

Nishkam School West London



**Provider Access
Legislation Strategy
(Secondary Phase)**

Strategy Version	Approved/ Reviewed	Signed by Careers Lead	Signed by Headteacher	Signed by School Governors
1.1	January 2023	L.Haras-Gummer	W.Dineen	B.Panesar
1.2	August 2023	J. Kerrisk	W.Dineen	B.Panesar
1.3	August 2024	J. Kerrisk	W.Dineen	B.Panesar
1.4	August 2025	J. Kerrisk	W.Dineen	B.Panesar

NSWL Provider Access Legislation Strategy

This strategy sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to pupils at 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 and Provider Access Legislation (2023).

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. 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.

The provider access legislation is new guidance that comes into force from January 2023. It is a key mechanism to further help learners understand and take-up, not just apprenticeships, but wider technical education options such as T-Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications.

The updated provider access legislation (PAL) specifies schools must provide at least six encounters for all their students:

- Two encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (year 8 or 9) that are mandatory for all pupils to attend
- Two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 10 or 11) that are mandatory for all pupils to attend
- Two encounters for pupils during the 'third key phase' (year 12 or 13) that are mandatory for the school to put on but optional for pupils to attend.

Commitment

NSWL 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. NSWL 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.

NSWL 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

The NSWL policy for Access to other 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

NSWL 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 using a variety of methods including but not limited to:

- Assemblies
- Providers attending careers events at the school
- Workshops with Apprenticeship Charities such as ASK Apprenticeships

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader, Jamie Kerrisk, and the Headteacher, Gerard Dineen, 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. NSWL is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

Updated Gatsby Benchmarks (Sept 2025)

From September 2025, NSWL is committed to implementing the updated Gatsby Benchmarks, following recent reforms led by the Gatsby Foundation. These updated benchmarks place greater emphasis on inclusion, data-driven decisions, meaningful encounters, and careers as a whole-school responsibility. Our careers programme is being reviewed to ensure alignment with these changes, embedding career learning into the curriculum and strengthening engagement with parents, employers, and education providers.

Destinations Tracking

NSWL systematically collects and reviews data on students' intended destinations at key stages 4 and 5, and tracks their sustained outcomes post-16 and post-18 especially now we have had our first ever Year 13 cohort. We work in partnership with local authorities to support the tracking of young people who may be NEET and use destination data to inform improvements to our careers provision. Alumni and long-term trend analysis are also used to evaluate impact and identify emerging needs across year groups and demographic groups.

Work Experience Guarantee

In line with the government's commitment to introduce two weeks' worth of work experience for all students, NSWL is actively planning a structured work experience programme. This will include employer-led activities in key stage 3 and extended work placements in key stage 4. These experiences will be meaningful, inclusive, and well-sequenced to ensure every pupil can develop the skills and insights needed to thrive in future careers.

Parental Engagement Strategy

Recognising the influential role of parents and carers in young people's career decisions, NSWL is strengthening its parental engagement strategy. We share careers information via parent newsletters, our website, and through platforms such as Unifrog, which allows parents to view their child's careers progress and research. We also host information evenings, use and involve parents in events with employers and training providers.

Quality Assurance & Continuous Improvement

NSWL is committed to the ongoing evaluation and improvement of its careers programme. We complete termly self-assessments using Compass+, review stakeholder feedback, and align our provision to the Careers Impact System. The school is actively working towards the national Quality in Careers Standard to ensure our provision meets the highest benchmarks and delivers measurable impact for all learners.

Personal Guidance (Benchmark 8)

Every student at NSWL receives at least one personal careers guidance session by the end of Year 11 and a further session by Year 13. These sessions are delivered by a Level 6 qualified careers adviser, registered with the CDI, and are tailored to the student's individual needs, aspirations, and pathways. Personal guidance is integrated into the wider programme and supported by data, Unifrog tracking, and pastoral insight.

Employer Engagement & Careers Hub Support

NSWL is an active member of the local Careers Hub and works closely with our designated Enterprise Adviser, who provides strategic support in strengthening links with employers and aligning our provision to local labour market needs. This partnership ensures that our students benefit from up-to-date insights, meaningful encounters, and diverse role models across multiple industries and sectors.

RONI & Vulnerable Learners Support

NSWL collaborates with local authorities and external agencies to identify and support students at risk of becoming NEET, using Risk of NEET Indicators (RONI) and school-held data. Targeted support is provided for vulnerable groups including those with SEND, EAL learners, looked-after children, and those from disadvantaged backgrounds. These students receive tailored interventions, additional personal guidance, and access to relevant opportunities to help raise aspirations and ensure positive transitions.

SEND Provision in Careers Education

At NSWL, we are committed to providing inclusive and tailored careers education for students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). We recognise that all young people, regardless of their starting points or individual needs, should have access to high-quality, meaningful guidance to support their transition into further education, training or employment. Our careers programme is designed to be flexible and supportive, working closely with the SENDCo, external agencies, and families to ensure that the guidance provided is personalised, aspirational, and appropriate. We promote equality of opportunity and actively challenge stereotypes to empower all learners with SEND to explore a full range of options and pathways. This includes ensuring appropriate adjustments are made during encounters with providers and employers, and offering bespoke one-to-one support to help students understand and navigate their next steps with confidence.

Provider Access Policy Compliance

Our Provider Access Statement meets the requirements of the Provider Access Legislation (PAL) and sets out clear procedural expectations for external providers. This includes instructions on how to request access, grounds for granting or refusing access, details of available facilities, safeguarding expectations, and how the school schedules six meaningful encounters across key stages 3, 4, and 5. The full policy is published on our website and reviewed annually in collaboration with the governing body.

Requests for access

A provider wishing to request access should contact **Mr Jamie Kerrisk**

Telephone: 0203 141 8760

Email: Enquiries.NSWL@nishkamschools.org

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 that NSWL is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with NSWL.

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

NSWL will provide an appropriate room or assembly hall to be agreed. All rooms have computers, projectors and screens provided. Computer rooms can also be arranged. 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

NSWL 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 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 Jamie Kerrisk, email: Enquiries.NSWL@nishkamschools.org

Jamie Kerrisk will raise the complaint to Gerard Dineen, Headteacher (Secondary Phase).

Monitoring review and evaluation

This strategy will be reviewed annually as part of the whole-school self-assessment process by the Careers Leader and the Headteacher and will be reviewed by the governors when any additions or amendments are made.

Policy Coordinator: Jamie Kerrisk

Policy Reviewed: August 2025

Appendix 1: Encounters with Providers as of 2024-2025

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
		Global Academy Assembly https://globalacademy.com/	Global Academy Assembly https://globalacademy.com/	Global Academy Assembly https://globalacademy.com/		
	Mullaley Construction Assembly https://www.mullaley.co.uk/	Law, Healthcare, and Finance Societies - students have/are inviting guest speakers from a range of industries to network and gain career insights	Law, Healthcare, and Finance Societies - students have/are inviting guest speakers from a range of industries to network and gain career insights			
ASK Apprenticeships Assembly https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/influencers/ask-programmeresources						
	Brunel University Higher Education assembly					
	West London College Assembly https://www.wlc.ac.uk/					
	Heathrow Airport Future Engineers Workshop & Talk about apprenticeships	Heathrow Airport Future Engineers Workshop & Talk about apprenticeships	Heathrow Airport Future Engineers Workshop & Talk about apprenticeships	Heathrow Airport Future Engineers Workshop & Talk about apprenticeships		