

Mark Rutherford 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.

Pupil entitlement

All pupils 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 pupils of compulsory school age these encounters are mandatory and there will be a minimum of two encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (year 8 to 9) and two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 10 to 11). For pupils in the 'third key phase' (year 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 pupils 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 pupils from the provider)
- Answer questions from pupils.

Meaningful provider encounters

One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between pupils and one provider. We are committed to providing meaningful encounters to all pupils using the [Making it meaningful checklist](#).

Meaningful online engagement is also an option, and we are open to providers that are able to provide live online engagement with our pupils.

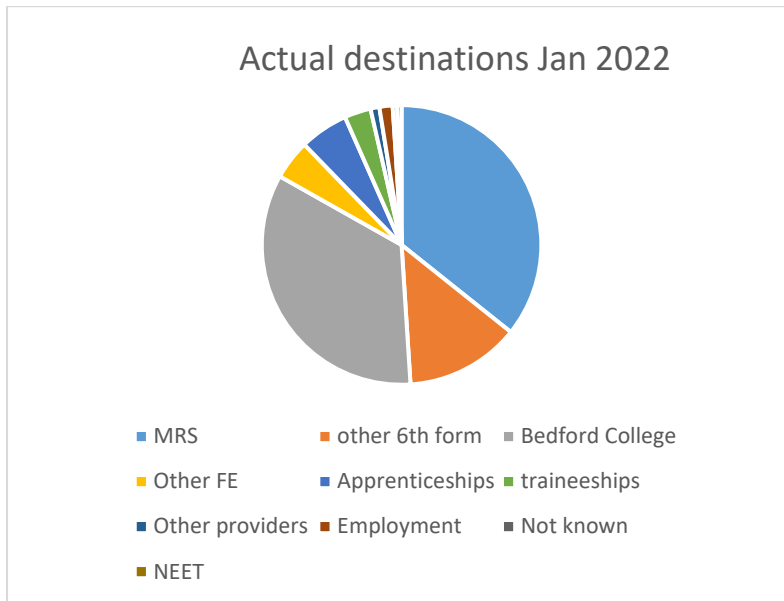
Previous providers

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

- *Bedford College Group*
- *SSG Training*
- *ASK Apprenticeships*
- *University of Bedfordshire*

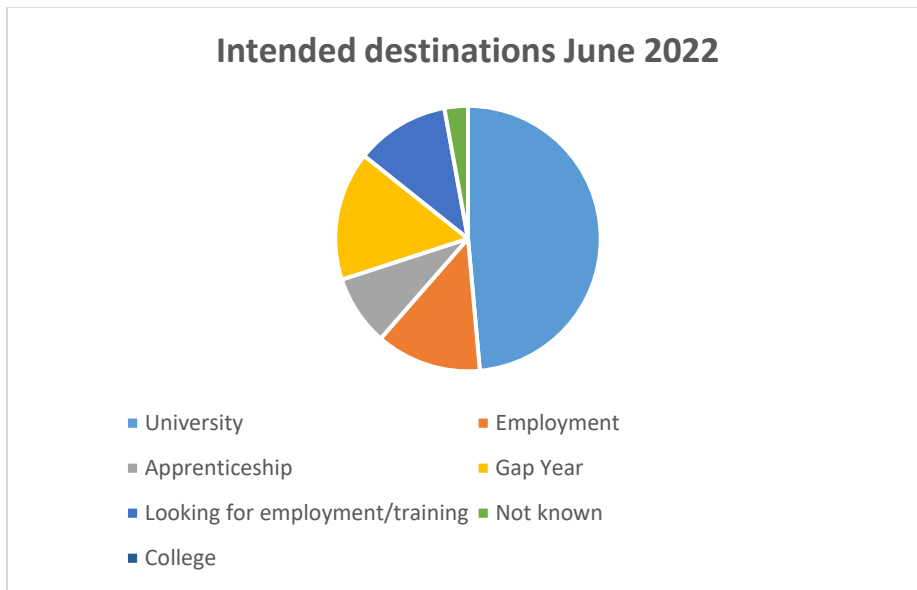
Destinations of our pupils

Last year our year 11 pupils moved to range of providers in the local area after school:



Destination	Number	% of students
Mark Rutherford School Sixth Form	70	36%
Other 6 th form	26	13%
Bedford College	67	34%
Other FE College	9	5%
Apprenticeships	11	6%
Traineeships	6	3%
Other providers	2	1%
Employment	3	2%
Not Known	1	1%
NEET	1	1%

Last year our year 13 pupils moved to range of providers after school:



Destination	Number	% of students
University	34	57%
Apprenticeship	6	9%
College	2	3%
Gap Year	11	16%
Employment/Training	8	11%
Not Known	2	3%

Management of provider access requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Kath Unwin, Careers Lead, email: Careers@mrus.co.uk

Opportunities for access

The school offers the six provider encounters required by law (marked in bold text) 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 pupils 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			Assembly about careers and qualifications
Year 9		Assembly with SSG Training about Apprenticeships and Bedford College about Vocational Courses & T levels	<i>No encounters – legislation requires encounters to take place by 28 February if in year 9</i>
Year 10		Assembly on Apprenticeships as part of NAW with a speaker from FCDO plus an Apprentice. Technical/vocational tasters at local college/s, training providers	Futures day at local University
Year 11	Meetings with careers adviser Apprenticeship evening for parents and students with talks and reps from 15 companies/training providers available to talk to.	Post 16 apprenticeships assembly as part of NAW speaker from Hospitality Training Board	<i>No encounters – legislation requires encounters to take place by 28 February if in year 11</i> Confirmation of post-16 education and training destinations for all pupils

	<p>Workshop with ASK apprenticeships</p> <p>Post 16 applications</p> <p>Post 16 options Bedford College – vocational course, T levels and ASK Apprenticeships</p>		
Year 12	<p>Apprenticeship evening for parents and students with talks and reps from 15 companies/training providers available to talk to</p>	<p>Assembly as part of NAW speaker from the Police on degree apprenticeships</p> <p>Small group sessions: future education, training and employment options</p> <p>Meetings with careers adviser</p>	
Year 13	<p>Workshop with ASK apprenticeships</p> <p>Apprenticeship evening for parents and students with talks and reps from 15 companies/training providers available to talk to</p>	<p>Meetings with careers adviser</p> <p>Assembly for NCW, speaker from Foxley Kingham Accountants/apprenticeships</p>	<p><i>No encounters – legislation requires encounters to take place by 28 February if in year 13</i></p> <p>Confirmation of post-18 education and training destinations for all pupils</p>

Premises and facilities

The school will make the main hall, lecture theatre, library, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and pupils, 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.

Meaningful online engagement is also an option and we are open to providers that are able to provide live online engagement with our pupils.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature at the Careers Resource Centre, which is managed by the school librarian. The Resource Centre is available to all pupils 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

Approval and review

Approved: *[date]* by Governors at Curriculum and Standards Committee

Next review: Jan 2024

Signed:

Shaun Hawker Chair of Governors

Mrs K Foster Head teacher