



## Meden School: Provider Access Policy Statement

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

**Ownership: Meden School**

**Date updated: May 2024**

### 1. 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 students to choose their pathways, improve their life opportunities and contribute to a productive and successful economy.

Meden is committed to allowing external education and training providers access to share their opportunities with our students, particularly when it comes to apprenticeship opportunities. 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.

### 2. Commitment

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

Meden endeavours to ensure that all 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).

### 3. Aims

The Meden School policy for Access to other education and training providers has the following aims:

To develop the knowledge and awareness of our students of all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships.

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.

To reduce drop out from courses and avoid the risk of students becoming NEET (Young people not in education, employment or training).

#### **4. Student Entitlement**

Meden fully supports the statutory requirement for students to have direct access to other providers of further education training, technical training and apprenticeships. The school will comply with the new legal requirement to put on at least six encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships. This will be done in assemblies in National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week, in addition to providers attending careers events at school or at each Trust school.

#### **5. Development**

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader based on current good practice guidelines by the Department for Education.

#### **6. Links with other policies**

It supports and is underpinned by key school policies including those for Careers, Child Protection, Equality and Diversity, and SEND.

#### **7. Equality and Diversity**

Access to other providers is available and promoted to allow all students to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. Meden is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

#### **8. Requests for access**

Meden actively seeks external speakers and presentations about careers and apprenticeship opportunities from a variety of employers. These include but are not limited to:

- Private businesses.
- HM Armed Forces.
- The NHS.
- Universities.
- Further Education providers.
- Other Sixth Forms.
- Other areas of the public sector.
- Third sector organisations.
- Other training providers.

Whenever such an organisation wishes to contact us, they do so either by phone call or email (contact details can be found in section 14 of this document) which is then passed on to the Careers Lead. The Careers Lead will judge:

- Whether the opportunity provider fits with Meden's values
- Whether the opportunity/provider fits with our CEE plan and aims
- Whether pupils will benefit from the opportunity of interaction.
- In circumstances where these three criteria are met, the Careers Lead will arrange a suitable time for the provider to meet students, as well as selecting the relevant students for the provider to interact with; whether that be a select group (e.g. engineering students) or a whole year group. The time slot should ideally be one that has the minimum impact on lessons.
- Providers will be provided with a suitable location in which to interact with Students.
- Providers without evidenced of relevant DBS checks will be escorted and supervised by a member of staff or a provider with a proven DBS check at all times.

#### **9. 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 Meden is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with Meden.

#### **10. Refusal of access to students**

Access to students will be denied to providers where:

- The opportunity/provider does not fit with Meden's values.
- The opportunity/provider does not fit with our CEE plan and aims.
- It is deemed that pupils will not be likely to benefit from the opportunity of interaction.
- The opportunity/ provider might be deemed offensive by a significant section of our student or teaching body.
- The CL or other staff have reasons to be concerned about the opportunity or provider for any reason.
- A suitable time that has the minimum impact on student lessons cannot be agreed.

#### **11. Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access**

Meden 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.

## **12. Live/Virtual encounters**

Meden 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.

## **13. Parents and Carers**

Parental involvement is encouraged, and parents may be invited to attend the events to meet the providers.

## **14. Management**

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

Our Careers Lead is Mr Clive Hill. He can be contacted directly via email at [chill@medenschool.co.uk](mailto:chill@medenschool.co.uk). Initial telephone contact can be made via the school reception on 01623 843517.

## **15. Complaints Procedure**

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to the Careers Lead, who will raise the complaint to Mr Jim Smith, Headteacher.

## **16. Monitoring review and evaluation**

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually by the Careers Lead.

***Policy Coordinator:*** Clive Hill

***Policy Created by:*** Clive Hill BSc (Hons) PGDE MA MCCT MRSB



***Policy Reviewed:*** May 2024

## **Appendix**

### **Providers who have been invited into Meden School to date include:**

North Nottinghamshire College

Vision West Nottinghamshire College

British Army

Royal Air Force

Royal Navy

NHS

Allied Healthcare Professionals

EON

Asmech Systems Ltd

B&B Tractors

Rowlings

University of Sheffield

University of Nottingham

Nottingham Trent University

University of Lincoln

**Destinations of previous pupils from Meden School include:**

Meden College

Brackenhurst College

Confetti

Inspire College

North Nottinghamshire College

Vision West Nottinghamshire College