Mulberry
Academy London Dock

Provider Access Policy

Recommending Body:	MALD LGB
Approval Body:	MALD LGB
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Rationale

High quality careers education and guidance in school 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

Mulberry Academy London Dock 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. Mulberry Academy London Dock 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.

Mulberry Academy London Dock 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).

Mulberry Academy London Dock recognises that high-quality careers guidance helps:

- young people make informed choices about their futures, so they can develop their interests and potential, and follow the path that is right for them to progress into work
- break down barriers to opportunity
- improve skills needed for success in work
- improve national productivity and grow the economy

Aims

Mulberry Academy London Dock's 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

Mulberry Academy London Dock 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 the school.

Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Principal based on current good practice guidelines by the Department for Education, as well as evolving over time as the school grows to capacity, reflective of each year group.

Links with other policies

It supports and is underpinned by key school policies including 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. Mulberry Academy London Dock 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 Chris Harvey, Principal. Chris Harvey can be contacted by telephone 02037458080 or email info@mulberrylondondock.org.

Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled PSHE lessons, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that Mulberry Academy London Dock is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with Mulberry Schools Trust.

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

Mulberry Academy London Dock 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 Premises Manager will organise this, working closely with the provider to ensure the facilities are appropriate to the audience. Appropriate safeguarding checks will be carried out with HR. Providers will be met and supervised by a member of Mulberry Academy London Dock staff.

Live and Virtual encounters

Mulberry Academy London Dock 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.

Monitoring, review and evaluation

This policy is monitored and evaluated annually by the Senior Leadership Team and Local Governing Board. This will also reflect national changes to policy and updates to good careers guidance, including the Gatsby Benchmarks.