

---

# Student Protection Plan 2024/25

---

# Student Protection Plan 2024/25

## Introduction: what is the Dyson Institute's Student Protection Plan?

This Student Protection Plan is designed to address the specific risks to the continuation of studies of those students who enrol on degrees provided and delivered by the Dyson Institute.

This Student Protection Plan sets out the measures we have in place to protect our students in the event that a risk to the continuation of their studies should arise. The type of events or changes, which might cause such a risk, are detailed below.

This Student Protection Plan has been submitted to our regulator, the Office for Students, for approval and will be made available to all current and prospective students.

Students who are registered on any Dyson Institute programme (e.g. those whose studies commenced on or after September 2021) are covered by this Student Protection Plan.

---

## Our commitments to you

We commit to:

- Being open and transparent with you should any risk to the continuity of your programme of studies arise, and informing you in a timely manner;
- Taking reasonable steps to protect your studies should we be required to discontinue a programme or close the Dyson Institute altogether;
- Consulting with students and considering students' views before deciding to implement any substantial changes to their programme of studies;
- Taking into consideration the individual needs of all our students and the impact on them of any proposed changes and protective measures; and
- Informing the Office for Students of any changes that may necessitate a review of this Student Protection Plan or any of the measures contained within it.

---

## Advice and support

In the unlikely event that this Student Protection Plan needs to be implemented, you will be notified directly by the Director of the Dyson Institute. Advice and support will be offered by a dedicated team of staff.

---

## Questions and feedback

If you have any thoughts, concerns, or feedback in relation to this plan, please contact the Dyson Institute's Secretary and Registrar via [viadominic.stone@dyson.com](mailto:viadominic.stone@dyson.com).

---

## Complaints

In the event that you have complaints when this Student Protection Plan is implemented, you should raise them directly via email to the Director of the Dyson Institute.

Provider's name: Dyson Technical Training Ltd. (T/A Dyson Institute of Engineering and Technology)

Provider's UKPRN: 10067355

Legal address: Dyson Technical Training Ltd., Tetbury Hill, Malmesbury, SN16 0RP

---

# Student Protection Plan 2024/25

This Student Protection Plan refers on several occasions to a commercial agreement with Dyson Technology Ltd. There is a commercial agreement in place between the Dyson Institute and Dyson Technology Ltd which enables the Institute's operations.

The risks to the continuation of studies of those students who enrol on degrees provided and delivered by the Dyson Institute are considered below. An explanation of the steps taken to mitigate those risks most likely to materialise are found in Section Two of this Student Protection Plan.

The Institute is confident that its management of risk, is robust. At institution-level, the Secretary and Registrar operates a risk cycle through which a risk register and accompanying action plan is reviewed monthly by the Institute Management Board and quarterly by Council.

---

## 1. An assessment of the range of risks to the continuation of study for our students, how those risks may differ based on our students' needs, characteristics and circumstances, and the likelihood that those risks will crystallise.

We consider, having reviewed our corporate risk register and for reasons outlined below, that the following risks are unlikely.

---

### Closure of the Dyson Institute due to Dyson Technology Ltd.'s withdrawal of support

#### **Risk Assessment: Highly Unlikely**

The risk that the Dyson Institute must cease its operations for reasons of financial viability is very unlikely to emerge as it has in place a commercial agreement, for the provision of educational services, with Dyson Technology Ltd. Dyson Technology Ltd.'s most recent financial performance *from 2022, show a turnover of £5.57bn and a pre-tax profit of £812.4m for the year.* As such, Dyson Technology Ltd is deemed to have more than sufficient funds to honour the commercial agreement.

Should Dyson Technology Ltd wish to exit the commercial agreement through which it provides the financial, venue and back-office support on which the Dyson Institute depends, this termination will be phased. This means that all students enrolled at the Dyson Institute at the time this decision is taken will be able to complete the entirety of their studies – on the Dyson Institute campus. Should Dyson Technology Ltd be unable to, for any reason, honour its commitment to a phased termination, the Dyson Institute is protected by a parental guarantee with Weybourne Holdings Pte Limited which would take upon these financial obligations.

---

## Material changes to course content

### Risk Assessment: Unlikely

The Institute will adhere to the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA)'s guidelines for higher education, relating to the provision of information and forming a contract at distance. In the unlikely event that material changes (such as a number of changes to the structure of the programme, or the removal or addition of a number of modules) are made to a programme between application and assessment, the Dyson Institute will draw these changes to the attention of applicants as soon as possible and advise them of their right to withdraw their application and seek entry to another institution. Where an applicant has already accepted an offer, they will be given all necessary information, advice and guidance and will also be advised as to possible courses of action.

The Dyson Institute will avoid, if at all possible, making material changes to programmes after registration. Where this is unavoidable, students will be consulted at the earliest opportunity. Details of the circumstances and how consultation will be conducted are set out in the Institute's Programme Review and Modification Policy. If a student reasonably believes that a material change to their programme adversely affects them, they may cancel their contract with the Dyson Institute, and the Dyson Institute will offer guidance as to the student's options. If possible, the Dyson Institute will facilitate their transfer to another institution, by issuing a transcript of any achieved credits, which offers an appropriate programme for which they are qualified. The practice of the Institute is in line with the regulations of the Competitions and Markets Authority.

---

## Dyson Institute student dismissed from employment with Dyson Technology Ltd

### Risk Assessment: Unlikely

A student's place at the Dyson Institute is contingent upon their employment with Dyson Technology Ltd: this is clearly stated in their contract. The Dyson Institute's academic experience is designed to be integrated with employment at Dyson Technology Ltd: Dyson Institute students are given workplace rotations and workplace tasks designed to put their academic theory into practice, and directly support their learning. Within their programme, Dyson Institute students will work on coursework that directly relates to their workplace project, meaning they will not be able to participate in necessary academic work if dismissed.

It is very unlikely that a Dyson Institute student would be dismissed from employment. The Dyson Institute has an agreement with Dyson Technology Ltd that their disciplinary treatment of Dyson Institute students will be commensurate with their status as students, as well as employees – particularly with regards to performance. Members of the Dyson Institute's Management Board will be involved in any disciplinary meetings held by Dyson Technology Ltd with Dyson Institute students, so that they can ensure this agreement is upheld. Any issues relating to their behaviour outside of employment (both at offsite or social events or in their Dyson-owned accommodation) will be dealt with by the Dyson Institute, not Dyson Technology Ltd.

---

## Deregistration or loss of Time Limited Full Taught Degree Awarding Powers

### Risk Assessment: Highly Unlikely

It is possible that the Dyson Institute may be deregistered with the Office for Students but this is considered highly unlikely. The Institute has effective governance arrangements in place, which includes the Compliance

and Monitoring Group reviewing the Institute's compliance with the Conditions of Registration twice per year. This assessment is shared with Council annually.

It is deemed highly unlikely that the Institute will lose its Degree Awarding Powers.. In the event that the Dyson Institute is deregistered with the Office for Students, or its Degree Awarding Powers are revoked, this would likely occur on a phased basis and the Dyson Institute will teach out its current students. Due to the specific and unique delivery model of the Institute's programmes, it would not be possible to engage another higher education provider to deliver any programmes.

---

## Dyson Institute teaching spaces are unavailable

### Risk Assessment: Highly Unlikely

The Dyson Institute's teaching spaces, while owned by Dyson Technology Ltd, are provided via a commercial agreement, which also enshrines that Dyson Technology Ltd will provide the premises, equipment and facilities necessary in order for the Dyson Institute to fulfil its Higher Education provision requirements.

It is possible that additional teaching spaces will not be available due to delays in building projects – a failure to have additional teaching space ready in time for a new cohort may in some cases mean that the continuation of studies may be prevented. It is also possible that teaching or other essential premises may become unavailable for health and safety reasons.

---

## Absence of key staff members

### Risk Assessment: Unlikely

The Institute has built a strong staff body which covers both academic delivery and management of the Institute. Whilst it is always possible that key staff choose to leave the Institute, there are sufficient notice periods to cover the Institute's requirements. Where staff are absent due to long term sickness, the Institute has dedicated budget to contract external support staff where it is required.

---

## De-registration from the Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers / loss of levy income

### Risk Assessment: Highly Unlikely

Learners who enrolled between September 2021 and September 2023 are also apprentices. There is a low risk that the Dyson Institute may be de-registered the Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers. This would result in the Dyson Institute being unable to draw down on the apprenticeship levy to pay for its off-the-job training and degree provision to students. If the Institute was de-registered, it would continue to fund apprentices to complete their programme.

---

## Transferring to other HE providers

### Risk Assessment: Highly Unlikely

Dyson Institute students may be unable to directly transfer into an equivalent year of an equivalent course at another HE provider. This is because the Dyson Institute teaches a four-year BEng degree in engineering. This is unusual: BEng degrees of this nature at most universities would take three years. However, the unique and highly desirable combination of academic learning and real work at the Dyson Institute means that an additional year is necessary for successful completion of the degree: compressing the degree into three years would run a significant risk of adversely impacting student welfare. This means, however, that a student would not have sufficient knowledge, nor evidenced achievement of the expected 120 credits, at the end of their first year to transfer directly into the second year of an engineering degree at another university. Students enrolled on the MEng Engineering programme from September 2024 will be able to demonstrate 120 credits achieved per year, if they have been awarded those credits by the Board of Examiners.

---

## 2. The measures that we have put in place to mitigate those risks that we consider to be reasonably likely to crystallise

---

### **Dyson Institute teaching spaces are unavailable**

In the event that premises necessary to deliver teaching are not ready in time, or become unavailable due to health and safety or other reasons, the Dyson Institute is protected by a commercial agreement with Dyson Technology Ltd. This agreement states that Dyson Technology Ltd will find alternative premises and resource necessary for the Dyson Institute to conduct its activities.



---

### 3. Information about how we will communicate with students about our student protection plan

We will publicise our Student Protection Plan to current and future students by publishing it on the Dyson Institute website. It will also be referenced in our student handbook, will be highlighted during new students' induction period, and will be available on the Dyson Institute's Virtual Learning Environment and intranet.

The Dyson Institute's Secretary and Registrar, has responsibility for ensuring the Student Protection Plan is maintained and its provisions observed. Academic Board is responsible for the academic management of the Dyson Institute and approves all material course changes. As such, the Secretary and Registrar will be able to ensure that staff are aware of the implications of the Student Protection Plan when they consider course changes – or any other material academic changes.

We will review our Student Protection Plan annually. We will involve the Dyson Institute's students in the review through the Joint Meetings of IMB and UEC: the purpose and provisions of the Student Protection Plan will be explained to the members of that committee who will review its content and, discuss with their peers and provide feedback to the Secretary and Registrar.

In the event that we need to implement the measures outlined in our Student Protection Plan, we will take the following actions:

- Notify all students within five working days of a decision being made to close the Dyson Institute or one of its courses and explain the resulting action;
- Immediately thereafter, hold a consultation meeting with all students to further explain the decision and next steps. This session will also be used to understand the key questions and concerns of the students, so that appropriate support can be put in place;
- All staff will be fully briefed on the measure and its implications. A team of academic staff will be required to make themselves entirely available to hold individual meetings with Dyson Institute students and provide advice;
- The Dyson Institute will also consult appropriate external organisations, and will invite such organisations to provide independent support to its students.