

# Mark Rutherford School



## Provider Access Policy

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<b>Governor's Committee:</b>	Curriculum and Standards
<b>Adopted by the Governing Body on:</b>	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2025
<b>Signed (Chair of Committee):</b>	Mrs S Field
<b>Signed (Headteacher):</b>	Mrs K Foster
<b>Policy review date:</b>	September 2026

## 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.
- 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.
- 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' (Years 8 to 9) and two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (Years 10 to 11). For pupils 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 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, 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

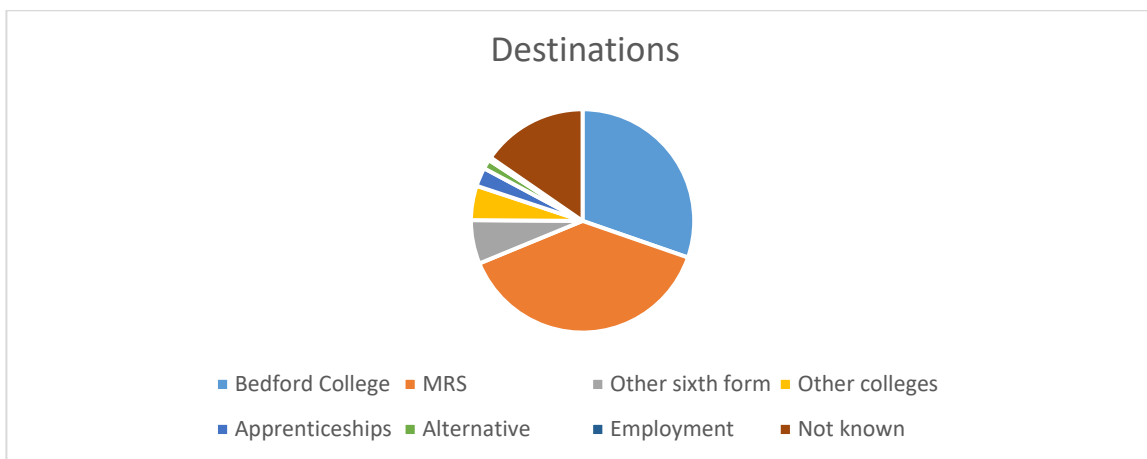
In previous terms we have invited the following providers from the local area to speak to our pupils:

- Bedford College Group
- SSG Training
- ASK Apprenticeships
- Universities of Bedfordshire, Northampton and Hertfordshire.

# DESTINATIONS OF OUR PUPILS

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

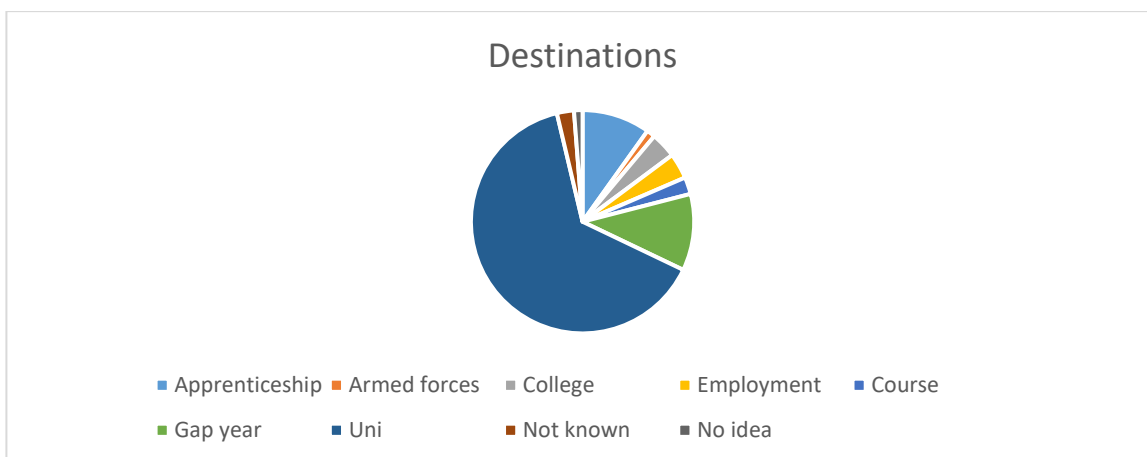
**Destinations for Year 11 (2024 - 2025 cohort)**



Provider	Number	Percentage
Bedford College	67	30%
MRS	85	38%
Other sixth forms	14	6%
Other colleges	11	5%
Apprenticeships	6	3%
Alternative provision	3	1%
Employment	1	
Not known/waiting for confirmation	34	15%

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

**Destinations for Year 13 (2024 - 2025 cohort)**



Provider	Number	Percentage
University	52	64%
Apprenticeship	8	10%
College	3	4%

Gap Year	9	11%
Looking for Employment/Apprenticeship	3	4%
No idea	1	1%
Not Known	2	2%
Armed Forces	1	1%
Other course	2	2%

## MANAGEMENT OF PROVIDER ACCESS REQUESTS

### Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Kath Unwin, Careers Lead, via email ([Careers@mrus.co.uk](mailto: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/carers.

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

Year Group	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 8			<b>Assembly about careers and qualifications.</b>
Year 9		<b>Assembly with SSG. Training about Apprenticeships and Bedford College about Vocational Courses and T levels.</b>	<i>No encounters – legislation requires encounters to take place by 28 February if in Year 9</i>
Year 10		Technical/vocational tasters at local college(s) and training providers.	<b>Assembly with SSG Training about Apprenticeships and Bedford College about Vocational Courses and T levels.</b>
Year 11	Meetings with a Careers Adviser. Apprenticeship evening in November for parents/carers and students with talks and representatives from companies/training providers available to talk to. Workshop with ASK apprenticeships. Assembly with presentation from Bedford College, vocational courses, Apprenticeships and T levels (date to be confirmed).	<b>Post 16 apprenticeships assembly as part of National Apprenticeship Week.</b>	<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
Year 12	Apprenticeship evening in November for parents/carers and students with talks and representatives from	<b>Assembly as part of National Apprenticeship Week (speaker to be confirmed).</b>	

	companies/training providers available to talk to.	Small group sessions: Future Education (training and employment options). Meetings with Careers Adviser.	
Year 13	Workshop with ASK apprenticeships. Apprenticeship evening in November for parents/carers and students with talks and representatives from companies/training providers available to talk to.	Meetings with Careers Adviser. <b>Assembly as part of National Apprenticeship Week (speaker to be confirmed).</b>	<i>No encounters – legislation requires encounters to take place by 28 February if in Year 13.</i> Confirmation of post-18 education and training destinations for all pupils.

## PREMISES AND FACILITIES

The school will make the Drama Hall, Garner 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 all specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Lead.

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 and Enterprise Company via [provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk](mailto:provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk).

### Approval and Review

- **Approved:** September 2025 by Governors at Curriculum and Standards Committee.
- **Next Review:** September 2026.

### Signed



Chair of Governors



Headteacher