

Provider Access Policy

2025-26

EXCELLENCE AND EQUITY WITH INTEGRITY

Date of Approval:	October 2025
Approved by:	Trust Board
Date of next Review:	October 2026



Consilium
Academies

Name of School: Consilium Academies Provider Access Policy Statement
(To include The Department of Education, July 2021: “Baker Clause” and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023)
Ownership: Consilium Academies
Date updated: September 2025

Rationale

High-quality careers education and guidance are essential in shaping young people’s futures. It equips them with a clear understanding of the world of work, including the diverse routes into employment and careers that they may find fulfilling and aspirational. Through effective careers provision, students develop vital self-awareness and career management skills, enabling them to make informed decisions and pursue positive post-16 and post-18 destinations.

As the landscape of technical education continues to evolve, with increasing numbers of apprenticeships and the expansion of programmes such as T-Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications, it is more important than ever that all students are fully informed about the full range of options available to them. Ensuring equitable access to information about academic, vocational, and technical pathways supports young people to make choices that enhance their life chances and contribute meaningfully to a thriving economy.

Commitment

Consilium Academies is firmly committed to ensuring that a wide range of education and training providers have meaningful opportunities to engage with students, with the aim of informing them about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeship pathways.

We recognise our responsibility to support every student in making informed choices that lead to successful outcomes in education and employment. This includes helping them to understand the full breadth of available routes; academic, vocational, and technical, without bias or preference. Our approach is impartial and fully aligned with statutory duties, including the Provider Access Legislation (January 2023) and the Baker Clause (Department for Education, July 2021).

Consilium Academies strives to ensure that all students are equipped with the knowledge and understanding they need to explore and access higher-level skills pathways, including apprenticeships, T-Levels, and other technical qualifications. Through this commitment, we aim to empower students to make confident, well-informed decisions about their futures.

Aims

Consilium Academies is committed to ensuring that all students are well-informed about the full range of career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships. The aims of this policy are to:

- Enhance students’ understanding of the diverse education and training routes open to them, supporting informed decision-making at key transition points.
- Provide opportunities for students to explore options beyond the school environment, enabling them to make confident and aspirational choices about their future.
- Minimise the risk of students disengaging from education or training and reduce the likelihood of them becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training), by promoting sustained and purposeful progression.

Student Entitlement

Consilium Academies fully supports the statutory requirement for students to have direct access to a broad range of providers offering further education, technical training, and apprenticeships. In accordance with the Provider Access Legislation, each school within the Trust will ensure that students benefit from a minimum of six meaningful encounters with approved providers of technical education qualifications and apprenticeships.

These encounters will be delivered through inclusive and accessible formats, such as assemblies during National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week, as well as careers fairs and provider-led events held within individual schools or across the Trust. We are committed to ensuring that all students, regardless of background, ability, or personal circumstances, have equitable access to high-quality information and guidance about their future pathways. This entitlement empowers students to make informed, aspirational choices about their education and training, supporting their progression into further learning or employment.

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader and Line Manager (**Consilium Academies Claire Bell CSCL**) 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. The **Consilium Academies** 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 **Claire Bell**, Careers Education Leader. **Consilium Academies** may be contacted by telephone or email, claire.bell@consilium-at.com, Tel: 0191 4212244

Grounds for granting requests for access

Consilium Academies welcomes requests from providers of further education, technical education, and apprenticeships to engage with students as part of our commitment to broadening career awareness and supporting informed choices. Access may be granted for providers to deliver sessions during scheduled school assemblies, timetabled Career/or Life lessons, and at careers-related events such as Raising Aspirations days organised by the Trust or individual schools. In addition, students may be offered the opportunity to visit external providers as part of organised trips, arranged in collaboration with Consilium Academies.

All access opportunities will be planned to ensure they are inclusive, purposeful, and aligned with the Trust's strategic careers education objectives.

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

The **Consilium Academies** will provide an appropriate room or assembly hall to be agreed. All rooms have computers, projectors and screens provided. 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.

Live/Virtual encounters

Consilium Academies 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.

Parents and Carers

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

Management

The Career 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 **Claire Bell – Careers Education Lead**, claire.bell@consilium-at.com Kate Hewson will raise the complaint to Michael McCarthy michael.mccarthy@consilium-at.com

Monitoring review and evaluation

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Executive Leadership Team. **Consilium Academies**

Policy Coordinator: Claire Bell – Careers Education Lead

Policy Reviewed: September 2025

Appendix

Providers who have been invited into **Consilium Academies** to date include:

Trust School	Providers
North-East HUB	
Armthorpe	NHS Doncaster Local Authority Tesco Amazon
Heworth Grange Academy	Amazing Apprenticeship NHS Nort- East Apprenticeship Ambassador Network NECA SETA 4Schools DWP Army
Washington Academy	SETA Northern Power Grid Foundation of Light Nissan DWP 4Schools Army Fire Service NHS
Thornhill Academy	Fire Service NHS DWP Adventure Sunderland Institute of Financial Education NERAP Nissan Network Rail M&G Army DELL Sunderland City Hall Sunderland Theatre
Wyvern Academy	ASK Apprenticeship NHS Fire Service EE BAM Tees Valley Fly Sim Learning Curve 4 Schools
Consilium Evolve	DWP Tyne Theatre NLT – Cyber Security Time to Talk Beamish NHS

	Adventure Sunderland SETA
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Destinations of previous pupils from [Consilium Academies](#) include:

Trust School	Post 16 Provision
Armthorpe	Barnsley Sixth Form College Doncaster College New College Doncaster Rotherham College Dearne Valley College Thomas Rotherham College
Heworth Grange	Newcastle Sixth Form Gateshead College Newcastle College East Durham College Northumberland College Seta RAF Navy St Joseph's Academy Park View Academy Sunderland College Cardinal Hume Newcastle UTC Lord Lawson
Washington	SETA Chameleon training Army RAF St Robert's of Newminster 6th Form New College Durham Durham 6th Form Centre
Thornhill Academy Consilium Evolve	Sunderland College – Bede Campus Peterlee College East College Durham New College Durham Ask Apprenticeship Springboard Bede College Houghall College Gateshead College
Wyvern Academy	East Durham College Northumberland College Darlington College

	Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form Stockton Riverside College Northern School of Art Bishop Auckland College Morrisons Trust BAM Works Academy Darlington Learning and Skills EE
<u>NORTH-WEST HUB</u>	
Moorside Academy Ellesmere Park Academy	Salford City College (inclusive of: Pendleton College, Eccles College, City Skills College, Future Skills College & Worsley College) Loreto College Xaverian College Winstanley College Bolton College The Sixth Form Bolton UTC: MediaCityUK The Manchester College Trafford College Bury College Access Creative College (Manchester) The Growth Company

