

Value for Money Statement (May 2025)

The Kingham Hill Trust (Oak Hill College): UKPRN 10010227

Provider Name	The Kingham Hill Trust (Oak Hill College)
UKPRN	10010227
Principal Address	Address for Oak Hill College (<i>where courses are delivered</i>) Oak Hill College, Chase Side, Southgate, London N14 4PS Tel: (020) 8449 0467 Website: www.oakhill.ac.uk
Legal Address	Address for the Kingham Hill Trust Kingham Hill School, Kingham, Chipping Norton, Oxon OX7 6TH Tel: (01608) 658999
Charity Number	1076618
Company Number	365812
Approval by (with date of approval)	Oak Hill College Leadership Team: 02.05.2025 Finance & General Purposes Committee: 12.05.2025 Chair of the Kingham Hill Trust: 12.05.2025
Next Review	2026

Introduction

Oak Hill College is a theological college based in North London which aims to help prepare students from Anglican and Independent churches for Christian ministry in today's world. The College has around 80 students, and currently offers courses from Level 4 (CertHE) to Level 7 (Postgraduate) on the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. It is a Validated Partner of Middlesex University and will become a Validated Partner of Durham University from September 2025, and its programmes offer vocational training for a range of ministries in Anglican and Independent churches in the UK and overseas. Durham awards will range from Level 4 (Foundation Award) to Level 7 (Postgraduate).

The purpose of this Statement is to provide information for students (both current and prospective) about the extent to which we at Oak Hill believe that we are providing value for money. The College and the Kingham Hill Trust (the registered charity which operates Oak Hill) are both committed to offering value for money as part of our stewardship of the resources that the Lord has provided for us by various means, and the following Value for Money Statement should be read with that commitment in mind.

Value for Money Statement

The Kingham Hill Trust is confident that Oak Hill College is providing value for money, as demonstrated by:

- High quality teaching: as reflected in both internal and national surveys; in the recent Validation Report produced by Durham University; and through assessment by the Quality Assurance Agency¹ and by the House of Bishops during the College's most recent Periodic External Review²;
- High student satisfaction rates, for example:
 - ✓ In their Student Evaluation Forms for 2023-24, 100% of respondents agreed that their programme had contributed to their personal development and 93% agreed that what they had learned would benefit their future ministries ;
 - ✓ In the National Student Survey, overall satisfaction stood at 94% (up from the previous year),³ while outcomes in relation to teaching quality, learning opportunities, marking and assessment, student support and learning resources were all above sector averages;
- Ongoing strong relationships with former students as employers, placement supervisors and ministers in sending churches, and as visiting lecturers/academic staff;
- Formative opportunities including placements, missions and engagement with the local community (for example through schools work and local sports clubs);
- A strong College community with support for families including community space, community events, access to classes through auditing lectures, in addition to standalone teaching events which are free for college spouses and also open to those in local churches and the community;
- Research, publications and public speaking activity on the part of College teaching staff, along with a planned programme of study leave: all of this contributes to research-led teaching and learning activity in the classroom as well as serving the wider Church;
- Learning support, including study skills sessions, support for students with specific learning difficulties and disabilities, and the recording of lectures for student use;
- Significant investment in pastoral support to ensure a commitment to students' physical, emotional, mental and spiritual development;
- A specialist Library providing theological and specialist support for learning and research: it is particularly noteworthy that, in the 2024 NSS, 100% of respondents agreed that the Library resources had supported their learning well compared with a national average of 90%;⁴
- Good facilities with substantial investment in buildings and facilities: the College has audio-visual (AV) equipment in each of the five largest rooms to enable synchronous teaching in the classroom and on Zoom;
- The College's location within the M25, affording excellent access to Central London and to a wide range of placement churches in rural, urban and inner-city settings;

¹ The most recent QAA Review took place in 2019 and the report can be found here: <https://www.qaa.ac.uk/reviewing-higher-education/quality-assurance-reports/The-Kingham-Hill-Trust-t-a-Oak-Hill-College>. Although Higher Education Institutions are no longer subject to annual QAA Review, the reports demonstrate the College's engagement with the QAA from 2012 to 2019.

² The most recent Periodic External Review took place in 2022, and the report can be found on the Church of England website: [oak-hill-per-report.pdf \(oakhill.ac.uk\)](http://oak-hill-per-report.pdf (oakhill.ac.uk))

³ See: <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/student-information-and-data/national-student-survey-nss/nss-data-provider-level/> National Student Survey data: provider-level dashboard - Office for Students

⁴ See: [National Student Survey data: provider-level dashboard - Office for Students](https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/student-information-and-data/national-student-survey-nss/nss-data-provider-level/)

- A stunning 60-acre campus, that provides the space students need in order to study, debate, reflect, pray and grow in love for Christ in the fellowship of others.

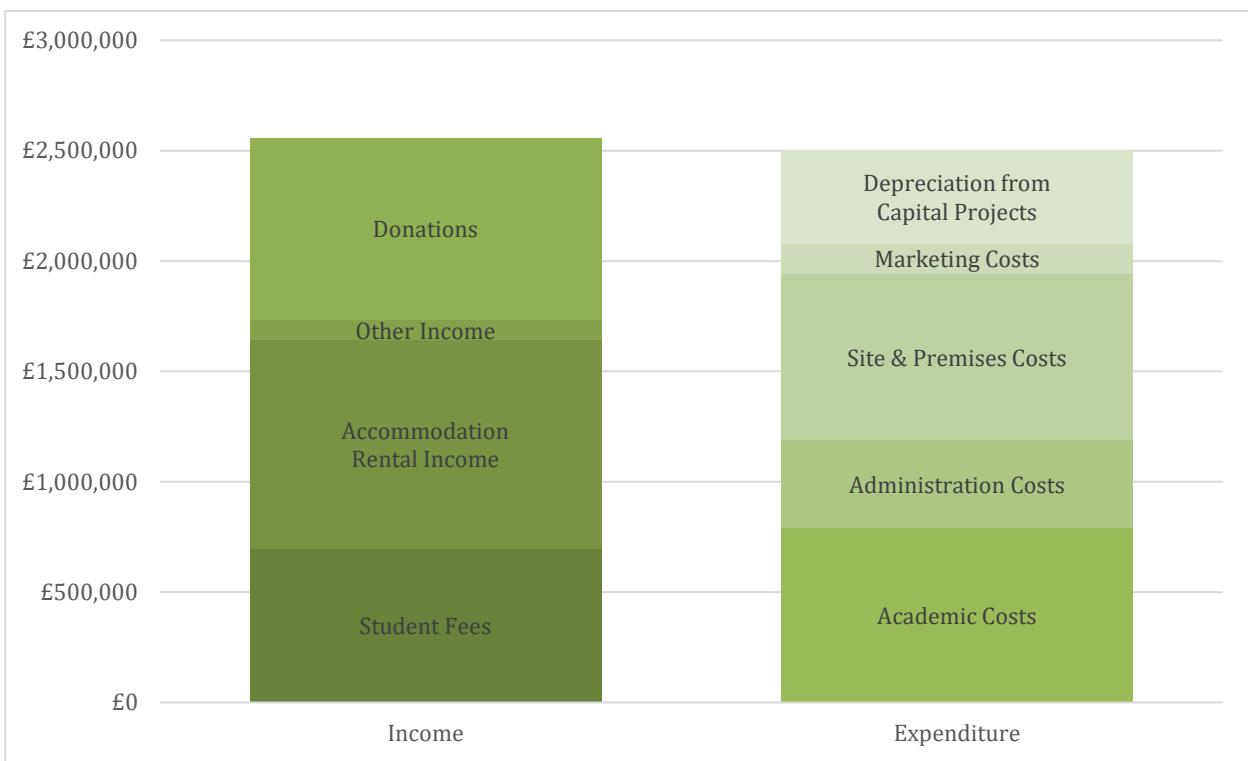
When Oak Hill College first opened in 1932, its mission was ground-breaking. According to the Trust's Foundation Declaration, the aim of the College was "training men and women (of any age) for ordination or other ministry in the Church of England or other Protestant denominations who were without adequate means of paying the expenses of their training."⁵ This was bold and counter-cultural at the time, because it made it possible for students to enter theological training regardless of class, social connections, or financial resources. It marked a departure from the class-based approach to ministry which prevailed in much of the church at the time.

In the 90 plus years since that time, we have remained committed to helping students to resource the training they need for gospel ministry, by minimising any increases in student fees. The cost of study is frequently greater than our students are able to pay or raise by themselves. That is why Oak Hill continues to be so well supported, as we seek to make good the shortfall between what students can afford and the cost of their high-quality training. Each year, generous donations for both revenue support and bursaries ensure that the quality of the educational and formational experience can be maintained and continually enhanced whilst minimising the additional burden for students.

In the financial year 2023/24 (year ended 31 July 2024), income of £2.56m was received (£697k from student fees, £1,041k from rental/hire/other income and £822k from donations) to cover expenditure of £2.50m (£791k academic costs, £399k administration costs, £753k site and premises costs, £136k marketing, admissions and development and £425k depreciation of capital projects).

The operational deficit (before donations) for the year amounted to £766k, which was a 74% decline from the prior year, which was a 27% improvement from the year before that. Donations exceeded the operational deficit, enabling a surplus of £56k, which resulted in a stable cash position and reasonably robust reserves to help meet capital requirements.

⁵ Foundation Declaration of Trust for the Kingham Hill Trust (16 December 1912): Clause 20, pp.9-10



Through the work of the College Council (many of whose members have extensive business and financial experience), the Kingham Hill Trust ensures that its charitable objectives are being fulfilled and that its assets are being managed effectively. Strenuous efforts are made to keep costs under control, particularly the amount we spend on administration and support services.

A significant part of expenditure goes towards maintaining the buildings on our campus, including many properties that are rented to students at below commercial rates. This commitment to providing a high-quality environment for students and staff to thrive is key, by maintaining the existing infrastructure and investing in new facilities.

Economy (spending less), efficiency (spending well) and effectiveness (spending wisely) are all continually being monitored by the Leadership Team and, due to the small scale of operations, spending can be monitored in significant detail and granularity, enabling ongoing review. Systems for measuring key performance indicators are in operation, which include: performance against financial targets, compliance with external requirements, maintenance of academic standards, provision of high-quality teaching, delivery of an excellent admissions service, and an effective programme of staff development activity.

Annual accounts provide useful information about our performance to all of our stakeholders. They are confirmed by external auditors (Moore Kingston Smith LLP) as being a true and fair view of our financial performance, including monitoring the systems controls and accountability of the financial and operational controls within the organisation. Visit the Kingham Hill Trust full financial statements:

<https://beta.charitycommission.gov.uk/charity-details/?subid=0®id=1076618>