



## **Blatchington Mill School Provider Access Policy Statement**

**Date updated: March 2024**

### **Our 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 the development of career management skills that they will 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.

### **Our Commitment**

Blatchington Mill 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. We are 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.

Blatchington Mill 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).

### **Our 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**

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Blatchington Mill 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 two encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships for students in Years 8 and 9 and two further encounters for students in Years 10 and 11. This will be done by inviting providers to attend our Post 16 Transition Evening as well as in assemblies in National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week and by invitation to other school events.

### **Development**

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader 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. Blatchington Mill 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 Alexis Crawford, Careers Leader via email [careers@blatchingtonmill.org.uk](mailto:careers@blatchingtonmill.org.uk).

### **Grounds for granting requests for access**

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled lessons where appropriate, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events such as our Post 16 Transition Evening. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of a trip organised in partnership with Blatchington Mill School.

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

We will provide an appropriate room or use of our Theatre. The Careers Team 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**

We will consider live online encounters with providers where requested, and these may be broadcast into classrooms or the school theatre. 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**

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The Careers Team will coordinate all provider requests.

### **Complaints Procedure**

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to Ms Kate Claydon, Headteacher at Blatchington Mill School.

### **Monitoring review and evaluation**

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually.

### **Appendix**

**Providers who have been invited into Blatchington Mill to date include:**

**BHASVIC**

**Varndean College**

**BACA**

**Newman College**

**Plumpton**

**GB Met**

**Shoreham Academy**

**East Sussex College**

**DV8**

**ASK Apprenticeships**

**Steve Willis Apprenticeships**

**Next Step Apprenticeships**

**Armed Forces**