

## **Shireland Biomedical UTC Provider Access Statement**

### **Policy Statement**

This policy outlines how Shireland Biomedical UTC complies with the requirements of the Provider Access Legislation (PAL), as set out in the Education Act 1997 (as amended) and statutory guidance published in January 2023.

The school is committed to ensuring that all students have access to up-to-date, impartial information about a full range of education, training, and employment pathways, including technical education and apprenticeships.

### **Aims of the Policy**

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Students are informed about academic and technical routes available to them
- Training providers have fair and meaningful access to students
- Students can make well-informed choices at key transition points
- The school meets its statutory duties under the Provider Access Legislation
- Careers guidance supports positive destination outcomes

### **Statutory Context**

From January 2023, the Provider Access Legislation (PAL) requires Shireland Biomedical UTC to ensure that providers of approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships are given access to students.

Under this legislation, the school must offer a minimum of six meaningful encounters with such providers:

- Two encounters during Key Stage 3
- Two encounters during Key Stage 4
- Two encounters during Key Stage 5

These encounters must take place during the school day and be delivered at key decision points to ensure that students are able to make well-informed choices about their future education, training, and career pathways.

### **Opportunities for access**

As part of our commitment to informing students of the full range of learning and training routes available we consider requests from training providers, vocational

education routes, employers, universities, and apprenticeship providers to speak to our students.

Several events, integrated into the school careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to visit us in school or virtually, to speak to pupils and/or their parents or carers:

Opportunity	Description	Date	Gatsby Benchmark
L4L Curriculum	Each L4L theme will have a link to at least one specific career where students can explore a real-life application of knowledge and skills required in different employment sectors. External partners are welcome to support with these connections	Throughout the year	4, 5
Student Assemblies	Students will have the opportunity to listen to professionals about a range of careers and access routes to further training or employment. This broadens students contact with a range of employers	Throughout the year	3.6
Focus Days	Specific career focused days where students learn a variety of skills from CV and personal statement writing to preparing for interviews. Opportunities to meet employers and have Q ad A sessions	Throughout the year	1,3,5,6,
Open Day/Evening Events	Increased parental awareness of careers support in making decisions about options, future destinations, and opportunities available within the UTC	Throughout the year	3,8
Work Experience	Students in years 10 and 12 to participate in meaningful work experience in placements from a wide range of sectors working with employer partnerships	Summer Term	3, 5, 6
Year 12 Futures Programme	A series of lessons exploring future options, preparing for further education and the world of work, to become successful young adults with high aspirations	Throughout the year	1,2,3,4

National Apprenticeship Week	This week celebrates the apprenticeship opportunities for young people aspiring to specific careers. It provides an opportunity for external partners to engage with school	February	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
National Careers Week	This week celebrates the opportunities for young people aspiring to different careers. It provides an opportunity for external partners to engage with school	March	1,2,4,5,7

## Management of provider access requests

### Procedure

All requests should be emailed at least 8 weeks in advance of an expected date for the planned session. All requests will be given due consideration from the designated Careers Leader and Senior Leadership team.

A provider wishing to request access should contact Kayleigh Steed, Careers Lead, via e-mail in the first instance. **SStoddard@sbu.shirelandcat.net**

Before confirming a proposed event, consideration will be given to student's preparation for public or internal exams, clashes with other planned school events, disruption to timetabled studies, staffing, room availability and to ensure the safeguarding requirements of our students, staff and visitors can be met.

### **Premises and facilities**

The school will make the lecture theatre, activity studio, classrooms, or private meeting rooms available for presentations and workshops between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity.

The school will also make available AV 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 relevant course literature with reception staff. Information, appropriate to the needs of our students will be displayed in various locations around the building and within departments and shared with students and their parents or carers electronically. Physical copies of brochures and prospectus' will be given out to students – in line with the careers programme on specified dates.

## **Previous and current providers**

### Education and Training:

Skills Training UK

Wolverhampton University

Sandwell College

Halesowen College

Birmingham City University

DWP – Department for work and pensions

Dudley College

### Employers

NHS – National Health Service

West Midlands Police

Army

West Midlands Ambulance

Book Authors

## **Complaints procedure**

Any complaints in relation to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure by contacting Mr G Shahzad at [info@sbu.shirelandcat.net](mailto:info@sbu.shirelandcat.net) or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via [provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk](mailto:provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk)

Approval and review

Approved March 2026

Review date: March 2027