UPDATED NOVEMBER 2026

North Star 265: Provider Access Policy Statement

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

Ownership: North Star 265

Date updated: November 2026

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 an Alternative Learning Provision, our aim is to ensure that every young person leaves us with a clear, appropriate and meaningful next step. At a time when the national number of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) continues to rise, we are committed to providing the guidance, support and opportunities needed to help our students recognise their potential and develop aspirations for the future. Through personalised pathways, careers education and meaningful experiences, we aim to ensure that every student progresses into a suitable destination, whether that be further education, employment, training or another educational provision, equipped with the confidence, skills and ambition to succeed.

Commitment

North Star 265 is committed to ensuring that all students have opportunities to engage with a range of education and training providers to develop their understanding of the different pathways available to them beyond our provision. We recognise that, as an Alternative Learning Provision, our students have diverse needs, abilities, interests and aspirations, and that individualised pathways are essential in supporting successful transitions into adult life.

We understand our responsibility to support every young person in identifying a suitable and meaningful destination that enables them to progress into further education, employment, apprenticeships, technical training or another appropriate educational provision. We are committed

to acting impartially and ensuring that students are exposed to a broad range of opportunities, without bias towards any particular pathway, whether academic, vocational or technical.

North Star 265 endeavours to ensure that all students are aware of the full range of opportunities available to develop their knowledge, skills and qualifications. Through meaningful engagement with education and training providers, employers and careers professionals, we aim to raise aspirations, build confidence and ensure that every young person can access the information, advice and guidance needed to make informed decisions about their future.

We recognise our statutory responsibilities under the Department for Education's July 2021 guidance on the Baker Clause and the Provider Access Legislation (January 2023), ensuring that students are supported to understand and access the full range of education and training options available to them.

Aims

North Star 265's policy for access to education and training providers has the following aims:

- To broaden students' knowledge and awareness of the range of career pathways and opportunities available to them, including further education, vocational and technical qualifications, apprenticeships and employment.
- To provide students with meaningful opportunities to engage with education and training providers, employers and careers professionals, helping them to explore options beyond North Star 265 and make informed decisions about their future.
- To raise aspirations, build confidence and support students in identifying realistic, personalised and meaningful next steps that reflect their individual needs, strengths and interests.
- To support successful transitions into further education, employment, apprenticeships or other suitable provisions, reducing the likelihood of students disengaging from education or training.
- To minimise the risk of young people becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) by ensuring that every student is supported to progress towards a positive and sustainable destination.

Student Entitlement

North Star 265 fully supports the statutory requirement for students to have meaningful opportunities to engage directly with a range of further education, training and apprenticeship providers. As an Alternative Learning Provision, we recognise the importance of exposing our students to different pathways and ensuring they understand the opportunities available to them beyond their time with us.

We are committed to meeting the requirements of the Provider Access Legislation by providing students with a minimum of six encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships across Key Stages 3 and 4.

These encounters will be delivered through a range of meaningful and accessible opportunities, including assemblies, provider visits, careers events, workshops and individual discussions. We will

also look to maximise opportunities during key events such as National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week.

We aim to ensure that all encounters are appropriate to the needs of our students, helping to raise aspirations, develop an understanding of different career pathways and support informed decision-making. Our priority is that every young person leaves North Star 265 with a clear and achievable next step towards a positive destination.

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader and Line Manager **Adam Bates – Careers Leader & Robert Skelton - Headteacher** 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. **North Star 265** 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 **Adam Bates**, Careers Leader. **Adam Bates** may be contacted by telephone or email, **adam.bates@northstar-academy.co.uk**, Tel ***0117 3320717.***

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 **North Star 265** is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with **North Star 265.**

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

North Star 265 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

North Star 265 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.

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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 **Adam Bates**, email: **adam.bates@northstar-academy.co.uk**.

Adam Bates will raise the complaint to **Robert Skelton**, **Headteacher of North Star 265.**

Monitoring review and evaluation

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

Policy Coordinator: **Adam Bates**

Policy Reviewed: **November 2026**

Appendix

Providers who have been invited into North Star 265 to date include:

SGS College

City of Bristol College