

Providers Access Policy

Excellence • Passion • Teamwork • Integrity • Innovation

Our Mission

Raising Aspirations, Unlocking Potential, Advancing Futures

Our Values

Excellence, Passion, Team Work, Integrity, Innovation,
Sustainability, Valuing Others and Supportiveness

Sparsholt College Group

The Sparsholt College Group (the College Group) includes Sparsholt College, Andover College, University Centre Sparsholt, Sparsholt College Services, Westley Enterprises and Andover Town Football Club. College Group policies apply to each part of the group unless specified otherwise.

The Providers Access Policy was approved by the SLT in May 2024.

Originator:	Director for Careers and Stakeholder Engagement
Located:	College websites College Group intranet
Due for review:	May 2027

PROVIDERS ACCESS POLICY

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PROVIDERS ACCESS POLICY

1. Rationale

High quality careers education and guidance in Sparsholt College Group (which includes Sparsholt and Andover campuses) 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.

2. Commitment

Sparsholt College Group 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 Sparsholt College Group 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.

The Sparsholt College Group 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).

3. Aims

The Sparsholt College Group 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 college before making choices about their future options.
- To avoid the risk of students becoming NEET (young people not in education, employment or training).

4. Student Entitlement

The Sparsholt College Group fully supports the statutory requirement for students to have direct access to other providers of further education training, technical training and apprenticeships. The Sparsholt College Group will comply with the legal requirement to put on at least two encounters with providers of approved technical

education qualifications or apprenticeships. This will be done during National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week, in addition to providers attending careers events and advisory boards at both our Sparsholt and Andover campuses.

5. Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Director of Careers and Stakeholder Engagement based on current good practice guidelines by the Department for Education.

6. Links with other policies

It supports and is underpinned by key college policies including those for Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance, Safeguarding, Equality and Diversity, and SEND.

7. 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. Sparsholt College Group is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

8. Requests for access

Requests for access should be directed to Laura Asbridge Careers Leader. Laura Asbridge may be contacted by telephone on 01962 797332 or email at laura.asbridge@sparsholtservices.ac.uk

9. Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during tutorials, timetabled lessons, Careers lessons, and Careers events that Sparsholt College Group is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with the Sparsholt College Group.

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

Sparsholt College Group 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 also facilitate the session.

11. Live/Virtual encounters

The Sparsholt College Group will give reasonable consideration to live and recorded online encounters with providers where requested.

12. Parents and Carers

Parental involvement is encouraged, and parents may be invited to attend the events to meet the providers where applicable.

13. Management

The Careers Leader coordinates all provider requests and is responsible to his/her senior management line manager.

14. Complaints Procedure

Any complaints should be addressed through the Sparsholt College Group Complaints Policy available at <https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/policies-reports/>

15. Policy Development, Review and Approval

The policy is monitored and evaluated annually by the Director for Careers and Stakeholders Engagement and reviewed and approved by the Strategic Leadership Team at least three yearly.

Appendix

Provider Access Legislation – Key Information

[1592-pal-key-information-doc-v13.pdf \(careersandenterprise.co.uk\)](#)
[1592-pal-key-information-doc-v13.pdf \(careersandenterprise.co.uk\)](#)