

## Oxford Business College overturns Department for Education ruling over access to student loans

August 25, 2025

A High Court judge has ruled that the Secretary of State for Education's decision to stop our degree students from accessing student loans was unlawful.

After a two-day hearing last week, Mrs Justice Naomi Ellenbogen described the Department for Education's process in reaching its decision as "*Kafkaesque*" and its witness statement as "*materially misleading*".

In April this year, the Education Secretary, Ms Bridget Phillipson, decided to prevent our new students from accessing government-backed loans. She also ordered that existing students had until 31 August to transfer to courses at partner providers. Many have already done so.

**We challenged her decision in court because we have always maintained that it was unlawful. We are grateful that her entire decision has now been quashed.**

We believe that all hardworking students deserve the opportunity to continue their studies without interference or disruption. We are now urgently engaging with all our partner institutions regarding the future of our students.

We assure you that our College rigorously adheres to all regulatory requirements and works closely with partner universities and authorities to ensure full compliance with academic and financial regulations.

For now, we kindly ask that you remain calm and patient as we navigate the next steps with our partner institutions: the Buckinghamshire New University, University of West London, Ravensbourne University London, and New College Durham.

We will provide you with further information regarding your studies and any necessary arrangements as soon as possible.

Thank you for your understanding and support during these difficult times. We look forward to sharing more updates with you soon.

**Oxford Business College**

On behalf of the Board and Senior Leadership Team