



Darlington 11 - 19 Partnership

## Alternative Education Framework Protocol

### Introduction

The Alternative Education Framework holds a list of approved alternative education providers for use by schools in Darlington. Education providers can apply to be part of the framework, and following approval, will be added to the Alternative Education Framework Catalogue. The catalogue is refreshed every 2 years.

The framework is for use by schools which are seeking alternative education for children and young people who are excluded from school or who otherwise need to be educated outside of a school setting. Being a part of the framework does not guarantee that services will be commissioned by schools.

Schools and Alternative Education Providers will be subject to the requirements of the [11 – 19 Collaborative Protocols](#).

### Procedure

To apply to be part of the Alternative Education Framework, a provider is asked to complete the [Alternative Education Framework application form](#) and email it to [eleonor.marshall@darlington.gov.uk](mailto:eleonor.marshall@darlington.gov.uk).

Darlington Borough Council's Inclusion Lead Officer will contact the applicant to arrange a Safeguarding and Health & Safety visit at the alternative education provider's premises.

The Inclusion Lead Officer will complete the relevant visit reports which include any recommendations relating to safeguarding and Health & Safety. Once the recommendations have been implemented, the Inclusion Lead Officer will recommend to the Vulnerable Pupil Panel (VPP) that the provider is admitted onto the framework. The provider will be added to the Alternative Education Framework Catalogue following approval at a VPP meeting.

Schools will contact providers directly to begin using their services.

To remain on the framework, providers will undergo an annual Safeguarding and Health & Safety visit, and when Darlington pupils are in attendance at the alternative education provider, there will be half-yearly quality assurance

visits, including lesson observations and student voice questionnaires, and an annual report produced for the 11 – 19 Partnership, in accordance with the [11 – 19 Quality Assurance Protocol](#).

Alternative Education Providers will be subject to the requirements of the [11 – 19 Collaborative Protocols](#).

If a provider would like to be removed from the framework at any time, they are asked to email [eleanor.marshall@darlington.gov.uk](mailto:eleanor.marshall@darlington.gov.uk) with this request.