

Heron Academy

Careers Provider Access Policy

Date Policy approved and adopted:	September 2026
Date Due for review:	September 2029

1. Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangement for managing the access of providers to pupils at Heron Academy for the purpose of giving them information about the school's careers education. This complies with the school's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

2. Pupil entitlement

This is applicable to all pupils in years 7-14:

- To find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities as part of a careers programme which provides information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition stage.
- To hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, to include education and apprenticeships, through events, assemblies, group discussions and taster days.
- To understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

3. Management of provider access requests

3.1 Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact the career leads: Maria Weclawik at contact@heron.lsead.org.uk / 020 7326 5898

3.2 Opportunities for access

There are a number of opportunities within the school careers programme (Please see school careers programme [here](#)). This will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils and/or their parents/carers. Please contact the careers leads to organise a suitable opportunity.

3.3 Premises and facilities

The school will make the necessary space available for discussions/events between the provider and pupils. The school will also make available any special equipment required to support provider presentations. This will be discussed and agreed in advance of any visit with the careers team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant literature to a member of the careers team and they will ensure that pupils have access to the resources

Heron Academy – Careers programme 2026-2027

Career leads: Maria Weclawik

Next review: September 2027

Year Group	Intent	Implementation	Impact
Years 7-14	Develop an understanding of vocational options from year 7 onwards and Heron Academy's Post 16 offer.	Assembly for parents and students given by SJ/LS by summer 2026.	Helps with early exposure, aspiration raising and scaffolded independence.
Years 7-14	To invite employers to attend in-school careers days to develop pupil's confidence and understanding of the world of work.	Careers days throughout the year.	Past careers days have proven to be beneficial in developing student confidence and awareness of the world of work.
	Taster day of proposed vocational options e.g. Construction	Visits to school by identified professionals.	
Year 8 onwards	Develop an understanding of skills needed in different careers that will help develop the identified careers	School to provide opportunities for pupils to develop their work-related skills.	The programme raises aspirations, builds on pupils' existing transferable skills, and enables them to apply their learning in real-world contexts, bringing theory and practice together.
Year 10 onwards	OCNL accreditation for all pupils.	Choice of options in vocational subjects to include: Independent Living, Catering, Hospitality and Art.	To be reviewed annually to ensure good fit for upcoming and remaining cohorts.

Year 10-11	To broaden the knowledge of students within their vocational choices to the world of work.	In-school and off-site visits to relevant areas of industry e.g. Visit to live construction sites.	Visits carried out have been beneficial to the students experience of the workplace.
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Year 10 and 11	To support individual students with the preparation of CVs and personal statements.	Timetabled “Futures” lessons and tutor time to develop student’s personal skills as appropriate. DWP workshops in-school.	Develop confidence and ambition with regard to future college placement and employment. Broaden thinking with regard to opportunities.
Years 12-14	To support with transition into further education of a chosen vocational area.	Visits to colleges organised to include support transition to new setting.	Provides learners with experience of transition and a taster of college environment.
Years 11-14	Parents to be supported in making informed choices to aid the transition to Post 16 study options for their child.	In-school coffee morning attended by representatives from local providers/colleges	Previous events have given parents more information and the know-how with applications for their child.
Years 12-14	Work experience to be offered both in-school and locally within the community.	Work experience opportunities in school e.g. working with premises staff, catering, reception. Off-site opportunities with appropriate supervision in the community.	Pupils gain practical workplace skills, increased confidence, independence and a better understanding of employment opportunities, supporting successful preparation for adulthood and future career pathways.

