



St. Thomas More
CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Provider Access Legislation (PAL)

Approved by	
Name:	Jane Bennett
Position:	Assistant Headteacher
Signed:	<i>J Bennett</i>
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The St Thomas More Mission:

We the St Thomas More family, 'aspire not to have more but be more'.

We aspire not to have the world but be more for the world.

#BeMore

We are A uthentic	we seek to find our true vocation and who we really are
We are S acred	we are loved and made in the image of God
We are P assionate	we strive to grow and be our best selves
We are I nspirational	what we do here can help us change the world
We are R esilient	for our greatest learning comes when we make mistakes
We are E mpathetic	we are called to care for all in our community and the world

Provider Access Legislation (PAL) Statement

Linked Policy – STM Careers Policy

Referenced document:

DfE: Careers guidance and access for education and training providers

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/63b69f3fe90e077246c83323/Careers_guidance_and_access_for_education_and_training_providers_.pdf

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 rise 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

The St Thomas More 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. The St Thomas More 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.

St Thomas More endeavours to ensure that all students are aware of all routes to higher skills and can access information on technical options and apprenticeships (DfE: Careers guidance and access for education and training providers January 2023)

Aims

The St Thomas More 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

St Thomas More 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 in National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week, in addition to providers attending careers events at school.

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader and Line Manager (AHT) 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 St Thomas More 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 the school and may be contacted by telephone or email, enquiries@stm.srscmat.co.uk , Tel. 01298 23167.

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 The St Thomas More is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with St Thomas More.

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

The St Thomas More 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

The St Thomas More 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 via the school's complaints policy. Further details can be found here:

<https://www.stthomasmorebuxton.srscmat.co.uk/information/policies/>

Monitoring review and evaluation

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

Appendix A

Providers who have been invited into St Thomas More CVA to date include:

Aquinas College
Buxton Community School
Buxton and Leek College
Marple 6th Form
Macclesfield College

Destinations of previous pupils from St Thomas More CVA include:

Aquinas College
Buxton Community School
Buxton and Leek College
Marple 6th Form
Macclesfield College
Xaverian College

Providers who attended our whole school Careers Day for all pupils include:

Royal Navy
RAF
Marple Sixth form
Macclesfield College
Police
NHS
DWP
Buxton Football club
Agriculture National Farmers Union
Buxton and Leek College
HSE Science research Centre, Harpur Hill
Northern Rail