



Provider Access Policy

Reviewed September 2026

1. AIMS

- 1.1 To be a Catholic school where all members of the community live according to Gospel values and the principles and teachings of Mary Ward, promoting the virtues of freedom, sincerity, justice, truth and joy, to allow all members of the community to feel secure and able to work and live in an atmosphere of courtesy and respect.
- 1.2 The Governors seek to ensure that the values of Mary Ward are reflected in the planning and delivery of all policies. The principle values covered by this policy are:
 - **Freedom** – This policy ensures that pupils will have access to information to enable them to make informed decisions and thereby take charge of their own lives and futures.
- 1.3 To create a caring and stable environment, in which each person is respected as an individual with unique gifts, talents and ambitions, and is given the freedom and confidence to develop these.

2. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- 2.1 This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to pupils at the school for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the school's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

3. PUPIL ENTITLEMENT

- 3.1 All pupils in Years 8 - 13 are entitled:
 - To find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities, as part of a careers programme which provides information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition point;
 - To hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships, through options events, assemblies and group discussions and taster events;
 - To understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.
- 3.2 For pupils of compulsory school age these encounters are mandatory and there will be a minimum of two encounters for year 8 to 9 pupils and two encounters for year 10 to 11 pupils. For pupils in year 12 to 13, particularly those that have not yet decided on their next steps, there are two more provider encounters available during this period, which are optional for pupils to attend.
- 3.3 These provider encounters will be scheduled during the main school hours and the provider will be given a reasonable amount of time to, as a minimum:

- share information about both the provider and the approved technical education qualification and apprenticeships that the provider offers;
- explain what career routes those options could lead to;
- provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with that provider (including the opportunity to meet staff and pupils from the provider), and
- answer questions from pupils.

4. **MEANINGFUL PROVIDER ENCOUNTERS**

- 4.1 One encounter is defined as one meeting/session between pupils and one provider. We are committed to providing meaningful encounters to all pupils using the “Making it Meaningful” checklist.

5. **PREVIOUS PROVIDERS**

- 5.1 In previous terms/years we have invited the following providers from the local area to speak to our pupils:

- AECOM
- Amazing Apprenticeships
- Army
- Barnet and Southgate College
- BBC Bitesize Careers Tour
- Cabinet Office
- Capel Manor
- Compco Fire Systems
- Cooper Parry
- Hertfordshire University
- London Interdisciplinary School
- Lockton Insurance
- LSE
- MetroBank
- Microsoft
- Morgan Sindall
- Morgan Sindall Property Services
- Nando's (Accountancy Pathways)
- Oaklands College
- Placer
- Premier Foods (T Levels)
- Rayner Esses LLP
- RSK
- SA Law
- Services for Young People
- Sky Studios Elstree
- Specsavers
- Tesco
- The Power of Events
- Urban Plan Workshop
- University of Hertfordshire
- WMT (Accountancy Degree Apprenticeships)

6. DESTINATIONS OF OUR PUPILS

6.1 Last year, our Year 11 pupils moved to range of Post-16 Education providers after school:

- Remained at Loreto – 47%
- Other sixth form – 29%
- Further Education College – 23%
- Apprenticeship – 1%

In August 2026 our Year 13 pupils moved on to a range of Higher Level and employment pathways after school:

- University - 89%
- Gap Year - 8%
- Apprenticeship - 3%

7. MANAGEMENT OF PROVIDER ACCESS REQUESTS PROCEDURE

7.1 A provider wishing to request access should contact Mrs C. Wicks - Careers Lead (cwicks@loreto.herts.sch.uk) or 01727 856206.

8. OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACCESS

8.1 The school offers the six provider encounters required by law, and a number of additional events, integrated into the school careers programme. We will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils or their parents or carers.

8.2 Please check our careers section of the school website for more information or alternatively, speak to our Careers Leader, Mrs C Wicks

Provision & Dates	
Year 8	PSHE – Careers (Mon 5 Oct 2026 – period 5) Careers assembly delivered by <i>Tesco</i> NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK PSHE – Careers (Thurs 11 Feb 2027 – period 5) Careers assembly delivered by West Hertfordshire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK CAREERS FAIR – Fri 5 March 2027 ❖ Oaklands College stall - TBC ❖ West Herts College stall - TBC ❖ Herts University stall – TBC ❖ Other local education / training provider will be invited STEM DAY – Fri 11 July 2027 Apprenticeship assembly supported by AECOM delegate (TBC)
Year 9	PSHE – Careers (Mon 28 Sept 2026 – period 4) Careers assembly delivered by Computacenter (locally based tech firm) GREEN CAREERS WEEK PSHE – Careers (Tues 3 Nov 2026 – period 3) Careers assembly delivered by <i>Wildside</i> (outdoor green careers) NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK CAREERS FAIR – Fri 5 March 2027

	❖ Oaklands College stall - TBC ❖ West Herts College stall - TBC ❖ Herts University stall - TBC ❖ Other local education / training provider will be invited
Year 10	PSHE – Careers (Mon 5 Oct 2026 – period 5) Careers assembly delivered by <i>Tesco</i> NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK CAREERS FAIR – Fri 5 March 2027 ❖ Oaklands College stall - TBC ❖ West Herts College stall - TBC ❖ Herts University stall – TBC ❖ Other local education / training provider will be invited FORENSICS DAY (Tues 6 July 2027) Herts Police Apprenticeship Talk - TBC CAREERS DAY (Weds 7 July 2027) The Army Elite Skills Academy Herts Uni (Assessment Centre Immersive Experience)
Year 11	PSHE – Careers (Mon 28 Sept 2026 – period 4) Careers assembly delivered by Computacenter (locally based tech firm) GREEN CAREERS WEEK PSHE – Careers (Tues 3 Nov 2026 – period 3) Careers assembly delivered by <i>Wildside</i> (outdoor green careers) NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK CAREERS FAIR – Fri 5 March 2027 ❖ Oaklands College stall - TBC ❖ West Herts College stall - TBC ❖ Herts University stall – TBC ❖ Other local education / training provider will be invited
Year 12	<i>For pupils in Year 12 to 13, particularly those that have not yet decided on their next steps, there are two more provider encounters available during this period, which are optional for pupils to attend.</i> Students will be invited to any in-school opportunities / events.
Year 13	<i>For pupils in Year 12 to 13, particularly those that have not yet decided on their next steps, there are two more provider encounters available during this period, which are optional for pupils to attend.</i> Students will be invited to any in-school opportunities / events.

9. **PREMISES AND FACILITIES**

- 9.1 The school will make the main hall, studio, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity. The school will also make available AV and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. This will all be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Leader or a member of their team.
- 9.2 Meaningful online engagement is also an option and we are open to providers that are able to provide live online engagement with our pupils.

- 9.3 Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature with our Careers Leader who will place it in the careers area in the Mary Ward building.

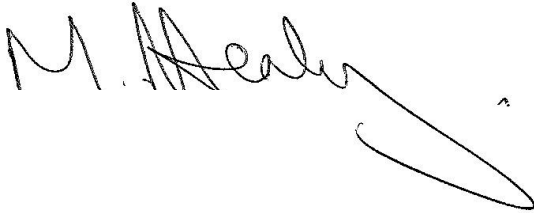
10. **COMPLAINTS**

- 10.1 Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure or directly with The Careers & Enterprise Company via the online form which can accessed here: <https://www.careersandenterprise.co.uk/contact-us/>

11. **APPROVAL AND REVIEW**

Approved by the Full Governing Body: 14th September 2026

Signed:



Chair of Governors



Headteacher