

ETON STAR  
Partnership

# Senior Project Manager



# Eton Star Partnership

The Eton Star Partnership was established in 2021 to combine the experience and talents of two high performing educational organisations for the benefit of disadvantaged young people whose contexts make them less likely than their peers to progress to top-flight universities. It embodies the moral imperative shared by Eton College and Star Academies to transform the life chances of these students through the provision of an outstanding education.

The purpose of the Eton Star Partnership is to realise the potential when the best of the state sector and the best of the independent sector combine, to offer outstanding education in the broadest sense to young people. We firmly believe that this partnership can set a groundbreaking agenda to show what might be possible through the power of partnership and shared goals.

The aligned ambitions and aspirations of the partnership's leaders are boundless: transforming the lives of disadvantaged young people by creating opportunities, spurring social mobility, closing the recognised north-south attainment divide and leading metamorphosis of the education sector through academically credible research and development.

A key objective of the Eton Star Partnership is the opening of new sixth forms in national 'cold spots' funded through the government's free schools programme. These establishments will attract young people with high potential and provide them with an excellent academic education alongside a strong co-curricular offer and complemented by the personal support and tuition that will equip them to take up places at Russell Group and Ivy League universities, or on prestigious degree apprenticeships with reputable global companies. The colleges will also fulfil a civic role, working in partnership with local schools to raise standards, thereby supporting regeneration.

In December 2025, the DfE announced that the Eton Star Partnership's bids to establish sixth forms in Dudley and Oldham have been successful. The bidding process included extensive consultation with stakeholders in the two localities to gauge the level of need and local support.

The sixth forms are now in the pre-opening phase, with high expectations of what can be achieved through dynamic partnership working.





# Eton College

Eton College is a charity for the advancement of education. At its heart sits an independent boys' boarding school which leads a dynamic range of educational activities and an expanding network of educational partnerships. The charity's primary purpose, determined from its Christian foundation in 1440, is to draw out the best of young people's talents and to enable them to flourish and make a positive impact on others through

the course of a healthy, happy and fulfilling life. Eton combines a rich history with forward-looking pedagogical development through the Tony Little Centre for Innovation and Research in Learning (CIRL).







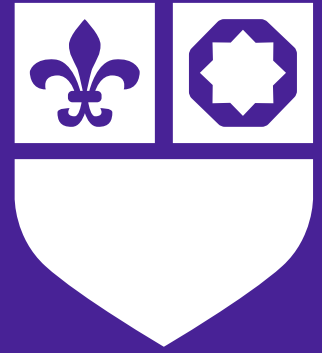
# Star Academies

Star Academies is one of the country's leading multi-academy trusts, serving communities in disadvantaged areas of the country. Star is a values-driven organisation whose powerful vision of social mobility permeates the entire organisation. The trust focuses relentlessly on securing first-class outcomes for young people, closing attainment gaps to empower disadvantaged pupils and boosting their life chances. Star's signature pupil leadership specialism provides exceptional opportunities

and experiences that build pupils' confidence, self-esteem and happiness. Several of its 36 schools regularly feature at the top of the DfE's performance tables for Progress 8 and attendance, and many have been judged outstanding by Ofsted. The trust is a founder partner of the flagship National Institute for Teaching and has a reputation for inclusivity and civic leadership as well as high academic standards.



# The Eton Star sixth form offer



Each sixth form will offer 480 places (240 per year group), catering for young people with high academic potential.

The sixth forms will offer an **intensive academic curriculum**, focused on A level subjects favoured by top universities, along with the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). We will produce online courses designed to secure students' mastery of threshold concepts, to extend and deepen their knowledge and understanding. Students' learning will be regularly assessed, leading to expert intervention at the point of need.

**World class teaching** will be crucial to the sixth forms' accomplishment of their mission. The curriculum will be taught by academic experts who will benefit from the support of the National Institute of Teaching (NlOT), of which Star Academies is a founding partner, and Eton's Centre for Innovation and Research in Learning (CIRL). High quality professional development will ensure that they remain at the forefront as pedagogy evolves.

An **enriching co-curriculum** will be a mandatory component of each student's programme. Their academic learning will be complemented by excellent experiences in the arts, music and sports. Students will enjoy residential experiences at Eton College and sporting competitions at Dorney Lake.

Promoting students' happiness, resilience and mental wellbeing is of central importance and will be manifested in the colleges' **character development programme**, comprising personal development tutorials and a plethora of opportunities for students to support their local communities, such as by mentoring younger pupils in local high schools. This work will be recognised by the Eton Star Diploma.

Students' learning will be supported by **innovative technology**, including artificial intelligence to augment their learning.

The sixth forms will systematically prepare young people for undergraduate study at top universities through an **intensive university progression pathway**, developed in collaboration with CIRL. This will include teaching that fosters inquiry and independence, mentoring by undergraduates, a programme of university visits and joint projects with Russell Group and Ivy League partners as well as global companies offering cutting-edge degree apprenticeships.

The colleges will epitomise **place-based civic leadership**. We expect them to be academic powerhouses playing a crucial role in transforming their localities.



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