

Comberton Village College & Sixth Form Provider Access Policy Statement	
<i>Replacing the previous FE Apprenticeship Provider Access Policy</i>	
Committee:	Teaching and Learning
Date of Next Review:	Sept 2026
Responsible Officer:	Helen Jarrett

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

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 our pupils and 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

Comberton Village College and Sixth Form is committed to ensuring there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access pupils and students, for the purpose of informing them about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships. Comberton Village College and Sixth Form is fully aware of the responsibility to set pupils and 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.

Comberton Village College and Sixth Form endeavours to ensure that all pupils and 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

Comberton Village College and Sixth Form’s procedure for Access to other education and training providers has the following aims:

1. To develop the knowledge and awareness of our pupils and students of all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships.
2. 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.
3. To reduce drop out from courses and avoid the risk of students becoming NEET (Young people not in education, employment or training).

Pupil and student entitlement

Comberton Village College and Sixth Form fully supports the statutory requirement for pupils and students to have direct access to other providers of further education training, technical training and apprenticeships. Comberton Village College and Sixth Form complies with the legal requirement to put on at least six encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships. These encounters currently range from careers fairs, apprenticeships talks, career carousels and career talks. Our career events feature a wide range of employers including providers of technical education and apprenticeships in order to meet Provider Access Legislation.

Further details about our careers provision can be found at: Careers Information - Comberton Village College (combertonvc.org). On the left sidebar, there are individual links to each of the programmes for Years 7-11.

Further details about our careers provision for our sixth form students can be found at Higher Education & Careers - Comberton Sixth Form. On the left sidebar, there are individual links to each of the programmes for Years 12 and 13. Careers information is also communicated to our Sixth Form students via the careers Padlet: CSF Careers (padlet.com)

We have a planned approach with careers advice, guidance and information, with each activity mapped against the Gatsby Benchmarks below:

- 1) A stable careers programme
- 2) Learning from Career and labour market information
- 3) Addressing the needs of each pupil
- 4) Linking curriculum learning to careers
- 5) Encounters with Employers and Employees
- 6) Experiences of workplaces
- 7) Encounters with Further and Higher Education
- 8) Personal Guidance

Development

This procedure has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader (Helen Jarrett) 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 pupils and students to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. Comberton Village College and Sixth Form is committed to encouraging all pupils and students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Requests for access

Requests for access should be directed to Helen Jarrett, Careers Leader. Helen Jarrett may be contacted by email or telephone at HJarrett@combertonvc.org and Tel 01223 262503, ext 11049.



Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers or Life lessons, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that Comberton Village College and Sixth Form is arranging. Pupils and students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with Comberton Village College and Sixth Form.

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

Comberton Village College and Sixth Form 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

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

Parents and Carers

Parental involvement is encouraged, and parents may be invited to attend the events to meet the providers. We encourage our parents and carers to attend our career events to talk about their career paths to our pupils and students.

Management

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

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this procedure should be raised to Helen Jarrett, email hjarrett@combertonvc.org
Helen Jarrett will raise the complaint to Victoria Hearn, Principal of Comberton Village College.

Monitoring review and evaluation

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Senior Leadership Group.

Policy Coordinator: Helen Jarrett

Policy Reviewed: November 2025

Appendix

Providers who have been invited into Comberton Village College and Sixth Form to date include:

- Adder
- AECOM
- AG Motors
- Alpha CRC
- Anglia Ruskin University
- Architecture MII Studio
- Arm
- Ashcroft Vets
- AstraZeneca
- Barclays
- Bookboon
- British Airways
- Calford Seaden Project Management
- Cambridge Creative
- Cambscuisine
- Cambridge Corn Exchange
- Cambridgeshire County Council Early Years
- Cambridge Design Partnership
- Cambridge Kinetics
- Cambridge Military Preparation College
- Cambridge Regional College
- Cambridge United Football Club
- Cambridge University Hospital
- Cambridge University Press and Assessment
- Capita
- Cap Gemini
- Carter Jonas
- CDC Events
- Challenge Projects
- Charles River Laboratories
- Cofinitive
- Comberton Playgroup
- Colosseum Dental
- Countryside Regeneration Trust
- Cowper Griffith Architects
- Deloitte LLP
- Department for Business and Trade
- Eastern Education Group
- East of England Radiotherapy Network
- EDX Medical Group plc
- Ernst & Young

- Essex & Suffolk Water
- Falmouth University
- Form The Future
- Foulger's CVS Ltd
- Free your voice Hub
- Gamlingay Food Project
- Grafham Water Centre
- Greater Cambridge Planning
- HCR Law
- Institute of Astronomy, University of Cambridge
- Irwin Mitchell LLP
- Jennifer Zerk Consulting
- Kameo Recruitment
- Kennedy's Law
- Kier
- Marshalls Skills Academy
- MCW Architects
- Military Preparation College of Training- MPCT
- Mott MacDonald
- MRC Epidemiology Unit, University of Cambridge
- Nettl Cambridge
- NHS
- Novotel
- OneBody Physiotherapy
- Optimesy
- PA Consulting
- PEM
- Police
- Price Bailey
- PricewaterhouseCoopers
- Renesas
- RG Carter
- RSPB
- Salus Wellness Clinic
- Savills
- Selwyn College, University of Cambridge
- Stageworks College
- Stratagem IPM Ltd
- Social Mobility Business Partnership
- South Cambridgeshire District Council
- Supply Plus
- Springboard Pro Limited
- Tesco
- The Architect Studio
- The Bank of England



- The British Army
- The Royal Air Force
- The Royal Marines
- The Whipple Museum
- Unilever
- Uptree
- Wiley
- Wilsons of Cambridge
- Wysing Arts Centre