

# 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 [Annex A](#)

**Practice** – Schools must provide at least six encounters with providers of apprenticeships and technical education for all their pupils. During the same key phase, schools must always provide encounters with two different providers to meet the legal requirement.

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

**Providers** – must provide the **minimum information requirements** to pupils and should be chosen from

- Providers of technical education and apprenticeships e.g. training provider, college, university
- Employers who employ apprentices
- Employees who are completing or who have completed an apprenticeship

## 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](#), [PAL Resource Area](#)

South East Midlands [Complete this form to request volunteers to support a careers event in your school.](#)