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| <i>Policy to be reviewed annually by the SLT (Website)</i> | <i>February 2026</i> |
| <i>Policy to be reviewed next</i>                          | <i>February 2027</i> |

## **Bower Grove Access Policy Statement**

### **Introduction**

This policy sets out Bower Grove School's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers who offer information about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships.

The school fulfils its duties under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997, the "Baker Clause" (DfE, 2021), and the Provider Access Legislation (2023).

### **Aims**

Bower Grove is committed to ensuring that all pupils receive clear, comprehensive information about the full range of post16 pathways, including technical qualifications, apprenticeships, and further education options, so they can make informed decisions about their future.

To achieve this, the school aims to:

- Develop pupils' awareness of the breadth of education and career pathways available to them.
- Provide opportunities for pupils to explore education and training routes beyond school before making important choices.
- Support pupils to make informed decisions and reduce the risk of disengagement or becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training).

As part of the school's whole school careers approach, pupils will have opportunities to:

- Learn about technical education qualifications, apprenticeships, and further study options.
- Hear directly from a range of approved education and training providers.
- Understand, and receive support with, applications for academic and technical courses.

### **Implementation**

Bower Grove will provide at least six encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships, including a minimum of two encounters during Years 8–9 and two during Years 10–11. These encounters may take place in person or virtually and will offer the chance to meet staff and/or learners to gain insight into the provider environment.

Encounters are sequenced throughout the curriculum and may include workshops, visits, visiting speakers, and participation in events such as the school's annual Careers Fair.

### **Meaningful Provider Encounters**

A meaningful encounter enables pupils to understand what learning and training with a provider is like and what future opportunities it can lead to. Each encounter will:

- Have a clear purpose and defined learning outcomes, shared in advance with pupils and providers.
- Include two way interaction between pupils and providers.
- Provide information about courses, entry requirements, qualifications offered, and related careers.
- Offer opportunities to meet staff and learners/trainees.
- Include time for pupils to reflect on the knowledge and insights gained.

### **Requests for Access**

Providers wishing to request access should contact:

**Mrs. B. Flisher**

Careers Leader

Email: [bflisher@bower-grove.kent.sch.uk](mailto:bflisher@bower-grove.kent.sch.uk)

Telephone: **01622 726773**

The Careers Leader coordinates all provider requests and reports to **Miss C. Higgins, Assistant Head Teacher**.

### Grounds for Granting Requests for Access

Access may be granted during assemblies, timetabled lessons, and careers related events organised by the school. Pupils may also visit external providers as part of organised trips.

### Facilities and Arrangements for Access

Bower Grove will provide an appropriate room and relevant resources, such as computers, projectors, and screens, where required. Safeguarding procedures will be followed at all times. Providers will be welcomed and supervised by staff from the Careers or SMSC team.

Virtual encounters are supported where appropriate, and technology checks will be completed in advance to ensure compatibility.

### Parents and Carers

Parental involvement is encouraged. Parents and carers may be invited to attend events or meet providers where appropriate.

### **Appendix**

**Providers who have been invited to Bower Grove School include, but are not limited to:**

- Mid Kent College
- North Kent College
- Heath Farm College

- Goldwyn College
- Catch 22
- Bemix
- Beams

**Destinations of previous Bower Grove pupils include, but are not limited to:**

- Mid Kent College
- East Kent College
- North Kent College / Hadlow College
- Goldwyn College
- Kite College
- Grange Park School & College Link
- White Rocks College
- Sports Connect
- Liberty College
- EOTAS

