



KINGHAM HILL

Character Matters

KINGHAM HILL SCHOOL
FOR AMERICAN PUPILS

Welcome

Kingham Hill is proud to be one of a select few English schools to offer a fully accredited program for American students.

American students who enrol will have the opportunity to benefit from the best of English education - access to rigorous A level classes and the personal attention of assigned tutors and house parents - while taking core US classes, PSAT and SAT testing, and receiving a high school diploma and transcript.



Top School and the Chapel



Accredited through the Middle States Association Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools Colleges and Schools (MSA-CESS), the American Program has prepared students for a seamless transition into American schools for over fifteen



An overview of the school

Founded in 1886 amongst the gorgeous green rolling hills of Cotswold farms by a Christian philanthropist, Charles Baring-Young established Kingham Hill as a school and a home for boys orphaned or from difficult backgrounds. The school educated pupils in core subjects, equipped them with a trade and skills to tackle life, and boasted one hundred acres of woods and farmland for them to explore and encounter the natural world. Graduates pursued various careers in business, ministry, and trade.

Today, still surrounded by idyllic rural Cotswold beauty, Kingham Hill School (KHS) offers a co-educational, day or boarding, secondary school experience to pupils of all backgrounds marked by nurturing pastoral care and academic rigour. Pupils come from a diverse range of international backgrounds, and the 30 or so nationalities represented makes for a globally-minded and mature community.

Although inclusive in intake, exam results are well above the national average, with a high proportion of Upper Sixth leavers taking up places at elite universities in the US and Europe. KHS is also unique in being a traditional British school with a US accreditation through the Middle States Association (MSA).

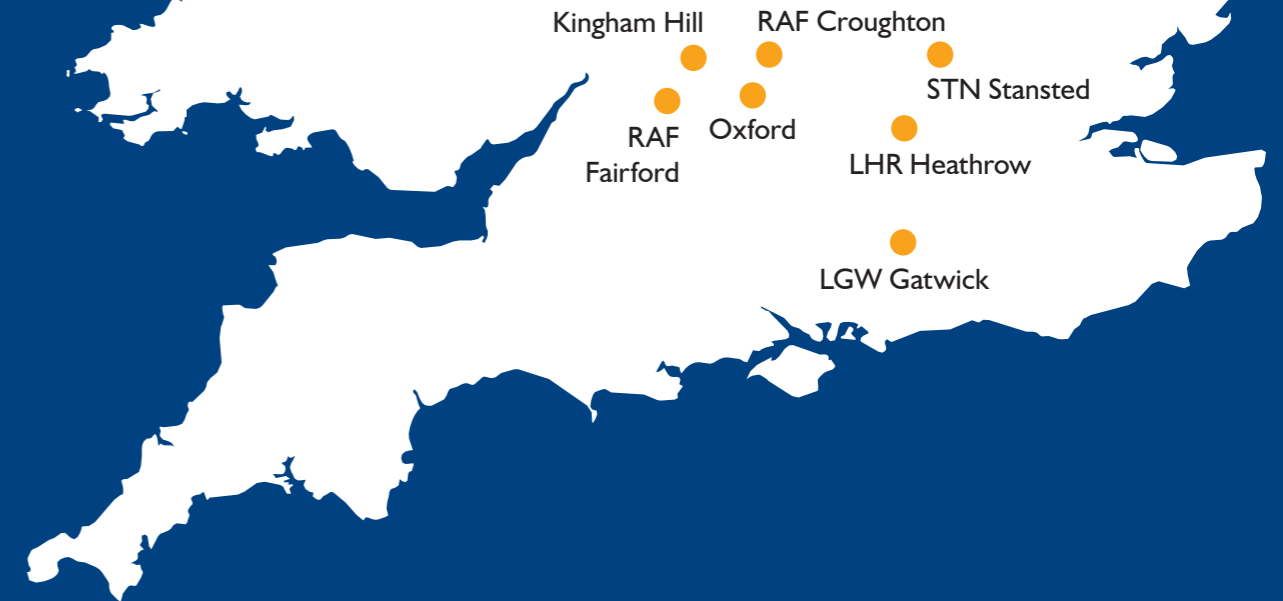
The American Program at Kingham is a pioneering program set up in partnership with the US Department of State a little more than a decade ago. It is one of a handful of schools in the UK where pupils can graduate with a high school diploma. Out of 340 pupils, roughly 40 each year participate in the US Program. Many of these pupils come from the nearby US Air Force bases and Department of State Embassy Annexe, but others come from US families stationed overseas corporately or other international pupils seeking a US qualification.

The essence of a Kingham Hill education is rounded and servant-hearted personal development. The School prizes academic curiosity and a love of learning in the context of a classical liberal arts education. Outside of the classroom, the daily extra-curricular programme is compulsory, and includes a huge range of opportunities including sport, music, drama, and a School Farm. Above all is the belief that character is what really counts in life; the importance of resilience, courtesy, good manners, respect, hard work, adaptability, a sense of humour, and a willingness to make the best of every opportunity.

Currently the School is about 60% boarding, and 40% day. The student body is diverse, and includes pupils from 25 plus different countries. The day population comes from a wide catchment area surrounding the School, which is an affluent part of Southern England as well as children of military personnel. Oxford and its universities are within 30 minutes by train, and the region is home to a number of high-tech industries, including motorsport. Approximately 10-15% of the School's population are supported by the US Program - these children are largely associated with the USAF listening post at RAF Croughton, and the US Embassy annexe attached there.



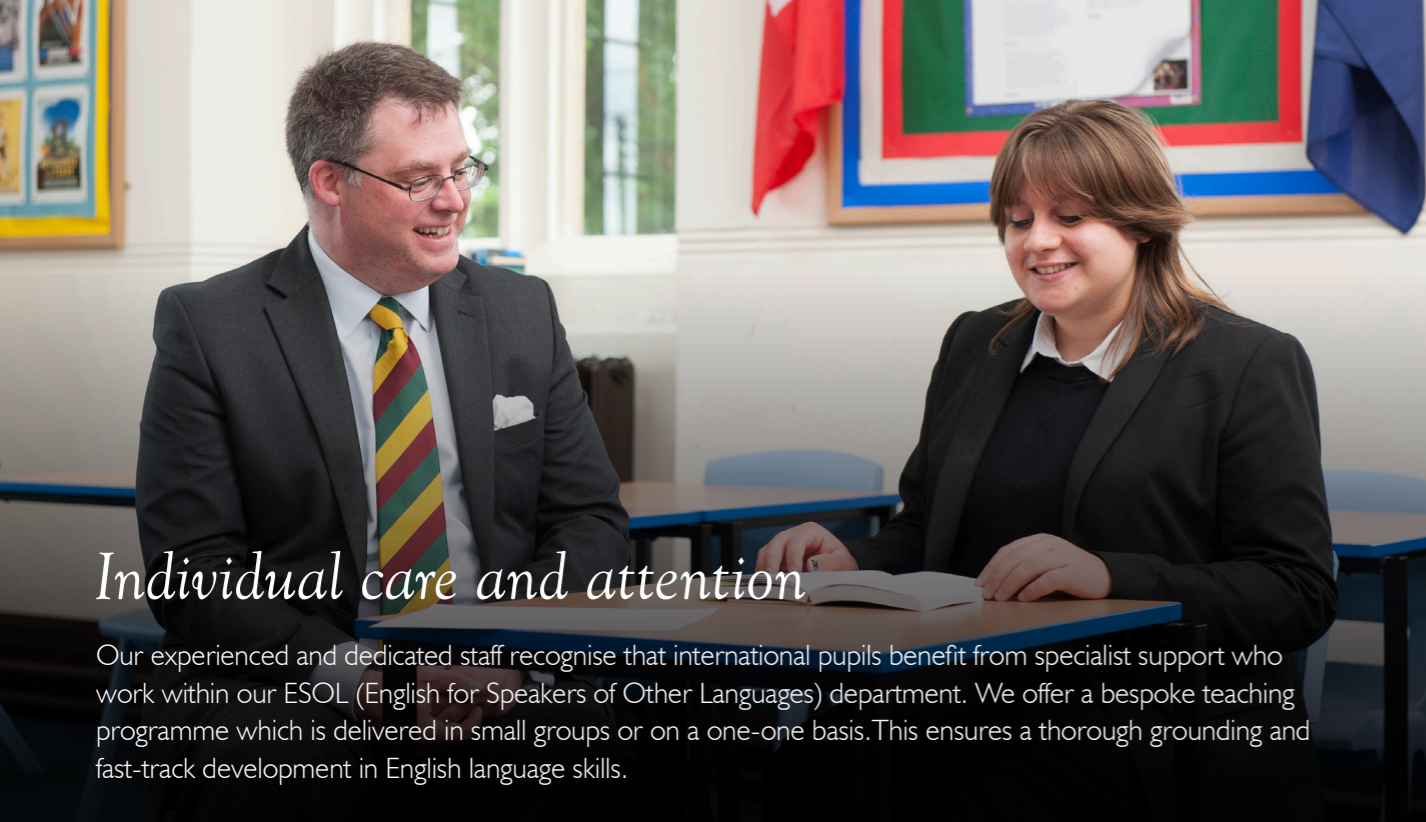
● BHX Birmingham



Our Location

Kingham Hill School is situated in a stunning 105 acre campus in the heart of the Cotswolds, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in southern England. It is 25 miles from the university city of Oxford, 24 miles from Stratford-upon-Avon, famous as the birthplace of William Shakespeare, and 24 miles from the beautiful spa town of Cheltenham.

The school is within easy reach London, with good links to London Heathrow airport by road and rail. Kingham train station is two miles away, and has a direct train to London.



Individual care and attention

Our experienced and dedicated staff recognise that international pupils benefit from specialist support who work within our ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) department. We offer a bespoke teaching programme which is delivered in small groups or on a one-one basis. This ensures a thorough grounding and fast-track development in English language skills.

“I enjoy the extra-curricular activities and have tried lots of sports I have never played before.”

Alumnus



A Welcoming Community

When you ask pupils, parents and staff what they love most about the school, the answer is usually: ‘community’. There is a tangible sense of friendliness and unity in a school where all pupils are individually known and nurtured.

Kingham Hill School remains an intentionally small school of just over 350 pupils. Class sizes are typically 20 or less in the main school and fewer still in the Sixth Form. This allows us to offer a special level of care and attention not available in every school. It means pupils receive a learning experience that is tailored to their needs, which helps identify, support and develop their potential so they flourish as individuals.

Our diverse community of approximately 20 different nationalities welcomes day and boarding pupils from across the world. Although we are a primarily British school, the broad mix of nationalities is one of aspect of life at our school which pupils enjoy – the opportunities to live and learn with children from different countries and to make friendships which span the globe.

The School does limit the number of pupils for whom English is not their first language to less than 20% of the school roll. This is because we recognise that international pupils and parents wish to have a British educational experience in a majority British school, whilst ensuring there are ample opportunities to make friends with British pupils, and speak the English language during leisure time as well as in the classroom.



“Community is definitely the best part of the school. It is an amazing place with very friendly pupils and staff. I am so happy with the grades I achieved in my A levels. I am now at University College, London and am so grateful to Kingham Hill for all the help they gave me.”

Alumnus



Two of our boarding houses

A Home from Home

Every pupil belongs to one of ten houses that act as large, extended families. The houses are much smaller than at most boarding schools, typically with 20-35 pupils per house. This helps create a home from home atmosphere and many pupils tell us how being in a small school and boarding house has helped them settle easily, as it's easy to get to know their fellow pupils as well as their house parents or tutors.

Bedrooms in the boarding houses range from dorm-style sharing to single rooms for the older pupils. Some boarders in the Upper Sixth have the opportunity to live in their own independent accommodation, to give academic focus and support to their final year of school study, and preparation for university life.

Weekends are vibrant times on the Hill, with house activities, trips, expeditions and a Sixth Form Social Club. There is a wide variety of clubs which change throughout the year, so there is something for every interest: including photography, cookery, film, farm club, astronomy, mountain biking and the performing arts academy.

Kingham Hill School is wonderfully situated for trips to the major centres of historic and cultural interest within the south of England. Trips include: Warwick Castle, London, Hampton Court Palace, Oxford, Stratford-upon-Avon, the South Coast and Alton Towers.

Demographics

- Currently the School is about 60% boarding, and 40% day.
- The student body is diverse, and includes pupils from over 25 different countries.
- The day population comes from a wide catchment area surrounding the School and includes children of military personnel.
- Oxford and its universities are within 30 minutes by train, and the region is home to a number of high-tech industries, including motorsport.
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The Curriculum

The school day begins with Chapel at 8:40am, followed by seven periods of lessons, sports, and activities until 5pm. The school runs co-curricular activities, clubs and sports at lunchtimes and during the school day, meaning that every pupil at Kingham participates in athletic and extracurricular activities throughout the week. These include:

Seasonal and individual sports

- Soccer
- Rugby
- Hockey
- Netball
- Tennis
- Cricket
- Volleyball
- Swimming
- Cross country
- Ultimate frisbee
- Fitness
- Lacrosse
- Rounders
- Badminton
- Handball
- Basketball
- Squash
- Climbing

Music

- Choir
- Chamber choir
- Concert band
- Strings
- Individual lessons

Leadership

- Combined Cadet Force (CCF)
- Duke of Edinburgh

Activities

- Farm club
- ConSERVE (horticulture/gardening)
- Debate club
- Arts & crafts
- Voluntary work
- Ambassadors club
- Design Technology club
- Board Games club

6th through 8th grades

American Program pupils learn alongside their UK peers in preparation to transition to high school.

9th and 10th grades

Pupils participate in GCSE courses with their peers. They have the option to sit the external public examination at the end of their two years, but are assessed throughout the courses to provide end-of-year transcript grades. Every pupil takes Math, English, and Science for these two years, but can choose between four different option blocks of electives, which include:

- Art
- Drama
- Design & Technology
- Economics
- French
- Geography
- History
- Latin
- Music
- Spanish
- Physical Education (Sport Science/Anatomy & Physiology)
- Theology

11th and 12th grade (Sixth Form)

Pupils must complete a few core requirements and then are free to choose their own electives.

Junior year (**Lower Sixth**) typically consists of English, US Government, US History, Physics, and Economics. Because a significant portion of our pupils belong to military families, some pupils have only transferred to Kingham in their junior year. This means that language and science backgrounds can vary significantly among pupils.

In their senior year (**Upper Sixth**), pupils typically take English and continue their A levels, BTECs or Cambridge Technicals, supplemented by a variety of electives. Some of these electives are drawn from US curriculum (e.g. Modern History, STEM Seminar) while most other options are A level classes. US pupils rejoin their British peers to take what would be considered "Advanced" options in the US, more akin to first-year college courses. These electives include:

- Art
- Animal Management
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Classical Civilizations
- Design Technology
- English Literature
- Economics
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Politics
- Photography
- Physical Education (Sport Science)
- Physics
- Theology



Destinations

Since the start of the program, graduates have gone on to employment or university including the following:

- Blinn College
- College of William and Mary
- Drexel University
- George Mason University
- Gettysburg College
- Syracuse University
- Texas State University
- American University of London
- Arts Institute of Seattle
- Florida State University
- George Washington University
- Ithaca College
- Ohio State University
- Roanoke College
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Rutgers University
- Syracuse University
- Texas Tech
- University of Alaska (Fairbanks)
- University of Maryland
- University of Minnesota
- University of Portland
- University of Richmond
- University of South Carolina
- Virginia Tech
- West Virginia

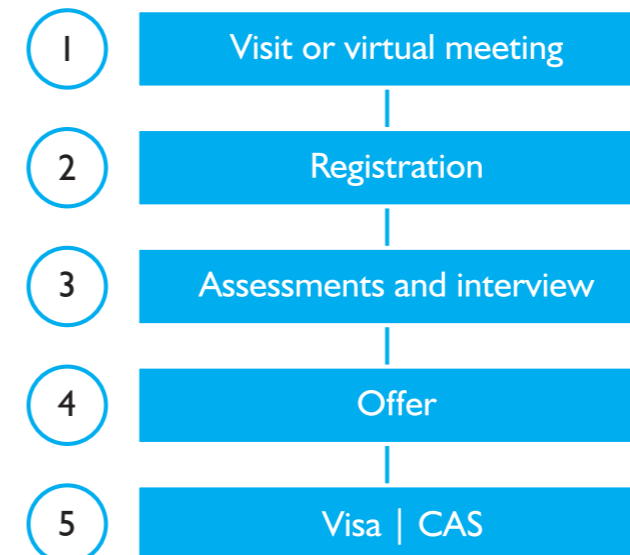
Next Steps

The best way to discover more about Kingham Hill is to visit us – visits from pupils and parents are warmly welcomed throughout the year. During their first visit, pupils will be interviewed by the Headmaster and assessed by the Head of ESOL. We realise a visit is not always possible for international pupils, so we can arrange for alternative methods of assessment. Please contact our Registrar for more details: registrar@kinghamhill.org or visit our website www.kinghamhill.org for full details of our admissions process.

When a place has been offered the school will work with the family (or agent) to ensure that the right visa is being sought, where necessary. When the school is satisfied that it is appropriate to issue a CAS (Confirmation of Acceptance to Study) it will do so. It is then for the family (sometimes with the help of an agent) to make an application. It is important that a pupil is in possession of the appropriate visa before attempting to travel to the UK.

We look forward to welcoming you soon, to arrange an appointment please contact our Registrar at registrar@kinghamhill.org or call +44 (0) 1608 658999.

Application process



Mrs Marshall (left) and Mrs Megson, our Registrars





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WWW.KINGHAMHILL.ORG.UK