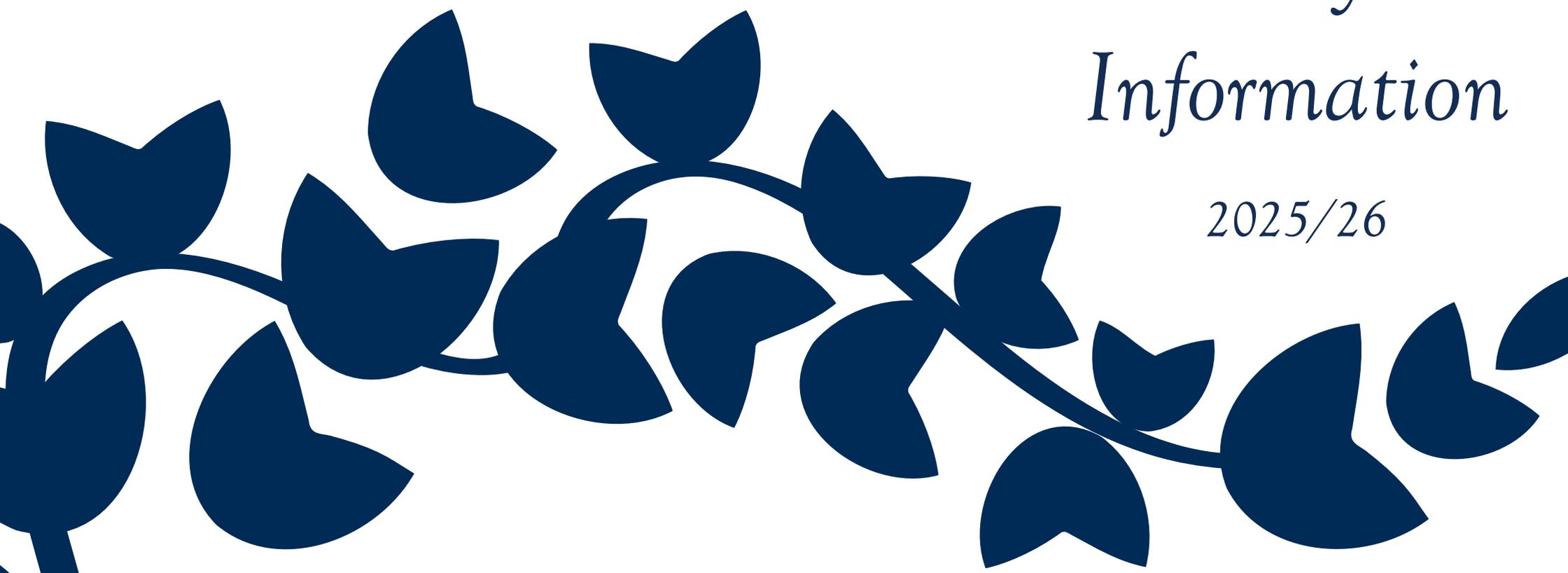




DEAN CLOSE
**KINGHAM HILL
SCHOOL**
OXFORDSHIRE

Key Information

2025/26





This document, along with the main school prospectus, describes the broad principles on which Dean Close Kingham Hill School is presently run and gives an indication of our history and ethos. They are not part of any agreement between the parents and the school. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that the information provided in this document is correct at the time of printing it is subject to change. Parents wishing to place specific reliance on a statement or information in this booklet, or any other KHS publication, should seek written confirmation before accepting the offer of a place.

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Welcome

Here at Dean Close Kingham Hill we know that choosing the right school for your child is one of the hardest decisions you will have to make. The local area is extremely fortunate to benefit from many excellent schools, both independent and state, making the decision even more difficult. We are committed to supporting each and every child to fulfil their potential, academically, creatively and in sport. We encourage all our pupils to be the very best they can be by providing them with a wealth of curricular and co-curricular activities and experiences.

We hope that our School Prospectus and website have provided you with a window into the Kingham Hill community, and that this Key Information document answers any remaining questions you may have. If you have not yet visited us, or need any further help, please do not hesitate to get in touch with our Admissions Team whose contact details can be found on page 5.

Thank you for considering Dean Close Kingham Hill School.

School Policy Documents

A selection of our policy documents are available to read online via our website (www.kinghamhill.org.uk) including:

- Admissions Policy
- English for Speakers of Other Languages
- Health and Safety Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Exclusion Policy
- Recruitment and Selection Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Complaints Policy

On our website you can also find a full list of our other policies which are available on request. If you would like to receive copies of any of our policies please contact the School Office (contact details can be found on the back cover of this booklet).

Key Staff

Senior Leadership Team

Head: Pete Last

Deputy Head: Magnus Eyles

Second Deputy: Rob Jones

Academic Deputy: Louanne Gill

Deputy Head Co-Curricular: Lee Irwin

Head of Admissions, Marketing

& Development: Fran Knight

HR Manager: Emily Crossley

Section Heads

Head of Lower School: Paul Oatridge

Head of Middle School: Sune Osborne

Head of Sixth Form: Paul Jones

Board of Trustees

Dean Close Kingham Hill School is part of the Dean Close Foundation (DCF) - www.deanclosefoundation.org.uk. The Warden is responsible for oversight of the DCF, overseeing the work of the schools and nurseries, and reports to a Board of Trustees.

Chairman of the Trustees: Kathryn Carden

Board of Trustees:

Revd M Allen, BA

Mr S Bullingham MSC, BSc

Mrs K A Carden, BA MPhil

Brig Matthew Cansdale BA

Mr S Holliday MA

Mr M Hughes, BSc

Mrs F L Knight BA

AVM R Lock, CBE, BSc

Mr G McDonald, B Comm B Acc

Mr F J Shaw MA, MSc, CEng, CSci

Mr M P Smith MA

Mr M Smith, MA, MBA, ACIB

Visiting Trustee: Bishop of Gloucester

About Dean Close Kingham Hill School

Founded in 1886, Kingham Hill is a co-educational, independent boarding and day school for children aged 11-18 set in 105 acres of beautiful grounds in the Oxfordshire Cotswolds, just 80 minutes by direct train from London Paddington.

When talking to pupils, parents and staff about the school, the thing they love is its sense of 'community'. Kingham Hill is a school with a tangible feeling of friendliness and unity where all pupils are known and nurtured. Small class sizes mean that all pupils get the attention they need and the chance to actively participate in class. Every pupil therefore has the opportunity to learn, excel and realise their potential.

The Dean Close Foundation

Kingham Hill School joined the Dean Close Foundation in August 2025. The Dean Close Foundation is a growing, vibrant and diverse family of independent schools and nurseries, uniting around a shared vision and set of values.

These spring from the origins of Dean Close School, which was founded in 1886 in memory of Dean Francis Close, Rector of Cheltenham and educational

We prioritise development beyond the classroom to ensure pupils leave us as rounded young adults who will become happy and successful in their future lives. There is a five-day teaching week and once lessons have finished, there is time for sport and activities every afternoon, with day and boarding pupils integrating seamlessly across the range of school life.

Compared to many other schools, our boarding houses have far fewer pupils, with an average of 25 – 30 in each. This means they feel like large family homes where everyone has the opportunity to play a key part in the day to day activities of the House.

philanthropist. The Christian ethos of that original school continues today, and the aim is that every child is given opportunities to flourish, underpinned by the core values of courage, contribution and love.

Further information about The Dean Close Foundation can be found at:

www.deanclosefoundation.org.uk

Admissions

We understand that choosing the right senior school for your child is an important and sometimes complex decision.

We accept applications from children looking to enter 1st Form (Year 7), 3rd Form (Year 9) and Sixth Form (Year 12) as either day or boarding pupils. However, we will also consider other entry years as we understand that these timelines may not always be suitable.

Before making a formal application, we encourage families to visit the school to see it in action and we recommend our Open Morning events to get a full view of the school, as well as the opportunity to meet key members of senior staff.

The Admissions Process

1. Application

To make an application for Kingham Hill School, we ask parents to complete the online registration form and payment via the website and submit a copy of their child's passport.

2. Interview and Assessment

Once you have registered your child, they will be invited to attend a CAT4 assessment, along with an interview with a member of our Senior Leadership Team. The CAT4 is an assessment that is designed to help teachers understand how children learn and what their academic potential might be. It assesses how pupils think in areas that are known to make a difference to learning.

The CAT4 is designed to give schools a much broader, more rounded view of each child, their potential and how they learn. The assessment is online and no preparation or revision is required.

For overseas families, or those who are unable to attend the assessment in person, remote testing is available.

There are times when additional information may be required, including further assessments or a taster day. This will be considered and discussed with families on an individual basis.

For children where English is not their first language, we require an additional language assessment to be completed online.

3. Outcome

Once the interview and assessment has taken place, we will advise either by phone or email whether the school is able to offer a place to your child and provide details of the next steps. In some cases it may be necessary to complete additional assessments, but we will discuss these with you.

On receipt of an offer of a place at the school, parents are required to complete and return an Acceptance Form, along with an acceptance deposit. The deposit is refunded when the pupil leaves Kingham Hill and all financial matters have been settled. Please note that in the event of over-subscription for a year group, your child will be placed on a waiting list and the Admissions Department will keep you updated on any progress or availability.

Year Group	Age
1st Form (Y7)	11-12 years
2nd Form (Y8)	12-13 years
3rd Form (Y9)	13-14 years
4th Form (Y10)	14-15 years
5th Form (Y11)	15-16 years
Lower Sixth (Y12)	16-17 years
Upper Sixth (Y13)	17-18 years

Admissions Team

Admissions Manager (UK)

Debbie Marshall

Admissions Manager (International)

Vlad Butin

Admissions Assistant

Sophie Megson

Our highly experienced Admissions Team will be your main point of contact, ready to answer your questions, help you to navigate anything that is unfamiliar, and generally provide guidance and reassurance throughout the whole admissions journey. For further information about entry to Kingham Hill, or to book an appointment to visit, please contact the Team via:

- registrar@kinghamhill.org
- 01608 731884

Scholarships & Bursaries

Scholarships

Kingham Hill School offers a selection of Scholarships to pupils to recognise and reward those who display talent and consistently strive for the highest standards throughout their endeavours. In order to be considered for a Scholarship a prospective pupil must be formally registered for entry to the school.

Further details on the individual Scholarships and their requirements can be found on our website.

Scholarships 1st and 3rd Form (Year 7 and Year 9)

Applications are open to all prospective 1st and 3rd Form pupils, along with current KHS 2nd Form pupils moving up into 3rd Form. Scholarships available for 1st and 3rd Form entry are: Academic, Art, Drama, Music and Sport.

Scholarships for Lower Sixth Form (Year 12)

Applications are open to all prospective Lower Sixth pupils, along with current 5th Form pupils. Scholarships available for Lower Sixth Form entry are: Academic, Founder's, Sport and Subject Specific.

Bursaries

A limited number of bursaries are offered each year to pupils who would benefit from a Kingham Hill education, but who are unable to afford the full fees. The number of children that we are able to help is limited to funds available at the time a place is offered.

Bursaries are only available for pupils normally resident in the UK, for a maximum of 50% of fees and are means tested. In cases of particular need, the school can suggest a number of grant making trusts that may offer additional bursaries.

Bursary applications are made through a secure online portal which can be accessed via our website. You will be required to create an account, through which you can submit and upload all the information required. For more information on bursary funding, please contact our Bursary.

Please note that in order to apply for a Bursary, your child must be formally registered for a place at the school, or a current pupil.

Fees (From September 2025)

Registration Fees (per child)

- A non-refundable fee of £125 (inclusive of VAT) is payable on registration.

Deposits (per child)

Please see the School's Terms and Conditions for information on how and when the Acceptance Deposit and/or the Additional Deposit may be refunded.

Acceptance Deposit

Payable by the parents of each pupil on acceptance of a place (all figures below are inclusive of VAT):

- Day £963
- Boarding £1,445
- An Additional Deposit of £15,622 is payable in addition to the Acceptance Deposit by parents who are resident outside the United Kingdom.

Compliance Management Fee

Compliance Management Fee of £535 - This charge is applicable to all pupils requiring a Child Student or Student Visa, whether upon a first issue or subsequent application.

Termly School Fees*

Year Group	Place Type	Net	VAT	Total
1st & 2nd Forms (Year 7 & 8)	Day	£7,433.33	£1,486.67	£8,920.00
1st & 2nd Forms (Year 7 & 8)	Weekly Boarding ¹	£10,481.67	£2,096.33	£12,578.00
1st & 2nd Forms (Year 7 & 8)	Full Boarding	£10,829.17	£2,165.83	£12,995.00
3rd to 5th Form (Year 9-11)	Day	£8,430.83	£1,686.17	£10,117.00
3rd to 5th Form (Year 9-11)	Weekly Boarding ¹	£12,439.17	£2,487.83	£14,927.00
3rd to 5th Form (Year 9-11)	Full Boarding	£13,625.00	£2,725.00	£16,350.00
Sixth Form (Year 12 & 13)	Day	£8,430.83	£1,686.17	£10,117.00
Sixth Form (Year 12 & 13)	Weekly Boarding ¹	£12,955.83	£2,591.17	£15,547.00
Sixth Form (Year 12 & 13)	Full Boarding ²	£14,275.83	£2,855.17	£17,131.00

Fees include such items as boarding and laundry charges, tuition, lunch (for all pupils), breakfast and supper (for boarders), the loan of generic textbooks, Pupil Personal Accident Insurance and the majority of options in the activities programme. Exam charges, UK exam transcript requests and duplicate certificates or transcripts are not included in fees.

¹ Weekly boarding is from Sunday night to Friday Morning only.

² Sixth Form full boarders who entered the school prior to Fourth Form will receive a discount of £360 per term (inclusive of VAT).

*Please check the school website for the most up-to-date information regarding fees and charges: www.kinghamhill.org.uk

Extras *(All figures below are inclusive of VAT)*

- A few variable expenses are charged as “extras” as necessary, such as trips and expeditions, clothing and additional books, together with certain optional extras, including additional music lessons. These are billed one term in arrears and can typically total £300 to £350 per term.
- Ad-hoc stay-overs are charged at £75 per night; however there is no charge for stays resulting from a mandatory curriculum-based event (including school plays). A reduced rate of £36 per night will be charged when a pupil stays over as the result of a school-based event such as Sixth Form social evenings, sports clubs, Academy and non-mandatory school trips. These charges apply to all Day pupils and to Weekly Boarders who are staying additional nights. If a stay-over occurs on a Friday night, the cost of the Saturday Activities programme (excluding pocket money) is included within the charge. Spaces for those not on Full Boarding will be subject to availability.
- The Sixth Form Social charge of £92 per term is levied for all Sixth Formers. Optional membership of the Sixth Form Bar incurs a charge of £60 per term.
- Charges for the school bus are payable termly in advance dependent upon distance.

Premiums

- SEND provision is chargeable at variable rate dependent upon the level of support required. For example, weekly individual 50-minute session is charged at £720 per term and a weekly group 50-minute session is charged at £417 per term.
- Fee rates for the National Studies Program (incorporating the US College Prep Program) are available upon request.
- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) support is charged at £2,157 per term (VAT exempt).
- Music lessons incur a charge of £413 per term for a 40-minute weekly lesson or £510 per term for a 50-minute weekly lesson. Lesson length is determined by ability.
- Theory lessons are charged at £112 per term.
- Speech and Drama lessons incur a charge of £263 per term for group lessons (50 mins) or £413 per term for individual lessons (40 mins).
- Dance lessons incur a charge of £263 per term for group lessons (45 mins) or £413 per term for individual lessons (45 mins).

Additional Information

- Payments may be made by bank transfer, direct debit or UK cheque.
- The school can, as an alternative to termly billing, issue a Fee Bill for one or more full school years; should a parent or guardian wish for such an invoice, the Bursary must receive notice by the 15th July. Fee Bills for the full school year include a discount of 2% on the core fees and premiums. Payments must be received and cleared before the commencement of the school year to attract this discount. Please contact the Bursary for details.
- Where a term's fees are paid by instalments, each instalment will be collected at the beginning of the month. Extras are collected in the first month of each term.
- The school can, through Houseparents, make cash advances to pupils; there is currently a charge of 10% for this service.
- Should a direct debit or cheque be refused by the nominated or issuing bank, through no fault of the school, all discounts will be revoked and a surcharge of £40 will added to the figure owing. The outstanding debt will become due immediately.
- Please see the School's Terms and Conditions for further information about the payment of Fees and Extras. The School's Terms and Conditions are available on request.
- Sibling Discount - A 10% sibling discount is available on the second and subsequent child's fees where a family has more than one child attending the school at the same time. Discounts are applied to the youngest child(ren)'s fees.

Life at Dean Close Kingham Hill School

Curriculum

Lower School (Years 7-9/1st-3rd Form)

Senior school can be a daunting move for children: the world suddenly becomes much bigger and seems to move more quickly. At Kingham Hill, we aim to guide our pupils through a phased transition into school life, helping them to settle whilst gradually introducing them to the wide range of opportunities the school has to offer. Our aim is to provide pupils with a warm welcome to the Hill, knowing that we ourselves have all experienced being somewhere new at one time. Each pupil is part of a small tutor group of about 10-13 boys and girls. Pupils are also part of a day or boarding house. These range from between 20 and 50 pupils, and are great places to build friendships and develop team spirit. Pupils will study a broad and balanced curriculum, learning more about their own interests and talents as they move up through the school. We also seek to develop a "have a go" attitude and encourage pupils not to be fearful of making mistakes, both in the classroom and beyond.

Middle School (Years 10-11/4th-5th Form)

In Middle School pupils face greater challenges and responsibilities, not only academically but also on a social level. At Kingham we do all that we can to ensure that we provide the very best opportunities for personal growth and success.

Most pupils will take ten GCSEs: English Language and English Literature, Mathematics, and seven additional subjects including at least one of the Sciences.

Current available optional subjects are as follows: Animal Management BTEC, Art and Design (Fine Art), Biology, Chemistry, Design and Technology, Drama, Economics, English as a Second Language (ESL), French, Geography, History, Music, Physical Education, Physics, Religious Studies, Spanish.

In addition, all students follow an Equipped to Flourish course which includes Careers and Health Education, as well as continuing with regular Physical Education.

Sixth Form (Years 12-13/Lower & Upper Sixth)

Our Sixth Form programme aims to ensure pupils are equipped to flourish; to be challenged, inspired and supported so as to achieve the best they can and thrive beyond school when they leave. They are encouraged to take responsibility for their learning whilst

at the same time, receiving all the support they need, both in regards to their studies and personal development. Our Sixth Formers are an integral part of Kingham Hill. Many are involved in mentoring and supporting junior pupils and play an active part in events and activities throughout the school year.

There are a wide range of subjects on offer at Sixth Form including A Levels and vocational courses - CTECs and BTECs. Most pupils in the Sixth Form embark upon three courses, with some pupils (usually around 10% of the cohort) choosing to take four. All pupils are also encouraged to complete an EPQ (Extended Project Qualification).

Subjects currently on offer are:

- **A Levels:** Art and Design, Biology, Chemistry, Classical Civilisation, Design and Technology (Product Design), Economics, English Literature, French, Geography, History, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Music, Philosophy, Photography, Physics, Politics, Psychology, Spanish
- **BTEC:** Animal Management, Computing, Engineering, Performing Arts
- **CTEC:** Business, Sport

Equipped to Flourish (ETF)

Equipped to Flourish (ETF) is the foundation upon which everything we do at Kingham Hill is built, underpinned by the school's informal motto, "work hard, play hard, serve well". Its themes are woven into every aspect of school life with the aim of supporting our pupils as they grow and develop in character, enabling them to flourish both at school and beyond.

The Four Key Themes

- **Resilience:** The ability to keep going. Treating success and failure the same.
- **Responsibility:** Taking ownership, being accountable and not blaming or relying on others.
- **Humility:** The ability to work with others. Not thinking less of yourself but of yourself less.
- **Integrity:** Staying true to yourself when no-one's looking and even under pressure.

We believe character matters, and therefore we take every pupils' personal development seriously. The ETF programme enables all pupils to think through their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Happy pupils will be successful, and we help our pupils thrive and grow so that they can enjoy their time on the Hill as well as being able to head off confidently into the future. We want everyone to be happy, to feel valued and to have a sense of belonging. Our Christian values underpin our caring culture, where we support individuals to be themselves and to achieve their best.

Learning Support - Greens

Parents of children with SEN needs will rightly want them to thrive and blossom in a mainstream environment, and with the support of our dedicated Greens Department, we have seen many extraordinary stories over the years of those who have done just that. Specialist teachers and adaptive technology are utilised to bring out the very best in our pupils for whom there is no stigma attached to receiving support, motivated by the twin heartbeats of KHS in academic rigour and the Equipped to Flourish (ETF) Programme.

We offer specialist support to a limited number of pupils per year group with specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia, dyscalculia and ASD, or those who require extra support in specific subjects.

The programme includes the following with options for up to five one-to-one lessons per fortnight:

- Personalised and bespoke focus.
- Adaptive Technology and weekly tasks to support learning and demonstrate improvement.

- Regular collaboration with classroom teachers, with in-class strategies shared across all staff.
- Specialist Greens teachers with high level training in supporting dyslexia and dyscalculia.
- Regular updates to parents/guardians from Greens to enable progress to be clearly monitored and information shared.
- Specialist assessment tools used to identify areas of strength and weakness, as well as monitor progress.

Enabling pupils to become independent, excited learners whilst providing them with effective strategies to succeed is at the heart of the department. Seeing pupils flourish, supporting them to reach their potential whilst equipping them for the future, is a privilege that the Greens team are able to play a small part in whilst the pupil is studying at Kingham Hill.

Co-Curricular Activities

Co-curricular activities at Kingham are an essential part of our pupils' development. That is why we are proud to offer a huge range of regular sports, clubs and activities that educate, enrich and engage pupils throughout the school. These activities are embedded into the school day: most of them are scheduled as an integral part of the daily timetable, towards the end of each afternoon.

Sport - Sport is an integral part of life at Kingham Hill School. It is a medium through which many important life skills are learned and character developed. At Kingham Hill we seek to educate the whole person, equipping our pupils with character qualities which will help them flourish in life beyond the Hill. All pupils are encouraged to actively participate in our weekly programme. There are fixtures involving all year groups with local schools in each of the main sports: rugby, hockey, football, netball and cricket. In addition, we also provide opportunities for pupils in individual sports such as swimming, athletics, badminton, squash, cross-country, tennis and climbing. All these are offered on-site in our Sports Centre, Fitness Suite, AstroTurf and Swimming Pool.

Performing Arts Academy - Our Performing Arts Academy takes place on a Monday after school, and provides pupils with the opportunity to explore a diverse range of activities, from classes and rehearsals to workshops, allowing them to pursue their individual passions. Activities include singing and choir, concert band, modern dance, script-writing workshops, theatre technology (lighting and sound), drama rehearsals, and, of course, preparations for our large-scale musical productions.

Music - Music-making is flourishing at Kingham Hill with ensembles and choirs for all ages and standards. These include our Orchestra, Concert Choir, Chapel Choir, Wind Band and various other ad-hoc ensembles. We offer instrumental tuition on a wide range of instruments and all pupils in the 1st and 2nd Form have the opportunity to try an instrument free of charge as part of our Key Stage 3 scheme.

Combined Cadet Force (CCF) - The CCF at Kingham has Army and Royal Air Force sections. Both sections enjoy support from their parent unit, and the army section is fortunate to be affiliated to the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. Whilst many of the activities on offer are 'militarily themed', and a lot of support is given by the Ministry of Defence, there are numerous adventure training opportunities, and the emphasis is on development and instilling an element of discipline and teamwork, rather than recruiting. CCF is a compulsory activity in the 3rd Form (opt out is possible) and is available as an optional activity from 4th Form onwards.

Typical Weekday Routines

Boarding Pupils

7:00	Wake up, showers etc.
7:45	Breakfast in the Dining Hall.
8:25	Register in House - beds made, tidy areas, curtains open.
8:40-9:00	Chapel, Assembly or tutor time, then lessons begin.
10:45-11:10	Breaktime - pupils can return to House or buy tuck from the dining hall.
13:00	Lunch - during which pupils can go back to House or take part in activities.
14:10	Registration, then lessons or sport and activities.
17:00*	End of school day - free time with devices.
From 17:30	Tea for Boarders in the Dining Hall.
18:40	In House for meeting, then prep.
After Prep	Free time, other activities (in House on Tuesdays). Bedtime (varies by age group)

Day Pupils

8:00	Houses open
8:40-9:00	Chapel, Assembly or tutor time, then lessons begin.
10:45-11:10	Breaktime - pupils can return to House or buy tuck from the dining hall.
13:00	Lunch - during which pupils can go back to House or take part in activities.
14:10	Registration, then lessons or sport and activities.
17:00*	End of school day - back to House to sign-out.
17:10-18:00**	Optional supervised Day prep in the Library.
17:15***	Buses leave.

*We have early finish on Fridays when the School Day finishes at 16:00

**On Fridays optional supervised Day prep runs from 16:10-17:00

***On Fridays, buses leave at 16:15.

Weekends for Boarders

Saturday

After breakfast boarders take part in our Saturday schedule of activities. The schedule includes:

- a programme of workshops, which complement the co-curricular provision of the week.
- trips as a House or with the wider Boarding community to the cinema, theatre, bowling alleys, museums, paint-balling, ice-skating etc.
- Service Saturdays - an opportunity for boarders to engage in local charity projects.

Dinner is served after the activities and is followed by a period of free time. Evenings are managed by the individual Houses.

Sunday

- Brunch is served at 10:30, followed by optional activities throughout the day and time to catch up on work or relax with friends. Minibuses run to Chipping Norton or other local towns. This is a great opportunity to get off site, enjoy the wider community and buy essentials or snacks!
- Tea at 17:30, then Chapel at 19:45 followed by time in House to get ready for the new week.

Exeats

Between the beginning of each term and half term, and again between half term and the end of term, there is usually a week-end "off" called an Exeat. Boarders are expected to go home or be accommodated by, or with, their guardian for these.

Where is Dean Close Kingham Hill School?

Kingham Hill School is situated in the heart of the Oxfordshire Cotswolds, a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the very epitome of the English countryside.

With Kingham station on our doorstep, Oxford, Worcester, and Evesham are easily accessible by a short train ride, while London Paddington is only 80 minutes away by direct service.

The school also has its own network of buses which make getting to school easy and stress free.

Bus Routes 2025-26



These routes are currently not in operation. This is kept under review should demand for these routes increase.





DEAN CLOSE
**KINGHAM HILL
SCHOOL**
OXFORDSHIRE

Dean Close Kingham Hill School
Kingham, Chipping Norton
Oxfordshire OX7 6TH

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