



**Luther King House  
Educational Trust**

## **LUTHER KING HOUSE CONTRIBUTION TO THE PUBLIC GOOD**

**Name and Address:** Luther King House Educational Trust  
Brighton Grove  
Manchester M14 5JP

The LKH Educational Trust is a company limited by guarantee and is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. It is a private college with undergraduate and graduate provision, governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association. The formal objectives as stated in its Memorandum of Association are:

*The advancement of education in areas of Christian faith, practice and dialogue and in particular:*

*The provision of learning opportunities for members of churches and other interested persons:*

- *the sharing of theological resources with and among local churches and communities;*
- *the preparation of persons for accredited forms of ministry;*
- *the provision of opportunities for post-graduate research;*
- *the provision of an educational establishment together with ancillary services.*

*To advance education generally.*

It is therefore evident that at the core of its work and activities, LKH is committed not only to providing higher education to a particular group of students, but to ensuring:

- a) that those students go on to contribute to the common good within communities and societies;
- b) that its own resources contribute towards the common good both locally and in wider contexts.

The following is an exploration and illustration of the ways in which this commitment is worked out in practice.

1. LKH offers preparatory training and formation for those who have been accepted for church ministry and community work primarily within the nonconformist traditions of this country. Thus, the HE degrees have clear outcomes in mind and are specifically designed to enable people to prepare for involvement in church and society. In particular, there is an emphasis on community engagement with the possibility of students gaining an additional qualification as a community worker that is validated by the English Standards Board. Service and ministry for the common good is thus at the heart of the learning that takes place.
2. It is also possible for students who have not been formally accepted for church ministry and community work within a church denomination to follow the same patterns of learning. Again, the intention is to equip them for wider service within society and community.

3. LKH has a deliberate policy of widening access and participation. Our enrolment statistics show that the gender balance at LKH is fairly even, with a gradual percentage increase in female entrants. In 2016-17, 56% of BA students and 65% of MA students were women, including 64% of new BA students and 76% of the new MA students. Our staff team is similarly evenly balanced.
4. The ethnicity balance within LKH has been steadily changing. In 2016 52% of new BA students and 31% of new MA students were from black and minority ethnic backgrounds. All new BA and MA students in 2016-17 were mature students, with an average age of entry of 44 on the BA programme and of 47 on the MA programme. Most students have family responsibilities and work commitments which they need to fit around their studies.
5. Though LKH admissions policies are rigorous, seeking to ensure that all who enroll on our courses are capable of study at degree level, and the majority of those accepted onto the course have a Level 3 qualification or above (normally around 70%), places are offered to those who do not meet the standard entry requirements. Appropriate support structures are put in place in order to help ensure that they are given every possible opportunity to progress and succeed. These include:
  - Regular study skills support and help.
  - Tuition support for those who have English as an additional language.
  - Bursary scheme designed to assist those students who lack the economic resources needed to study.
  - Developed system of personal and pastoral help and care.
6. In 2016-17, 23% of both BA and MA students had one or more known disabilities. The Programme Handbook makes it clear that LKH 'supports the rights of students with disabilities to attain their full academic potential and will make all reasonable adjustments to allow those with disabilities to access the programme.' The premises have full disabled access, and several past and present students make regular use of wheelchairs. Two deaf students have successfully studied at LKH (making full use of signing and notetaking), and there are a significant number who have been diagnosed with dyslexia or a related specific learning disability. Help is given in accessing the government's Disabled Students Allowance where appropriate, and a proof-reading service is offered to those who need it. The number of students who fail is small, but no one with a diagnosed disability of any kind has done so.
7. Though LKH is a Christian institution, it strives to be fully inclusive – including those of other faiths. Its ethos statement expresses this commitment to inclusivity, and in response to a recent survey of student views at LKH, the following comments were made: 'The college, I believe, excels in its inclusivity, enabling people from all backgrounds, and with a variety of other commitments, to study in patterns that are most appropriate to their context. I have found LKH a welcoming and supportive community that constantly strives to improve the learning environment and academic standards it offers to a diverse group of learners.'
8. LKH as an institution offers opportunities for learning to the wider community and to local churches. A significant number of people audit courses on a regular basis, a regular series of lectures and other learning opportunities are provided and advertised, and conferences and symposiums are held in order to support and equip those serving in local churches. The numbers

of people who attend and participate regularly in such events are not recorded, but it would be between 750 and 1000 annually.

9. The staff of LKH are all involved in wider spheres of service and engagement, whether within the local community or in wider denominational activities. This is expected and welcomed as a sign of commitment to the common good. The range of such activities is considerable and would include ministry within local churches, governance responsibilities both locally and nationally, and links with local charities.
10. The LKH premises are used by a wide range of organizations and charities both locally and from the wider city of Manchester. They are made available on a daily basis and are well used.
11. A recent development has been the creation of the 'Centre for Theology and Justice' as an expression of the commitment of LKH to wider issues of social justice. This is a partnership with 'Church Action on Poverty', 'Christian Aid' and 'Churches Together in Britain and Ireland' with the aim of encouraging and enabling engagement with a number of key concerns within society. One example of the work that is being done concerns issues of migration and refugees.
12. It is difficult to estimate the financial resources invested by LKH through its commitment to the public good. This aspect of its life and work is so integral to everything it stands for and seeks to do.

---

*December 2018*