



ST HILD  
COLLEGE



PROSPECTUS





Deeper Roots, Wider Horizons

“The vision of our college is to help you grow deeper roots in Christ and expand your capacity to join God’s work. I believe every member of St Hild is a light that God is sending to our region. Our aim is to equip people for that calling through transformative community life, excellent theological learning and a contagious passion for the kingdom.

People often say that coming to visit St Hild helps them view their future more clearly. I hope you’ll take up this invitation to see us for yourself. If you accept a place, we believe you will finish your time with us better able to follow God’s call, wherever that may take you.”

Mark Powley  
PRINCIPAL



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## EXPANSIVE MISSION

We draw our inspiration from the first Christians to share the gospel in Britain and especially St Hild, a trailblazing example of prayer, wisdom and witness (c. 614-680AD). Our college life is geared to help people listen for the Spirit and join the work of the kingdom in their own contexts.

We have an expansive view of mission that constantly enlarges our horizons. For us, this means helping to make disciples, grow and plant churches, raise new ministries, pursue transformative justice and seek the flourishing of all creation.

- ♥ **All our learning seeks to support participation in God's mission**
- ♥ **All our tutors are active in leading and resourcing Christian ministry**
- ♥ **We give strategic focus to contextual mission, planting and revitalising churches, and the re-evangelisation of the North**
- ♥ **We are the first theological college to have received an A Rocha Eco-Church Award**

“There is no substitute for gaining real experience. Time spent at St Hild, and in my context, has helped me to discern where God is calling me.”

NICK

“I love the culture that is developing at St Hild – a place where all can belong and be stretched in academic study, leadership and formation.”

LINDA MASLEN, FOUNTAINS BRADFORD





“St Hild sees God at work in as many ways as there are students. This is a phenomenally liberating approach.”

GODFREY



## PRAYER AND FORMATION

We want to help every member of our community grow deep spiritual roots. Our aim is to be like Jesus, becoming disciples in every aspect of our lives as we share the life of God. At the heart of this is prayer.

We believe in combining study, service and a deepening life with God, but we recognise that this isn't easy. Our tutors know what it is like to face the challenges of ministry. We are committed to supporting Christian work that is hopeful, sustainable and fruitful.

Formation in Christ is always costly and often surprising; it brings to light our weaknesses. We want to remain open to the profound re-making that comes when we step out on untrodden paths and learn to rely more on the grace of God.

- ♦ We encourage a prayerful rhythm of life for all our community
- ♦ Our worship draws on a rich mix of traditions

- ♦ We offer opportunities for prayer and retreat alongside the monastic Community of the Resurrection at Mirfield
- ♦ Our training addresses vulnerability, self-knowledge and working with uncertainty

“My relationship with God is growing deeper, more creative and more courageous.”

SHARON



# FLEXIBLE LEARNING

We have an excellent track record for flexible learning. Each of our students has an individual learning pathway put together specifically for their needs.

Our learning community is wonderfully diverse – our best learning is often from each other. We work with those new to academic study to build their confidence; we can also provide stretching further study for those looking to teach, write or develop original research.

Our teaching faculty have subject specialisms at research and publication level in Biblical Studies, Doctrine, Spirituality, Ethics, Pastoral Care, Leadership and Mission. We are committed to rigorous academic study that deepens and enriches faith.

- ♦ All our awards are validated by Durham University through the Common Awards scheme
- ♦ We offer Certificate, Diploma, BA and MA plus other flexible awards (see p. 24)
- ♦ We have excellent pass and progression rates across all our pathways
- ♦ “There is very positive student feedback and St Hild enjoys the full confidence of its students” Ministry Division and Durham University External Review



“This is the first institution I have been involved in that listens to its students in this way and it’s very much appreciated.”

JENNY







“I want to be the kind of leader who builds more families like this, with Jesus at the centre.”

SALLY-ANN

## GROWING COMMUNITY

We *are* our students. We unite Anglicans, Baptists and Independent church members in a partnership run in the North, for the North.

We bring together a diverse and hospitable community to learn in face to face settings framed by prayer and worship.

Our Barnabas Teaching Centre meets on Monday daytimes at STC Sheffield. This includes a monthly Missional Leadership programme of expert speakers on spirituality and leadership followed by Formation Groups that reflect and grow together through the year.

Our Mirfield Teaching Centre meets on Wednesday evenings at Mirfield, with access to a beautiful site for study and prayer alongside the Community of the Resurrection. Mirfield also hosts regular events to resource holistic mission in context.

Our York Teaching Centre meets on Thursday evenings alongside the York School of Ministry and includes access to additional library resources.

All our students can:

- ♥ **Join a community that builds lasting and transformative relationships**
- ♥ **Access online e-books, videos and journals through our Virtual Learning Environment**
- ♥ **Receive dedicated personal tutor support and help with assignments where required**
- ♥ **Access library facilities, including theological collections at Mirfield, Sheffield, Leeds, York and other regional libraries**





“The training on leadership and mission helped me read my new context, work out what is achievable, and invite people to join in. Now St Hild has helped me develop my teaching by leading a module with them.”

DR ERIK PEETERS

## LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

St Hild College exists to grow the capacity and confidence of theological education in our region. We are investing in the future of the church through an outward-facing curriculum, including our new Practitioner Tracks, in Church Planting and Mission on the Margins.

We have a history of sending students to pioneering and creative initiatives. Our calling is to be a catalyst for further learning, theological reflection and partnership.

- ♥ **Our network of alumni is supported by ongoing learning and resource events**
- ♥ **We are helping to develop new practitioner-experts and academic teachers for the region**
- ♥ **Through specialist tutors, we are contributing to pioneering research in church planting, spirituality, ethics and transformative community work**





“St Hild impressed us with its achievement of formational outcomes for students.”

MINISTRY DIVISION EXTERNAL REVIEW

## CHURCH OF ENGLAND ORDINATION TRAINING

### Mission

Every St Hild ordinand is engaged with mission in a local context. For full time ordinands this means 16-20 hours per week developing new ministry alongside an experienced practitioner, supported by regular group reflection time. For part time ordinands it means a short-term placement in a local parish from Advent to Easter of their first year, plus a second placement in a new area or international context.

### Study

Ordinands are based at York, Mirfield or Sheffield for weekly study. Part time ordinands normally need to set aside 10-12 hours per week for additional study. Full time ordinands – and self-supporting ordinands on our Intensive Pathway – study for 20 hours each week with additional academic time possible, depending on their individual study pathway.

### Prayer

Our ordinand community gathers each year for six residential weekends at Mirfield and one Easter week at Durham. This is crucial formational time for worship, prayer, shared meals, study and retreat. Ordinands journey through training as part of a Prayer Group for mutual accountability and personal growth. All ordinands are encouraged to have a spiritual director.



“Being mentored in context accelerated and deepened my learning. I could not have hoped for a more life-giving mode of training.”

MICHELLE



“I leave more confident in leading with others, better equipped in pastoral care, and more ready to share the Gospel in a changing society.”

LEE



## BAPTIST TRAINING

### Mission

Ministers in Training or those on a Regionally Recognised route work in a local context of Baptist leadership where they can serve and grow in mission. Contextual placements are overseen by Northern Baptist College and supported by an associate tutor whose role is to help those in training to integrate theology, life and ministry.

### Study

Academic study follows a flexible pathway agreed with each student, normally a Diploma, BA or MA award. Ministers in Training are based at our Barnabas Teaching Centre where training is overseen by the Dean of Baptist Formation and includes input from a range of Baptist tutors. Mondays at Sheffield also include our Missional Leadership programme and Formation Groups.

### Baptist Leadership Programme

Baptist Ministers in Training from across the region join together for the Baptist Leadership Programme coordinated by Northern Baptist College. Alongside this, all those training for Baptist leadership develop local relationships for accountability, support and prayer.





## INDEPENDENT STUDY

We offer a range of flexible options for independent study, from introductory theology courses to full degrees (see p. 24). Independent students include those simply wanting to study the Christian faith more deeply, and interns, youth workers or church leaders from a range of denominations looking to root their practice in good theology.

We are passionate about making theological study as accessible as possible. We offer highly competitive study fees and a bursary scheme. We offer the opportunity to take an initial taster module, plus regular reviews of learning to make sure every student is on the right pathway. There is extra support for anyone starting degree work for the first time or returning to study.

All independent students can access classes and library facilities at any of our sites. This includes access to our Missional Leadership programme of expert speakers and shared reflection groups in Sheffield, and a wider community of prayer and support at all our centres.

“The atmosphere is relaxed. The tutors know how to stretch minds, impart skills and help us question intelligently. It’s just a real pleasure to be here.”

STUART



## FURTHER STUDY

Our further study programmes have been developed for those already in ministry or working towards a higher degree. We have a strong track record of equipping people to offer teaching, writing or research to the wider church, or to develop as an expert practitioner in their field.

We offer specialist graduate and postgraduate modules in advanced Biblical Studies, Doctrine, Leadership, Church History, Ethics, Church Planting and Urban Mission.

All our further study pathways are highly flexible, tailored to build on previous study and support chosen research interests. Non-accredited routes are also possible. We review learning regularly with each student to ensure their pathway is relevant and stretching.

“For me, the high quality academic teaching has helped ignite a passion to use my mind for Christ, to think, reflect, and engage with those from different traditions.”

SAM







“We’re delighted to partner in this new track which will weave together practical experience and current academic thinking to enrich mission.”

ANNA RUDDICK, URBAN LIFE

“I’m confident this track will equip people to contextualise the gospel and navigate the hard graft of church planting.”

NICK ALLAN, THE WELL

## PRACTITIONER TRACKS

### Church Planting

Our Church Planting Track is specifically designed to resource a new generation of church planting leaders. Led by our Director of Church Planting and Revitalisation, it enables in-context learning in areas such as contextual awareness, planting and sending, team leadership and spirituality. Track participants are expected to be involved in church planting and all modules are tailored to develop more effective ministry in their locality.

### Mission on the Margins

Our Mission on the Margins Track aims to support people working in marginal urban and rural communities or with marginalised people groups. Partnering with Urban Life, and linked to a wider network of practitioners, it focuses on the skills to cultivate transformative community-based ministry for the long term. Track participants are expected to be involved in leading or supporting local mission and all modules are tailored to enable effective reflection in that context.

Practitioner Tracks provide the opportunity for our students to:

- ♦ **Join a community of people working in a similar context**
- ♦ **Receive mentoring and encouragement appropriate to their stage of ministry**
- ♦ **Achieve an MA, graduate or postgraduate qualification, or complete a personalised programme of informal study**
- ♦ **Work towards the skills and wisdom to innovate, teach or write in their chosen field**



# ACADEMIC AWARDS

St Hild College is proud to offer Durham University qualifications via the Common Awards scheme. Durham is a world-leading university in Theology and Religious Studies. Working with the University, through the Yorkshire Theological Education Partnership, enables us to offer an outstanding set of higher education qualifications. A full list of our courses and modules is available online.

## Foundation Award in Theology, Ministry and Mission

Our entry level qualification, studied over 1 year. An excellent short introduction for those testing out theological study.

## Certificate in Theology, Ministry and Mission

A longer entry-level qualification, studied over 1-3 years. Module options include Introductions to the Old and New Testaments, Greek, Hebrew, Preaching, Worship, Christian Doctrine, Mission and Evangelism and Ministry in Context. With further study, this qualification can lead to a Diploma or BA.

## Diploma in Theology, Ministry and Mission

Normally studied over 2-4 years. Module options include Old and New Testament Study, Doctrine, Christology, Worship, Spirituality and Discipleship, Pastoral Care, Islam and Missional Theology in Global Context. With further study, this qualification can lead to a BA.

## BA in Theology, Ministry and Mission

Normally studied over 3-4 years, depending on prior study. It incorporates Diploma modules, but also higher-level module options such as Further Biblical Studies, Christian Ethics, Leadership, Reflective Practice, and Community Development.

## Graduate Diploma in Theology, Ministry and Mission

Normally taken over 1-2 years by students with a good degree in arts and humanities, or equivalent. It includes a selection of higher-level modules from the undergraduate programmes above, and equips students for further theological study.

## Post-Graduate Diploma or MA in Theology, Ministry and Mission

Appropriate for those with a prior degree in Theology, a Graduate Diploma or equivalent. Includes options in Advanced Biblical Studies, Mission and Ecclesiology, Leadership, Doctrine in Contemporary Culture, Church History and Ethics. The MA builds on these postgraduate modules with an agreed research dissertation.

## Flexible accreditation options

Prior study can be considered towards entry to the appropriate academic award. Durham University credits can contribute to further study at universities worldwide. Students who want to consider a non-accredited route can work towards a St Hild Certificate, which is awarded internally by the college.

Taster modules are available for an experience of study which can contribute to further credit if taken forward. If, for any reason, students are unable to complete a course of study, an appropriate alternative award or acknowledgement of study will be offered.





## WHERE NEXT?

If you would like to find out more:

- ♥ **Contact us to arrange an Open Day visit**
- ♥ **Let us make you a personalised offer of study**
- ♥ **If you accept a place, you will join the St Hild community when your course starts**

### Fees

Fees for independent study are detailed on our website. For more information about fees and bursary support, admission criteria and forthcoming Open Days, contact us at [enquiries@sthild.org](mailto:enquiries@sthild.org).

“From the word go, I felt that I had been welcomed into a community, where I could explore, make mistakes, question and grow”

SUE



