



PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY

DOCUMENT CONTROL

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Approved by: The Board of Trustees

Policy Owner/Author: Emily Cornell

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Revision History

Version	Date	Change Summary	Changed By
1.0	April 2026	Initial Policy Update in New Template/Format	ER

Introduction

At Lexden Springs School we are dedicated to ensuring all pupils, including those with profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD) and severe learning disabilities (SLD), have access to a range of education and training providers.

This policy outlines our arrangements for provider access, specifically addressing the diverse and individual needs of our pupils. This complies with the school's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

Student Entitlement

All pupils, regardless of ability, are entitled to:

1. Procedure for Requests:

- Explore post-education opportunities, with content tailored to their abilities and interests.
- Interact with technical education and apprenticeship providers, ensuring accessibility and relevance.
- Experience learning opportunities that incorporate individualised communication methods, sensory engagement, and assistive technologies as appropriate.

2. Opportunities for Access:

- Providers can engage with pupils through:
 - Scaffolded session focusing on bite size information supported with visuals
 - Sensory workshops tailored for PMLD/SLD needs.
 - One-on-one or small-group sessions using assistive communication tools (e.g., PECs, AAC devices).
 - Practical demonstrations with tactile and visual aids to enhance understanding.
- The school will work collaboratively with providers to adapt materials and approaches to ensure meaningful participation for every pupil. We encourage providers to contact the school to discuss appropriate adaptations.

3. Safeguarding Requirements:

- All providers must adhere to the school's safeguarding policies. In addition, they should demonstrate understanding of working with PMLD and SLD pupils, ensuring their safety, dignity, and comfort throughout sessions.

4. Facilities and Support:

- The school will provide tailored spaces and resources, including sensory-friendly environments, assistive technologies, and support from trained staff to facilitate provider activities.

Management of Provider Access Requests

At Lexden Springs School the Provider Access Legislation is linked to our Careers programme. Each encounter is planned carefully ensuring that students have access to meaningful information about education provision.

Where learners' options are limited due to the nature of their specific learning needs and/or physical ability encounters for young people with PMLD/SLD will typically consist of adult social care.

Providers should contact: Emily Cornell
Email: careers@lexdenssprings.essex.sch.uk
Phone: 01206 563321

Monitoring and Feedback

Regular evaluations of provider engagements will be conducted to assess their suitability and impact for all student inclusive of PMLD/SLD pupils. Feedback from staff, parents and pupils will be used to refine and improve future sessions

Complaints

Any concerns or complaints related to provider access can be addressed to Katie Smith via admin@lexdenssprings.essex.sch.uk and will be handled in line with the school's Complaints Policy.