Emmanuel Middle School 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.

The Emmanuel Middle School 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

The Emmanuel Middle School 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

Emmanuel Middle School 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 encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships.

As a middle school, we will guarantee that this entitlement will be completed with at least one encounter in each year from years 5-8. In addition, Emmanuel Middle School will ensure that technical education qualifications and apprenticeships are discussed and explained throughout our careers programme and that we have a range of guest speakers to meet these requirements. These provider encounters will be scheduled during the main school hours and the provider will be given a reasonable amount of time to, as a minimum:

- share information about both the provider and the approved technical education qualification and apprenticeships that the provider offers
- explain what career routes those options could lead to
- provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with that provider (including the opportunity to meet staff and pupils from the provider)
- answer questions from pupils.

This will be done in assemblies, careers events at the school or at visits to local employers and upper schools.

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader – Elaine Robertson and Alister Barker (Deputy Headteacher) 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, and SEND.

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. Emmanuel Middle School 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 Elaine Robertson Careers Leader. She may be contacted through the school office : office@emmanuelmiddle.org or by phone 01202 828100

Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers or Wellbeing lessons, and Careers or Raising Aspiration events that Emmanuel Middle School is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with the Initio Trust.

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

The Emmanuel Middle School 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

Emmanuel Middle School will consider live online encounters with providers where requested, and these may be broadcast into classrooms or the school assembly hall or classrooms. Technology checks in advance will be required to ensure compatibility of systems.

Links with other policies

key school policies including those for Careers, Child Protection, Equality and Diversity, and SEND. Equality and Diversity

Parents and Carers

Parental involvement is encouraged, and parents will be invited to join the events to share their personal career journeys and/or to meet the providers.

Management

The Careers Leader coordinates all provider requests and is responsible to her senior management line manager.

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk

Monitoring review and evaluation

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Lead and Deputy Headteacher based on current good practice guidelines by the Department for Education

Policy Coordinator: Elaine Robertson

Policy Reviewed: January 2026

Next review: January 2027