

# The University of Buckingham iDE

## School Partnership Programme Application

### About the University of Buckingham Programmes

Using the latest edtech, we provide accessible, relevant, and effective training directly to school leaders and teachers' smartphones. This training is complemented by guidance from local expert mentors to help educators tackle daily challenges in their schools.

The programmes were designed by an international team from the UK, Nigeria, and India to equip educators with pedagogical, leadership and mentoring skills. The programmes run throughout the regular academic calendar, allowing educators to practise and perfect what they learn on the school programmes.

For more information about the University of Buckingham's programmes check our website at [www.ubttp.com](http://www.ubttp.com).

### Introducing the School Partnership Scheme

The University of Buckingham School Partnership Scheme is a global community of schools committed to improving the quality of their teaching and learning. The scheme helps school leaders and teachers identify and respond to the many opportunities and challenges of daily school life. It has been designed to give practical and commensurate 21st-century training based on research.

**Partnership with UoB is key to school and teacher improvement. In addition to participating in the iDE for teachers, partner schools have access to additional courses available exclusively for our partner schools: the “International Diploma in School Leadership” and the “International Diploma in School Mentoring”. Partner schools also have ongoing links and additional input from UoB and can promote themselves as a**

“partner school” in their outreach. The school partnership agreement is awarded for one year after which it can be renewed.

## There are 2 tracks available at the moment:

1. If you are a school where the leader/senior leader and the teachers have already graduated from the iDE before September 2024, you can apply for the Graduate Partnership Scheme.
2. If you are a school that is joining the iDE this year, you can apply for the Pathway to Partnership Scheme.

### 1. Graduate Partnership Scheme

#### ONLY available to iDE graduate schools

There are 5 requirements, all of which need to be met fully, for a school to qualify as an official graduate partner:

1. At least 10% of their current staff should be teachers or leaders who have already graduated from the iDE program, helping ensure that graduates remain on staff to sustain the training’s impact.

*We understand that when iDE graduates leave the school, eligibility can be affected. However, we found that it's essential that there is some consistent level of participation from current teachers to maintain the long-term benefits of the programme.*

2. Additionally, at least 20% of their teachers must begin the iDE programme when they apply to become a Partner School (e.g, starting in January 2025).
3. Overall, 50% of their current teachers should either be iDE graduates or actively enrolled in the program.
4. A senior leader (in teaching and learning) from the school registers for the “*International Diploma in School Leadership*” starting in January 2025 to ensure oversight of the implementation across the school.

5. In the year in which they apply for partnership (i.e. after January 2025), they commit to actively supporting their teachers' enrolment in/involvement in the programme. This may take the form of one or more of the following:
  - i. Paying all or a proportion of their teachers' programme fees.
  - ii. Taking positive account of successful implementation and completion of the course in teachers' annual reviews / annual performance evaluation.
  - iii. Involving the PTA to reward notable students' transformation through teachers' outstanding performance on the programme.
6. Must have a demonstrably good reputation with government authorities, parents and the host community as demonstrated by interviews with these stakeholders by the UoB team.

## 2. Pathway to Partnership Scheme

**ONLY available to schools who are joining the iDE for the first time**

There are 4 requirements, all of which need to be met fully, for a school to qualify for an official foundation partner:

1. At least 50% of their present teaching staff join the iDE in the year in which they are applying to become a Partner School (i.e. in January 2025).

For teachers who are interested in mentoring on the iDE, they are invited to apply for the "International Diploma in Mentoring".

2. A senior leader (in teaching and learning) from the school registers for the "*International Diploma in School Leadership*" starting in January 2025 to ensure oversight of the implementation across the school.
3. In the year in which they apply for partnership (i.e. after January 2025), they commit to actively supporting their teachers' enrolment in/involvement in the programme. This may take the form of one or more of the following:
  - i. Paying all or a proportion of their teachers' programme fees.

- ii. Taking positive account of successful implementation and completion of the course in teachers' annual reviews / annual performance evaluation.
  - iii. Involving the PTA to reward notable students' transformation through teachers' outstanding performance on the programme.
4. Must have a demonstrably good reputation with government authorities, parents and the host community as demonstrated by interviews with these stakeholders by the UoB team.

## Benefits for Partner Schools

The University of Buckingham School Partnership Scheme can offer the following:

1. A Diploma from the University of Buckingham as an official Graduate or Foundation “Partner School” (dated for the year of partnership) that can be renewed after re-evaluation from the UoB team.
2. Exclusive access to register on our *NEW* courses, the “*International Diploma in School Leadership*” and the “*International Diploma in Mentoring*”.
3. The Partner Schools will be listed on the UoB iDE official website on the “Partner schools” page, and join our global network of partner schools.
4. Participate in exclusive events for our network, including our yearly Global School Champions Conference in Lagos/Abuja, Nigeria, and our Holiday Camp for Enhanced Literacy and Numeracy.
5. Free participation in the monthly UoB webinars.
6. Our partner schools' Diplomas will be rated as gold, silver, and bronze based on pupils' transformation and parents' satisfaction brought by our collaboration and renewed yearly.

## Additional Involvement

Partner schools also get the exclusive opportunity to join and support our UoB team as:

1. As a place for ongoing research into the impact of the programme on the pupils and the school at the level of enrolment, progress and outcomes.
2. As a place where good practice can be highlighted and implementation modelled. This will be showcased in our network and our website.
3. As an official UoB iDE exam centre where trainees can go and be invigilated for their yearly exams.

## Application

Schools need to complete an application form with the school name, address and owner's name. Also the names and registration numbers of their teachers who had passed the course (with their dates) and/or the name of the present mentor. The name (and registration number) of the present teacher on the programme. And an explanation of the nature of their support for the teacher(s) on the programme.

This inaugural year, there will be no joining fee to the school or the teachers, but the commitment of the school principal/head teacher and school owner to the scheme is required and is outlined in the paragraph above on requirements.

The first phase - registration application online with a fee - apply before the **18th of January, 2025**.

The second phase - if you succeed in the first phase, you will be invited for a school visit and interviews (with school leaders, teachers and pupils) in **February 2025**.

Final decisions will be communicated in **February 2025** via email.

The "Partner School" status lasts 1 year, after which it is reviewed to be rated. After that, the status can be renewed on a biannual basis if the school continues to meet the requirements of the scheme.

## Contact Us

If you encounter any challenges during the application process, kindly contact us Mondays – Fridays, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM:

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