MERCHANT TAYLORS' OXFORDSHIRE ACADEMY TRUST

Wallingford SCHOOL 1659

PROVIDER ACCESS STATEMENT

May 2025

Minor update – November 2026

PeTaL Committee

Wallingford School, St. George's Road,
Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 8HH
t: 01491 837115
e: governance@mtoat.co.uk
www.wallingfordschool.com

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1. Wallingford School Provider Access Policy Statement

Under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997 and the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022 we have a duty to provide students in Years 8-13 with access to providers of post-14, post-16 and post-18 education and training. This policy statement sets out how we manage access requests from these providers.

2. Student Entitlement

Students in Years 8 to 13 are entitled to:

- Learn more about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities, as part of a careers programme which informs students of the full range of education and training options available to them at each transition point.
- Hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities on offer, for example, technical education and apprenticeships – this can be achieved through options evenings, assemblies, group discussions, and taster events.
- Understand how to apply to the full range of academic and technical courses available to them.

All students in Years 8 to 13 will receive at least six encounters with accredited providers of technical education and apprenticeships. These encounters will be divided accordingly:

- During the first key phase (Year 8 to Year 9) all students must attend two mandatory sessions by accredited providers.
- During the second key phase (Year 10 and 11) all students must attend two mandatory sessions by accredited providers.
- During the third key phase (Year 12 and Year 13) there will two sessions by accredited providers – these will b*e optional for students to attend.* [Please note that it is mandatory for the school to put these specific sessions on; however, attendance is optional for students.]

3. What Opportunities Are Provided to Allow Access to Students?

Via our school careers programme (available on the school website), we offer providers numerous opportunities throughout the school year to speak to students and/or their parents.

These sessions will be scheduled during the school's main opening hours.

The school offers the six provider encounters that are legally required – these are marked with bold text below – and a number of additional events.

Our annual schedule of events is as follows:

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Year 7	STEM Activity	**Assembly**	**Assembly**
Year 8		**Human Careers Library (30 providers attend)**	
Year 9	**Assembly**	**Assembly**	
Year 10	**Armed Forces Visit**	Work Experience	**Assembly**
Year 11	**Armed Forces Visit** **Assembly**	Engineering Visitors Careers Fest	
Year 12	**Assembly**	Engineering Visitors **Assembly**	**Futures Week Visitors**
Year 13	**Assembly**	Engineering Visitors **Assembly**	

During these sessions, at a minimum, providers will be given enough time to:

- Share information about the provider and the approved technical qualifications and apprenticeships they offer.
- Explain what career routes these qualifications and apprenticeships could lead to.
- Provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with that provider.
- Answer students' questions.

4. Which Providers Have Previously Been Invited to the School?

In previous terms and academic years, the school has invited the following providers to speak to students:

- UKAEA
- The Engineering Trust
- Thames Water
- Fugro
- Abingdon & Witney College (apprenticeships focus)

Last year, our Year 11 students moved on to a range of providers in the local area after finishing school:

Category	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Wallingford Sixth Form	53%	60%	47%	63%	51%	53%
College (Total)	33%	32%	37%	23%	37%	34%
Training / Apprenticeship	5%	3%	8%	5%	5%	5%
Other School Sixth Form	6%	1%	7%	5%	5%	2%
Other	4%	4%	2%	4%	3%	5%
TOTAL STUDENTS	192	186	193	205	198	232

Last year, our Year 13 students moved on to a range of providers in the local area after finishing school:

Jan 2025 Update	2024
Cohort Total	**134**
University	73%
Russell Group	34%
Deferred Entry	17%
Oxbridge	1%
College	5%
Apprenticeships	3%
Gap Year	22%
Employment	2%
Wallingford School	0%
Armed Forces	1%
Unknown	0%
Other	0%

5. Who Should Providers Contact to Discuss Events and Options?

Providers can speak to our careers adviser, **Pascale Barreteau**, to discuss possible attendance at relevant events.

Telephone: 01491 829772; Email: **careers@wallingfordschool.com**

Our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy sets out the school's approach to allowing providers into school to speak to our students.

6. What Are the Rules for Granting and Refusing Access Requests?

We will grant access requests that meet the following criteria:

- Are in writing.
- Give the requester's name and contact details.
- Describe the purpose of the request in detail.

We will refuse any access request that:

- Is deemed to be detrimental to students' welfare.
- Would cost too much staff time or money to process.
- Would significantly disrupt the effective running of the school.
- Repeats a previous request from the same organisation.

7. What Can Providers Expect Once a Request Has Been Accepted?

Once we have approved a provider, we will work with them to identify the best method for providing access to our students.

We will make the school hall, classrooms and/or private meeting rooms available to host discussions between providers and students. We will also make presentation equipment, such as projectors / audio, available to providers.

Arrangements will be discussed in advance between our careers staff and a nominated member of the provider's team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus and other relevant course literature with the school.

8. How Are Complaints Regarding Provider Access Managed?

If you have a complaint relating to the school's provider access arrangements, you can raise it in line with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy or you can contact the Careers and Enterprise Company directly on **provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk**.