

Jan 2024



## PAL (PROVIDER ACCESS LEGISLATION) POLICY

**RIVERSIDE MEADOWS ACADEMY – ST NEOTS**  
Almond Road, St Neots, Cambridgeshire, PE19 1DZ

**RIVERSIDE MEADOWS ACADEMY – WISBECH GREEN**  
Barton Road, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, PE13 4TG

**Name of School: Provider Access Policy Statement  
(To include The Department of Education, July 2021: "Baker Clause" and the  
Provider Access Legislation, January 2023)  
Ownership: Riverside Meadows Academy St Neots & Wisbech Green  
Date updated: January 2024**

## **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. We aim to help our students to develop ideas on their future pathways, to improve their opportunities and help to contribute to a productive and successful economy. The number of apprenticeships rises every year and it becomes increasingly important that our young people have a full understanding of all the options available to them in the future including wider technical education options such as T-Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications.

## **Commitment**

Riverside Meadows is committed to ensuring that there are opportunities for our students to access a range of education and training providers, for the purpose of informing them about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships. Riverside Meadows is fully aware of the responsibility to help our students to find the path that will secure the best outcome which will enable them to progress in education and/or work. We aim to help develop the highly skilled workforce that employers need. We act impartially, in line with the statutory duty, and do not show bias towards any particular route, be that academic or technical. Riverside Meadows endeavours to ensure that all students are aware of all possible 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**

The Riverside Meadows policy for access to a variety of 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).

## **Student Entitlement**

Riverside Meadows fully supports the statutory requirement for students to have direct access to providers of further education training, technical training, and apprenticeships. The school complies with the new legal requirement to put on at least four encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships. This will be done in a variety of ways including assemblies in National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week, in addition to providers attending careers events at school including at the Key Stage 4 moving on event.

## **Development**

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader and Co-Headteachers 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 & Diversity**

Access to other providers is available and promoted to allow all students to access information about a range of providers of further education and apprenticeships. Riverside Meadows is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information and are supported by the Additional Needs Pathway Advisor from the 14-25 Additional Needs Team.

## **Requests for Access**

Requests for access should be directed to Dr Hazel Gering (Assistant Head Teacher & Careers Leader), who can be contacted on [hgering@riversidemeadows.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:hgering@riversidemeadows.cambs.sch.uk) or 01223 471791.

## **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, National Careers week events and the moving on event as arranged at Riverside Meadows Academy. Students may also travel to visit other providers as part of trips to be organised in partnership with Horizons Education Trust or the Enterprise advisor.

## **Details of Premises or Facilities to be Provided to a Person Who is Given Access**

Riverside Meadows can provide an appropriate room or assembly hall as agreed, with computers, projectors and screens provided. Access to computers room can also be arranged. 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 the Staff Team who will facilitate.

## **Live/Virtual Encounters**

Riverside Meadows provides live online encounters 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.

## **Parents and Carers**

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

## **Management**

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

## **Complaints Procedure**

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to:

Head Teacher St Neots

email: [headteacherstneots@riversidemeadows.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:headteacherstneots@riversidemeadows.cambs.sch.uk) or

Head Teacher Wisbech Green

email: [headteacherwisbech@riversidemeadows.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:headteacherwisbech@riversidemeadows.cambs.sch.uk)

## **Monitoring review and evaluation**

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Executive Leadership and Trust board.

***Policy Coordinator: Dr Hazel Gering***

***Policy Reviewed: January 2024***

## **Appendix 1: Providers who have been invited to date include:**

Amazon

The Aim Group

Grow Fresh

The local police

Kier Construction

## **Destinations of previous pupils include:**

Cambridge Regional College

College of West Anglia

City College Peterborough

Long Road Sixth Form

Apprenticeship

West Suffolk College

BEATS learning

The Centre School

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**Ownership:** Riverside Meadows/Wisbech Green

**Date updated:** January 2023

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Andrew Armstrong , email: [headteacherstneots@riversidemeadows.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:headteacherstneots@riversidemeadows.cambs.sch.uk) or

Chris Clarey, email [headteacherwisbech@riversidemeadows.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:headteacherwisbech@riversidemeadows.cambs.sch.uk)

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