

Widening Access & Participation

About Us

- 15 staff (5 working on summer school programmes)
- 35 Durham Student Ambassadors
- ~550 per year attend a Durham summer school

Programmes at Durham

- Supported Progression, Sutton Trust, STEP
- Schools engagement, regional SMS
- UniConnect, FutureMe
- Care Leavers Covenant, NERAP

Key Groups

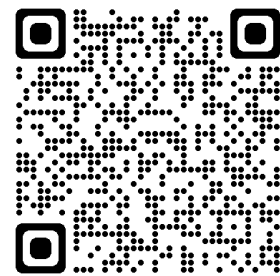
- Care-experienced and estranged (CEES) and young carers
- Low participation neighbourhoods (POLAR)
- Socioeconomic deprivation (ACORN)
- Students eligible for free school meals (FSM)
- Ethnicity (Black-heritage, GTRSB)



Supported Progression (SP)

- An access programme for year 12 students from the North East, North West, and Yorkshire and Humber
- Multiple activities across year 12 and 13, including residential visits and online webinars
- Stay in one of our Durham colleges and participate in a varied social and academic programme representative of university life
- Chat to current Durham students and receive support with decision making and applying to university
- Guaranteed alternative offer to Durham upon successful completion of the programme (typically two grades lower than the usual entry requirements)

Applications open from 1 February 2024 – 12 April 2024



Scan to visit the
SP webpage
and apply!

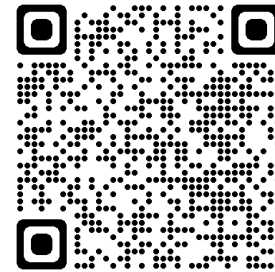
'I've had the opportunity to meet students from similar backgrounds with similar aspirations, many of which I am still regularly in contact with. It has been an amazing chance to learn more about what Durham has to offer, both academically and socially.'

-SP 2023 Participant

Space to Explore Potential (STEP)

- A dedicated space for young Black-heritage students in year 12 to explore not only their own potential, but all that Durham has to offer as a potential university destination.
- Stay in one of our Durham colleges and participate in a varied social and academic programme representative of university life
- Chat to current Durham students and receive support with decision making and applying to university
- Guaranteed alternative offer to Durham upon successful completion of the programme (typically two grades lower than the usual entry requirements)

Applications open from 8 February 2024 – 19 April 2024



**Scan to visit the
STEP webpage
and apply!**

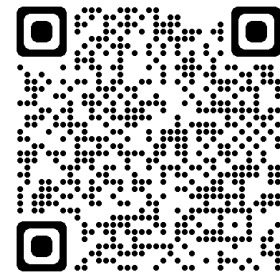
"Of Course! There is so many black people in one place, it feels like home. Durham is an area where black people are a minority compared to areas such as London and Manchester, so this programme really allows you to make friends before you even get into the university. It feels like family. The first day - everyone gets to know each other, and from then on, you just talk to everyone like you have known them for years."

-STEP 2023 Participant

Sutton Trust (ST)

- Designed to give bright students from under-represented backgrounds the chance to experience what it is like to be a student at a leading university.
- Stay in one of our Durham colleges and participate in a varied social and academic programme representative of university life
- Chat to current Durham students and receive support with decision making and applying to university
- Guaranteed alternative offer to Durham upon successful completion of the programme (typically two grades lower than the usual entry requirements)

Applications open from 9 January 2024 – 7 March 2024



Scan to visit the
Durham Sutton
Trust webpage

“The programme genuinely changed my whole perception on university, and provided me with the eagerness to begin university! I met so many friends, and all the student ambassadors were fabulous, a little side note the food was fab! And the academic sessions really reminded me why I am so passionate about my subject.”

-Sutton Trust 2023 Participant

Alternative and Contextual Offers

Contextual Offers

- Meeting two criteria:
 - POLAR Q1 or 2
 - ACORN Q4 or 5
 - UK state school
 - Receipt of free school meals
 - Care experienced or estranged
- Don't need to apply separately
- Don't use school postcode in UCAS
- Referees include evidence of FSM/CEES
- Home fee status

Guaranteed Alternative Offers

- Students who complete Supported Progression, Sutton Trust, or STEP
- Home fee status
- Typically 2 A-level grades lower than standard offer
- Can only receive one of these



How can teachers help?

- Promotion
- Identifying eligible students
- Support with applications
- Teacher verification

Access Programmes at Durham

Supported Progression: a programme for year 12 students from the North-East, North West and Yorkshire and Humber to show their potential in a different way. **Applications close 12 April 2024.**



STEP: a dedicated space for young Black-heritage students in year 12 to explore not only their own potential, but all that Durham has to offer. **Applications close 19 April 2024.**



Sutton Trust: designed to give bright year 12 students from under-represented backgrounds the chance to experience what it is like to be a student at a leading university. **Applications close 7 March 2024.**



- Stay in one of our Durham colleges and participate in a varied social and academic programme representative of university life
- Chat to current Durham students and receive support with applying to university
- Guaranteed alternative offer to Durham upon successful completion of one of our programmes (typically two grades lower than the usual entry requirements)