



Provider Access Statement



Penistone Grammar School: Provider Access Policy

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school'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.

Student Entitlement

All students 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.

For students of compulsory school age these encounters are mandatory and there will be a minimum of two encounters for students during the 'first key phase' (Years 8 to 9) and two encounters for students during the 'second key phase' (Years 10 to 11). For students in the 'third key phase' (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 students to attend.

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 students from the provider)
- answer questions from students.

Meaningful Provider Encounters

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

AMRC - University of Sheffield Advanced Manufacturing Research Training (Engineering apprenticeships)

ASK Apprenticeships – Sheffield City Council’s apprenticeship hub

Askham Bryan College – Agricultural and equine college in York

Barnsley College – offers BTEC / T-Level courses and apprenticeship courses

Barnsley 6th Form College – offers a wide choice of A Level subjects

GQA – training provider in Sheffield for the glass, printing and construction industries

GTA – apprenticeship and training provider in Sheffield and Doncaster for transport and logistic jobs

Leslie Frances Training – hairdressing apprenticeship provider

National Racing College - based in Doncaster offering jockey and racehorse training and apprenticeships

NHS (Barnsley Hospital) – offering pathways into the NHS in their region

Nova Arts College – based in Barnsley offering a Level 3 BTEC in Dance & Performing Arts

Reds in the Community – Barnsley FC – offers Sports courses from levels 1 to 3 at Oakwell Park

Rotherham FE College – offers BTEC’s and apprenticeship courses

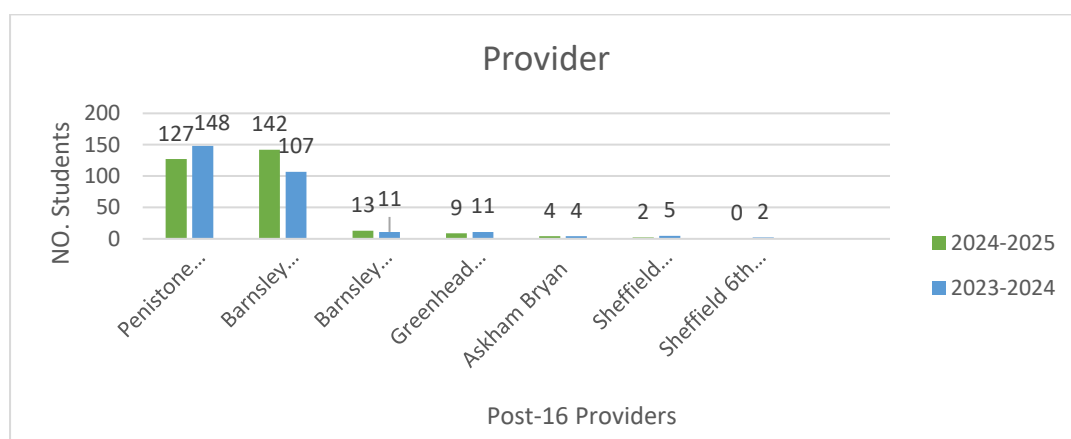


Sheffield United - offers a Level 3 BTEC in Sport combined with a Football Development Pathway

Stubbin Court Training – specialist equine apprenticeship provider

Destination Providers

Year 11 students from 2024-25 moved to range of providers in the local area after school:



Our Year 13 students progressed to the following:

Destinations	No.	%
University (Non-Russell Group)	52	40
Russell Group University	48	37
Apprenticeship	3	2
Gap Year	18	14
Employment	8	6

Management of Provider Access Requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact:

Helen Blakeman – Careers Adviser on hblakeman@penistone-gs.uk



Opportunities for Access

The school offers the six provider encounters **required by law** and a number of additional events, integrated into the school careers programme. We will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to students or their parents or carers.

Please speak to our Careers Leader to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 8	Apprenticeship Assembly	Careers Cafes – local FE and training providers and businesses have stalls at lunchtime	Visit to the University of Sheffield
Year 9	Post 16 technical education option assembly with General Further Education College	Careers Cafes – local FE and training providers and businesses have stalls at lunchtime Meeting with Careers Adviser	No encounters – legislation requires encounters to take place by 26 February if in Year 9
Year 10	Post 16 technical education option assembly with General Further Education College Careers fair for a variety of HE providers including local Further Education Colleges	Careers Cafes – local FE and training providers and businesses have stalls at lunchtime Meeting with Careers Adviser	Visit to the University of Huddersfield Speed Networking Event with a variety of providers including FE colleges, training providers and local businesses
Year 11	Post 16 apprenticeships assembly Meetings with Careers adviser Post 16 applications	Careers Cafes – local FE and training providers and businesses have stalls at lunchtime Post 16 interviews	No encounters – legislation requires encounters to take place by 28 February if in Year 11 Confirmation of post-16 education



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Date of Statement: November 2025
Date of Next Review: When Required

	Careers fair for a variety of HE providers including local Further Education Colleges Mock Interviews delivered by FE providers and local businesses	Post 16 applications Meetings with Careers adviser ASK apprenticeship workshop delivered to students seeking apprenticeships	and training destinations for all students
Year 12	Careers fair for a variety of HE providers including local Further Education Colleges Post 18 assembly with higher and degree apprenticeship providers	Small group sessions: future education, training, and employment options linked to A level subjects 6th form business breakfast with wide range of local and national employers and providers Meetings with careers adviser	Visit to UCAS careers fair for HE providers and apprenticeship opportunities 1 week work experience placement
Year 13	Careers fair for a variety of HE providers including local Further Education Colleges Mock interviews in preparation for university and apprenticeship interviews	Meeting with Careers adviser Workshops – HE and higher apprenticeship applications.	No encounters – legislation requires encounters to take place by 28 February if in Year 13 Confirmation of post-18 education and training destinations for all students

Premises and Facilities

The school will make the sports hall, amphitheatre, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions 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. Meaningful online engagement is also an option, and we are open to providers that can provide live online engagement with our students. Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at reception which will be passed on to the Careers Office. The office is available to all students at lunch and break times.

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