BIG CREATIVE EDUCATION APPRENTICESHIPS TRAINING ACADEMY

Ofsted Outstanding Provider

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PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY

Updated September 2024
Approved by the Principal

This policy refers to and should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance Policy
- Complaints Policy and Procedure

1. Rationale

1.1 High quality careers education and guidance in college 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.

1.2 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.

2. Commitment

2.1 Big Creative Academy 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. This forms part of careers education at Big Creative Academy. Please refer to the Academy's Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance Policy.

2.2 Big Creative Academy 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.

2.3 Big Creative Academy 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

3.1 Big Creative Academy's policy for Access to other education and training providers has the following aims:

i. To develop the knowledge and awareness of our students of all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships.

ii. 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.

iii. To reduce drop out from courses and avoid the risk of students becoming NEET (Young people not in education, employment or training).

4. Student Entitlement

4.1 Big Creative Academy 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.

5. Development

5.1 This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by the Careers Leader and Principal based on current good practice guidelines by the Department for Education.

6. Equality and Diversity

6.1 Access to other providers is available and promoted to allow all students to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. Big Creative Academy is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

7. Requests for access

7.1 Requests for access should be directed to the Careers Leader

Victoria Spence
victoria.spence@bigcreative.education
0208 498 3300

7.2 Access will be given for providers to attend student classes, events or assemblies.

7.3 Big Creative Academy will provide an appropriate room 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 facilitate.

7.4 Online encounters with providers will be arranged 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.

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

8. Complaints Procedure

8.1 Any complaints about this policy should be raised in accordance with the Academy's Complaints Policy and Procedure.

9. Monitoring review and evaluation

9.1 The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Senior Leadership Team.