Provider Access Policy Statement- Stone Lodge Therapeutic School

While independent schools are not legally bound by the Provider Access Legislation (PAL), this document reflects our commitment to the Gatsby Benchmarks and best practice for pupils with SEND.

Intent

Stone Lodge Therapeutic School is committed to providing a highly ambitious and individualised careers programme. While we are an independent special school, we choose to follow the principles of the Provider Access Legislation (PAL) and the Gatsby Benchmarks to ensure our pupils have full access to information about technical education, apprenticeships, and vocational pathways.

Pupil Entitlement

We aim to ensure all pupils in Years 8–11 have access to meaningful encounters with education and training providers. These encounters are designed to:

- **Broaden Horizons:** Introduce pupils to technical qualifications, T-Levels, and apprenticeships.
- **Support Transition:** Help pupils understand the practicalities of post-16 training environments.
- **Promote Inclusion:** Focus on pathways that offer additional support, such as Supported Internships.

Management of Provider Access Requests

A provider wishing to request access should contact the school's Careers Lead or Head of School. Due to our therapeutic ethos, all visits must be planned in collaboration with school staff to ensure they meet the sensory and emotional needs of our pupils.

- **Head of school**: Kerry Williams (kerry.williams@stonelodgeschool.org)
- **Careers Lead**: Alice Girdlestone (alice.girdlestone@stonelodgeschool.org).
- **Phone**: 01536 904277.

Opportunities for Access

We offer several opportunities for providers to engage with our pupils, including:

- **World of Work Workshops and Presentations**: Focused presentations linked to curriculum and enrichment projects (e.g. Enterprise, D of E, subject specific lessons)

- **Vocational Workshops**: Practical demonstrations linked to specific sectors (e.g., Mechanics, Beauty).
- **Transition Planning**: Meetings with pupils and parents to discuss post-16 choices.

Premises and Facilities

The school will make a suitable space available for discussions between the provider and pupils, as appropriate to the activity. This may include:

- Quiet meeting rooms
- Audio-visual equipment
- Workshop access prior to it being open

Approval and Review

Approved by the Governing Body on: 14/10/2026
Next review: October 2026