



Careers - Provider Access Policy Statement

Ermysted's Grammar School

The Governing Body of Ermysted's Grammar School (the 'School') ratified this policy on **8 October 2026**.

Rationale

This policy statement sets out the School's arrangements for managing the access of providers to the pupils at the school for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education, training offer, or skill set and pathway needed for access to the career or education sector that the provider represents. This complies with the school's legal obligations under section 42B of the Education Act 1997, updated Sept 2022. The policy conforming to the PAL legislation detailed in the June 2026 statutory guidance which requires at least 2 encounters in each Key Stage from Y8 onwards with technical or apprenticeship providers.

Pupil entitlement [see Careers Policy (CEIAG): Appendix A]

All pupils in Years 7-13 are entitled to:

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

The School will provide at least six encounters with providers of technical education or apprenticeships for pupils in Years 8–13, in accordance with Section 42B of the Education Act 1997 and the DfE statutory guidance updated June 2026.

- Two encounters will be mandatory for all pupils during Year 8 or between 1 September and 28 February of Year 9;
- Two will be mandatory for all pupils during Year 10 or between 1 September and 28 February of Year 11;
- Two will be provided during Year 12 or between 1 September and 28 February of Year 13 and will be optional for pupils to attend.

All six statutory encounters will take place during the standard school day and for a reasonable period of time.

Management of provider access requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact: **Ms Louise Higginson** (Careers Co-ordinator) via **01756 792186** or admin@ermysteds.uk or **Mr George Barrett** (Careers Leader).

Access will normally be arranged during the standard school day and may include PSHCE/form time, assemblies, enrichment activities, careers events, options events, work experience preparation, curriculum-linked activities and other appropriate points within the School's published careers programme. Providers should make requests as early as possible to allow appropriate planning and safeguarding arrangements.

The School will make reasonable efforts to accommodate requests from providers where the proposed activity supports the School's careers programme, meets the needs of pupils and complements existing provision. Requests will be considered by the Careers Leader or a nominated member of the Careers Team.

The School may decline or defer a request where the proposed activity is unsuitable for the age or needs of pupils, duplicates existing provision, cannot be accommodated within the school calendar, does not provide impartial information, presents safeguarding or operational concerns, or would otherwise interfere unreasonably with the effective operation of the School.

Opportunities for access

We welcome input into our careers provision from employers, employees, Universities, Apprenticeship, technical and Further education providers. Our connections include former pupils, parents and local employers and providers and we are keen to widen this participation.

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 see the [Careers Programme Overview](#) for more details. Events include a Careers Fair; mock interviews for Year 10; enrichment weeks when pupils are in KS3 and 4 receive enterprise and career focused workshops; work experience activities in Key Stage 3 ('Modern Work Experience'), a week's work experience for Year 10 and Year 12 in July; assemblies on apprenticeships; A-level options and careers; and at Key Stage 5, a series of careers lectures are delivered from universities and employers. There is also a UCAS evening event and a drop down Year 12 RS day which includes visits from external speakers. The school is committed to 'Modern Work Experience' as detailed in the DfE's June 2026 Statutory Careers Guidance.

Outside agencies are also invited to support the curriculum in all subject areas. Some examples are performance poets and authors; visits from the Environment Agency and fieldwork connected to the environment; Economics hosts a Bank of England visiting speaker; and company employees have delivered talks to Computing students.

The School may also facilitate complementary provider activity at parent/carer events or outside the school day where appropriate. Such activity will not count towards the six statutory provider encounters unless it meets the statutory requirements.

Please see Careers Policy (CEIAG) Appendix B for list of employers involved in the Careers Fair and/or recent participants in the Sixth Form Lecture Programme and/or student-employer encounters.

Encounter	Timing	Status	Route Focus
PAL 1	Year 8	Mandatory for all	Technical/apprenticeship routes
PAL 2	Year 9 (Autumn/Spring)	Mandatory for all	Technical/apprenticeship routes
PAL 3	Year 10	Mandatory for all	Post-16 technical/apprenticeship routes
PAL 4	Year 11 (Autumn)	Mandatory for all	Post-16 technical/apprenticeship routes
PAL 5	Year 12	Provided by school but attendance optional	Higher technical/apprenticeship routes
PAL 6	Year 13 (Autumn)	Provided by school but attendance optional	Higher technical/apprenticeship routes

Please contact our Careers Coordinator, **Ms Louise Higginson**, or our Careers Leader, **Mr George Barrett**, Assistant Headteacher, to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

Providers will be selected to ensure that pupils receive accurate and meaningful information about the provider, the technical qualifications and/or apprenticeships offered, the careers to which these routes may lead, what learning or training with the provider is like, and have an opportunity to ask questions.

Providers should inform pupils about the provider, the technical qualifications/apprenticeships that they offer, careers those routes may lead to, what learning/training is like, and answer pupil questions.

Premises and facilities

Rooms and presentation resources will be made available for discussions between the provider and pupils, as appropriate to the activity. This will 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 literature in the library to be made available in the careers resource section, which is managed by the School Librarian. This resource is available to pupils before, during and after school.