



St Thomas More: Provider Access Policy

Introduction:

This policy statement sets out the St Thomas More Catholic Academy's arrangements for managing the access of providers to the school, for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the school's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

Pupil entitlement:

All pupils in years 8 to 13 are entitled:

- to find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeships opportunities, as part of a careers programme which provides information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition point;
- to hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships – through options events, assemblies and group discussions and taster events;
- to understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

At Saint Thomas More Catholic Academy we start engaging with pupils in discussions about possible career pathways from the start of Year 7.

For pupils of compulsory school age these encounters are mandatory and there will be a **minimum** of two encounters for pupils during Key Stage 3 (Years 8 to 9) and two encounters for pupils during Key Stage 4 (Years 10 to 11). For pupils in Key Stage 5 (Years 12 to 13), particularly those that have not yet decided on their next steps, there are two more provider encounters available during this period, which are optional for pupils to attend.





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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.

These encounters form part of our core CIAG provision that all pupils encounter within school.

Meaningful provider encounters

One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between pupils and one provider. We are committed to providing meaningful encounters to all pupils using the [Making it meaningful checklist](#).

Meaningful online engagement is also an option, and we are open to providers that are able to provide live online engagement with our pupils.



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Previous providers

In previous years we have invited the following providers from the local area to speak to our pupils:

- ✓ Painsley Catholic College (specifically regarding T levels) [Home - Painsley Sixth Form](#)
- ✓ Stoke on Trent College [Home - Stoke-on-Trent College :Stoke-on-Trent College \(\[stokecoll.ac.uk\]\(http://stokecoll.ac.uk\)\)](#)
- ✓ Stoke on Trent Sixth Form [Home - City of Stoke-on-Trent College Sixth Form College \(\[stokesfc.ac.uk\]\(http://stokesfc.ac.uk\)\)](#)
- ✓ The Newcastle and Stafford Colleges Group [Two Campuses, One Destination | NSCG](#)
- ✓ Goodwin PLC [Goodwin PLC](#)
- ✓ Clive Durose Ltd. [Bespoke Wood Machining Experts - Clive Durose](#)
- ✓ Michelin [in the UK](#)
- ✓ Stoke on Trent City Council [SoTCC homepage \(\[stoke.gov.uk\]\(http://stoke.gov.uk\)\)](#)
- ✓ BBC Share Your Story and Bitesize Careers team
- ✓ Career Ready [Home - Career Ready - National Social Mobility Charity](#)
- ✓ The NHS (Royal Stoke University Hospital)
- ✓ KMF [Sheet Metal Fabrication & CNC Machining Specialists | KMF Group](#)
- ✓ HSBC [UK - Personal & Online Banking](#)

Our Enterprise Advisor is Daniel Smith Cumming Group EMEA [Daniel Smith - Cumming Group, EMEA \(\[cumming-group.com\]\(http://cumming-group.com\)\)](#)

Our local Careers Hub Manager is Carrie Abbot and we take a lead school role within the Stoke on Trent Hub.

All pupils have their own log in to our chosen careers platform Unifrog allowing them to build their knowledge and skills overtime before planning their own bespoke pathway at key transition points.



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We have also recently been supported by:

- ✓ The National Careers Challenge who work with all of our Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils
[The National Careers Challenge](#) | [The Inspirational Learning Group](#)
- ✓ Alumni who have talked about their careers to various year groups, then networking and answering specific questions.
- ✓ Higher Horizons [Home - Higher Horizons](#)
- ✓ Staffordshire University [Home - Staffordshire University \(staffs.ac.uk\)](#)
- ✓ Keele University [Home - Keele University](#)
- ✓ Chester University [of Chester](#)
- ✓ Oxford University [of Oxford](#)
- ✓ Amb Insurance Companies Ltd. [amb Insurance](#) | [Home](#) | [Commercial Insurance Brokers](#) | [Staffordshire](#)
- ✓ Human Utopia [humanutopia](#) | [empowering young people to make positive change](#)
- ✓ Positively You [Positively You - A leading provider of student workshops](#)
- ✓ Lloyds Banking Group [Home - Lloyds Banking Group plc](#)
- ✓ Mettler Toledo Safeline [Industrial Metal Detection Systems](#) | [Safeline Metal Detector](#) | [MT](#)
- ✓ Reaseheath College [Reaseheath College](#) | [leading land-based college](#)



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Destinations of our pupils

Last year (Summer 2022) our **Year 11 pupils** moved to range of providers in the local area after school:

Number of pupils	Percentage of cohort	Destination Post 16
81	40.5%	Trinity Sixth Form
38	19%	Newcastle and Stafford Colleges Group
34	17%	Stoke on Trent College
24	12%	Stoke Sixth Form
4	2%	Other A level providers
3	1.5%	Reaseheath
7	3.5%	Various training providers
4	2%	Secured apprenticeships
3	1.5%	Employment
2	1%	Other Sixth Form Colleges including out of area

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Last year (Summer 2022) our **Year 13 students** moved to range of providers across the UK after their studies:

Number of pupils	Percentage of cohort	Destination Post 16
18	27.7%	Keele University
16	24.6%	Various Universities across the UK (Not including Russell Group)
11	16.9%	Russell Group Universities including 2 students who secured places at Oxford University
11	16.9%	Staffordshire University
5	7.8%	Directly into employment
3	4.6%	Currently seeking employment
1	1.5%	Apprenticeship



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Management of provider access requests procedure:

A provider wishing to request access should contact:

Elizabeth Todd, Assistant Headteacher,

Telephone: 01782 882900

Mobile: 07845 832051

Email: etodd@stmca.org.uk

Opportunities for access:

A number of events, integrated into the school careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils and/or their parents/carers. **Please speak to our Assistant Headteacher Mrs Todd, to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.**

An overview of our careers programme is available on our website. **However, for ease below are clear opportunities for all employers / training providers and post 16/18 FE and HE providers to engage.** If these do not work for you please contact us to arrange more suitable time.

	Years 7-9	Years 10-11	Years 12-13
Autumn Term A	12/10 - Y7 Parents Evening	18/9 – Parent progress event Y10 and 11 (evening) 19/10 - Y11 Parents Evening	Personal Statement Drop in - 18/10 4/10 – 'Brand You' masterclass



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	Years 7-9	Years 10-11	Years 12-13
23.10 27.10 WOW week	Y7 – University visit preparation Y8 – Alumni networking event Y9 – Employer and apprenticeship provider networking workshops	Y10 – Employer visit to be followed up with a visit for interested students Y11 – Post 16 options AOW (all post 16 providers will be requested to attend if possible)	
Autumn Term B		15/11 Sixth form open evening Y10 – University visit	8/11 'Know Yourself' masterclass 21/12 – Y12 Campus tour
Spring Term A		15/1 Parent progress event Y10 and 11 (evening)	
WOW Wednesday	17/1 WOW Service Talks for all year groups	17/1 WOW Service Talks for all year groups	17/1 WOW Service Talks for all year groups

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	Years 7-9	Years 10-11	Years 12-13
5.2 – 9.2 WOW week	Parent CIAG event 6/2 (National Apprenticeship week) – we would welcome any providers who could contribute to this event. Y9 – Employer and apprenticeship provider networking workshops	Parent CIAG event 6/2 (National Apprenticeship week) – we would welcome any providers who could contribute to this event. Y10 – Employer visit to be followed up with a visit for interested students	Parent CIAG event 6/2 (National Apprenticeship week) – we would welcome any providers who could contribute to this event. Student Finance Talk
Spring Term B	CIAG Assembly National Careers Week – all Years. We would welcome any employers this week who could contribute 14/3 – Year 9 Options Evening 18/3-22/3 – Y9 option talks 20/3-21/3 – Y7 University visit	CIAG Assembly National Careers Week – all Years. We would welcome any employers this week who could contribute 21/3 – Y11 Parents evening	28/2 ‘Interview Preparation’ masterclass CIAG Assembly National Careers Week – all Years. We would welcome any employers this week who could contribute 13/3 – Engineering Masterclass

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	Years 7-9	Years 10-11	Years 12-13
Summer Term A	<p>2/5 Y7 Parents Evening</p> <p>11/4 Y8 Parents Evening</p> <p>18/4 Y9 Vocations Day</p> <p>25/4 – Y9 Parents Evening</p>	<p>WOW Curriculum focus days for Y10 on 10/4, 17/4, 24/4, 1/5, 8/5, 15/5, 22/5</p> <p>Talks from a variety of employers linking learning to the world of work within a smaller classroom environment</p>	<p>17/4 'Success at Interview' Masterclass</p>
Summer Term B		<p>Y10 Work Experience</p> <p>X – 24/6 – 28/6</p> <p>Y – 1/7 – 5/7</p> <p>11/7 Y10 Parents Evening</p>	<p>Y12 Work Experience 15/7 – 20/7</p>

This table only details the events planned that are for all pupils within a year group and that we need further support for. There are many more smaller events for pupils across different year groups who are interested in particular careers. This ensures that we provide relevant and timely information to every pupil as they need it. **Therefore, if you cannot find a date that suits here please contact us to arrange an alternative.**



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Complaints:

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

Premises and facilities:

The school will make the main hall, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. The school will also make available Audio Visual and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Leader or a member of their team. Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at the front office. This will be kept in the Careers office and Careers section in our school library both of which are managed by the school careers team. These areas are available to all students at lunch and break times.

Review:

Each year the programme will be reviewed by the career lead, careers advisor and any other relevant parties. They will look carefully at the impact of each activity, scrutinising student voice and the impact on destinations. The Compass Benchmark tool will also be utilised to assess accurately how much the programme is positively impacting on the school's ability to meet the Gatsby Benchmarks, this a statutory requirement. A revised programme will then be agreed and published.



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Approval and review

Approved by Local Academy Representatives: Autumn 2022

Next review – First Local Academy Representatives meeting – Late Autumn 2023

Our linked Academy Rep is Pam Ball who works closely with the Careers Team.

Signed:



Mr Mark Rayner
Head teacher



Mrs Elizabeth Todd
Assistant Headteacher
CIAG Lead