**Gordano School: Provider Access Policy Statement**

**(To include The Department of Education, July 2021: “Baker Clause” and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023)**

**Ownership: Gordano School/Lighthouse Schools Partnership**

**Date updated: October 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.

**Commitment**

Gordano 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. Gordano School 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.

Gordano 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).

**Aims**

The Gordano School 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**

Gordano 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 six encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships. This will be done in assemblies and during Tutor Time lessons in addition to providers attending careers events at school or at each Trust school, such as the Careers Convention and Tea-time Networking sessions**.**

**Development**

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader and Line Manager Jeanne Fairs, Strategic 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. The Gordano 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 Jeanne Fairs, Strategic Careers Leader. Jeanne Fairs may be contacted by telephone or email, jfairs@gordanoschool.org.uk, Tel 01275 842606*.*

**Grounds for granting requests for access**

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers and other Careers or Raising Aspirations events that Gordano School is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with Gordano School/Lighthouse Schools Partnership.

Requests for access will be granted based on clashes with other planned activities and events, availability of staff, space, time and resources to host a visit, clashes with preparation for public or internal examinations.

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

Gordano School will provide an appropriate room or assembly hall to be agreed. We will ensure rooms will have appropriate facilities in line with the provider’s requirements, such as computers, projectors and screens provided if required. 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 or other school staff who will facilitate.

**Live/Virtual encounters**

Gordano School 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 Jeanne Fairs, Strategic Careers Leader, email: jfairs@gordanoschool.org.uk

Jeanne Fairs will raise the complaint to Louise Blundell, Headteacher of Gordano School

**Monitoring review and evaluation**

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually by the Careers Advisers, Strategic Careers Leader and Central Strategic Careers Lead

***Policy Coordinator: Lisa Gardiner and Sue Jones, Careers Advisers***

***Policy Reviewed: October 2023***

**Appendix**

**Providers who have been invited into Gordano School** **to date include:**

Weston College

City of Bristol College

ASK Apprenticeships

SGS College

University Centre Weston

University of the West of England

**Destinations of previous pupils from Gordano School** **include:**

Weston College

City of Bristol College

SGS College

Bath Theatre Academy

Boomsatsuma

QEH

The Big Act

Colleges outside of the local area

A range of apprenticeships with various Apprenticeship Providers