

Provider Access Legislation—a guide for schools

Policy — Schools must publish a policy statement setting out opportunities for providers of technical education and apprenticeships to access Year 8-13 pupils, and to make sure the statement is followed. The DfE have published a template as part of their statutory guidance that can be found in [Appendix A](#)

Practice — Schools must provide at least six encounters with approved providers of apprenticeships and technical education for all their students:

- Two encounters for pupils during the 'first key phase' (year 8 or 9) that are **mandatory for all pupils to attend**
- Two encounters for pupils during the 'second key phase' (year 10 or 11) that are **mandatory for all pupils to attend**
- Two encounters for pupils during the 'third key phase' (year 12 or 13) that are **mandatory for the school to put on** but optional for pupils to attend

During the same key phase, schools must always provide encounters with two different providers to meet the legal requirement

Providers—the organisations delivering encounters should be chosen from providers of technical education and apprenticeships but can also include their representatives such as employers who employ apprentices but they must provide the minimum information requirements to pupils (see below)

The encounters

To be PAL compliant sessions should be delivered during the school day and contain

- Information about the provider and the approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships that the provider offers
- Information about the careers to which those technical education qualifications or apprenticeships might lead
- A description of what learning or training with the provider is like
- Responses to questions from the pupils about the provider or approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships

Additional Information

CEC—[Key information](#)

CEC—[PAL Resource Area](#)

CPCA Careers Hub—[PAL pages](#) including [Provider Directory](#)

Provider Access Legislation

a guide for providers and employers

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Please contact the Careers Hub at Steve.Walker@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk to discuss how you may be able to support schools in your area,