



Provider Access Policy Statement

Review Frequency:	Annually
Review and approved date:	July 2025
Next Review date:	July 2026



Bishop Wilkinson
Catholic Education Trust
Through Christ, in Partnership

School Vision & Mission

At St Robert of Newminster we recognise that each individual member of our community is created in God's image with unique talents and abilities. We nurture each person through loving relationships and rich daily experiences centred on the teachings of Christ. We affirm the dignity of each individual and our values underpin everything we do across our school, with and for each student and member of staff to enable them to 'Let their light shine'.

St Robert's Values:

Faith

A prayerful community rooted and **guided** by the teachings of **Jesus**

Respect

A diverse community, created in the image of God, whose members are treated with **respect** and **dignity**

Vocation

A **hard-working** community that helps people recognise their own **unique purpose**

Excellence

A **dedicated** community that strives for excellence in our **learning** and **conduct**

Aspiration

A community built upon high **expectations** of ourselves and others

Integrity

A just community with a firm understanding of what is **right**, that acts with **honesty** and **Kindness**



Rationale

High quality careers education and guidance in school 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. 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

St Robert of Newminster Catholic School 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. St Robert of Newminster Catholic School 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. St Robert of Newminster Catholic School 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).**

Aims

St Robert of Newminster Catholic School's policy for access to other education and training providers has the following aims:

1. To develop the knowledge and awareness of our 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).

Student Entitlement

St Robert of Newminster Catholic School 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 throughout the year, in addition to providers attending careers events at school or at each Trust school, such as our Careers Fair, apprenticeship talks and workshops.

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader and is 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 students to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. St Robert of Newminster School is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Requests for access

Requests for access should be directed to Andrew Davis, Careers Leader. Andrew Davis may be contacted by telephone on 0191 7161700 or email: school@str.bwcet.com.

Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled PSHE sessions and careers events that St Robert of Newminster Catholic School is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with St Leonard's Catholic School.

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

St Robert of Newminster will provide an appropriate location. All rooms have computers, projectors and screens provided. The Careers Leader 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 staff who will facilitate.

Live/Virtual encounters

St Robert of Newminster will consider live online encounters with providers where requested, and these may be broadcast into classrooms or to year groups. 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.

Management

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

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this policy should be raised in the first instance to Andrew Davis directly or through the school complaints procedure.

Andrew Davis will raise the complaint to the Headteacher of St Robert of Newminster.

Monitoring review and evaluation

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Leadership Team.

Providers who have been invited to date include:

SETA
Newcastle College
Sunderland College
Gateshead College
Esh Group
Launch Group
Ask Apprenticeships
EQUANS