



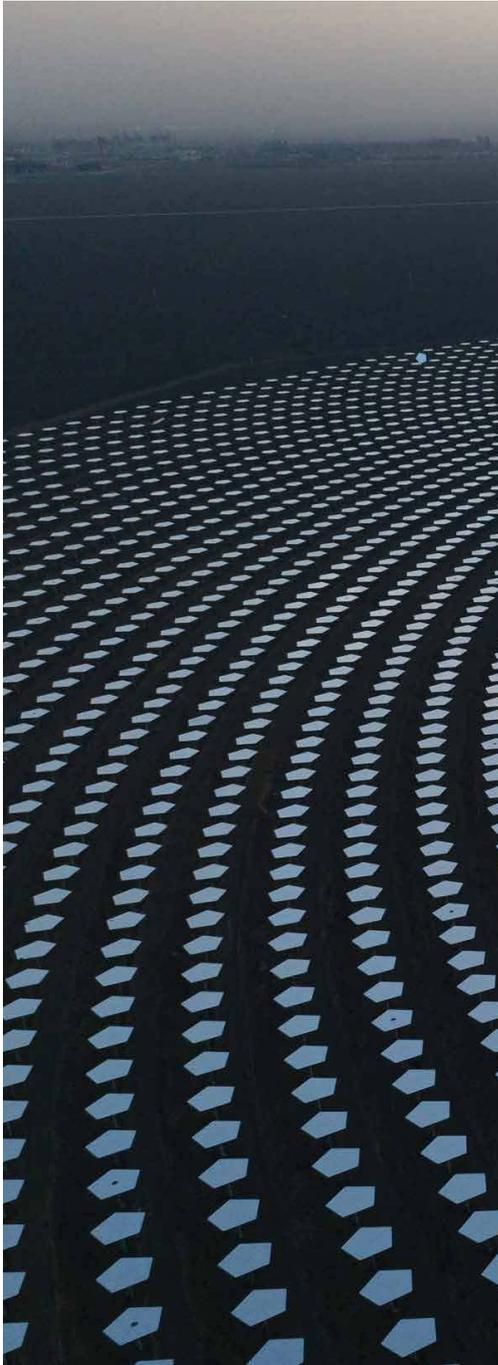
UK Universities in India Members Programme

Membership Information

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Introduction

India and UK endorsed the new India-UK Vision 2035 in July 2025, an ambitious and future forward agreement which includes Education as one of the flagship pillars. Education is one of the UK's most powerful tools for global engagement. It builds trust, strengthens systems, and creates lasting connections between people and nations.

In July 2020, India adopted a bold and transformative National Education Policy (NEP) setting out an ambitious agenda to increase access, inclusion and quality in higher education. With over 40 million students already enrolled today, the country will need 30 million new student places to reach its target of 50% GER by 2035. In response, the University Grants Commission (UGC) launched a series of new regulations which allow the establishment of joint and dual degrees as well as International Branch Campuses in India.

The UK is uniquely placed to respond. Nine UK universities have now committed to opening campuses in India - in autumn 2025, the University of Southampton Delhi became the first UK and the first foreign university to open a campus in India under these new UGC regulations.

The India-UK Vision 2035, India's National Education Policy 2020, the UK's recently published International Education Strategy 2026 all point in the same direction - towards deeper collaboration, stronger partnerships, and a long-term approach to education, research and innovation.

UK Universities in India Members Programme (UKIN): Overview and objectives

Members Programme

- ▶ Provide unbiased advice and support to UK universities planning or operating international branch campuses in India.
- ▶ Assist universities in identifying Indian partners and provide regulatory guidance and engagement for collaborative ventures.
- ▶ Elevate the collective profile and reputation of UK universities within the Indian higher education ecosystem.
- ▶ Maximise value in India based student recruitment, stakeholder engagement, and networking through coordinated events, fairs, and initiatives.
- ▶ Foster a community of knowledge-sharing to address common challenges and jointly develop solutions.
- ▶ Promote TNE partnerships encouraging more Indian students to earn UK qualifications locally while strengthening alumni networks.



Membership of the UKIN

The membership will be open to

- a. All universities wishing to set up or have an existing International Branch campus in India.
- b. All universities who wish to form or already have Transnational Education partnerships in India through joint, dual and twinning degrees.

Annual Contributory Fee

Membership is available through a contributory fee of £4,998 per annum, with a minimum two-year commitment on a rolling basis.

Universities seeking additional support-particularly those exploring branch campus opportunities-may Premium Membership Fee: £7,998 per annum, which includes more extensive consultation and advisory services.

Governance

The **British Council** will convene the inaugural meeting of **founding member universities** to establish the **agenda and charter** of the Members Programme. It will also lead the **launch** and develop a **communications strategy** to raise the UKIN profile.

Ongoing support will be provided to member institutions, based on **ring-fenced resources**, with members actively shaping focus areas and priorities.

Subsequent meetings will be **co-chaired** by the **British Council Country Director** and the head of an **India International Campus**, with the **university co-chair rotating every six months**. The **British Council Director Education, India**, will be the Director of the Hub and the Members Programme.

Proposed Members Programme Activities and Engagements

- a. Development of a **visual identity and communications strategy** for the India members programme and a high-profile launch. Subsequent activities will be organised with support from the marketing teams of the member universities. This will include creation of a web page and portal.
- b. The British Council will convene two virtual two face-to-face **meetings** each year to share challenges and agree the agenda and strategy for the following period as well as review the previous quarter.
- c. The **British Council** will host at least two **annual knowledge workshops or masterclasses**, bringing together Indian higher education stakeholders, government representatives, and UK International Branch Campuses to address shared challenges and foster strong academic and leadership networks. These events will rotate across different locations and may coincide with the India UKIN meetings.
- d. The Members Programme may establish **sub-groups**-such as Marcomms, Student Experience, or Recruitment -to conduct focused virtual knowledge-sharing sessions, engage experts, and deepen sector insights.
- e. It will also actively **collaborate with key bodies**, including the Association of Indian Universities, State Higher Education Councils, and private sector providers, while networking with international branch campuses, government agencies, and regulators. The UKIN will participate collectively in industry forums and conferences, partnering with organisations such as FICCI and CII. However, membership will be restricted to UK universities only.

Offer to India UKIN members

The basic offer to universities who join the programme includes:

- a. Continued use of the British Council premises for promoting their mission and objective in India including:
 - ▶ **British Council theatre** in New Delhi for functions such as outreach and engagement, alumni events, graduation ceremonies, admission counselling etc. **once a year**. Staff will be on hand to advise on the delivery of such events if required. It will be on firstcome, first-served basis. Any additional use will be on a cost reimbursement basis only as per the agreed arrangement.
 - ▶ The **Higher Education Collaboration Hub** will be a small physical space available to universities in British Council Delhi where their collateral can be displayed and senior level meetings hosted.
- b. British Council **Higher Education Partnership specialist staff will be available for advisory meetings** with the senior members of the university on partnerships, stakeholder management, outreach programmes, communications strategy for a set number of hours as given below. These will focus on TNE, International Branch Campus and partnership engagements.
- c. For members seeking to set up an IBC in India, the British Council will advise and support their engagement with state and federal governments and the wider India HMG network during different stages of the set-up process from scoping to graduation of the first batch as required. They must be a part of the Premium membership plan to get continued and enhanced support.

Membership Plan	For 2 years paid annually (GBP)	Alliance Members Activities	Advisory Meetings	Use of Theatre Public space	Use of Meeting rooms
Standard	9,996 (4998 Yr 1 + 4998 Yr 2)	2 face-to-face and 2 virtual planning meetings 2 stakeholder and networking events	3 hours over two years	1 day a year 8 hours	6 days a year for core working hours
Premium	15,996 (7,998 Yr 1 + 7,998 Yr 2)	2 face-to-face and 2 virtual planning meetings 2 stakeholder and networking events	6 hours over two years	2 days a year 16 hours	12 days a year for core working hours
Additional	Charges on hospitality, catering, logistics, consumables, venue dressing and branding, audio visual and technical equipment will be covered by the university on actuals.				

The Partnership: Roles and Responsibilities

The UKIN is envisaged as a partnership for member universities. This means that all universities regardless of whether they are Premium or Standard members will have a role to play in the success of the Members programme. Outlined below are the proposed roles and responsibilities of the British Council and the university members regardless of their Premium or Standard membership status.

British Council

Country Directory will jointly co-chair the UKIN with a member university. The British Council India Hub team will act as the secretariat and coordinate the meetings of the UKIN. The agenda will be jointly agreed with the members.

The administration and finances of the UKIN will be based in the British Council Delhi office and for audit and legal purposes be managed by the processes of the British Council. The payment towards the membership will be collected only in the UK through British Council UK.

British Council will contract and manage any other consultants and vendors as per procurement process of the British Council.

The British Council will host meetings in Delhi and allocate a designated portion of the UK Higher Education Collaboration Hub's resources within its premises to support the UKIN activities, while serving a key coordinating role.

The British Council will regularly share insights and convene relevant stakeholders according to an agreed schedule to exchange information and expertise. When needed, additional university experts may be engaged. These sessions will focus on general regulatory, market, and cultural contexts and will not provide bespoke or institution-specific advice.

Member University

The senior most member of the university based in India and/or the Pro VC Global or equivalent who have only other TNE forms of partnership will be a Co-Chair for a period of 6 months. It is expected that the universities will join in the meetings regularly at the appropriate level of engagement.

Member universities will contribute regularly towards the membership fee, sign off the plans for expenditure, suggest sources for additional funding if and when any should arise.

The British Council will have a two-way partnership agreement with each of the universities as per the template which will be shared following positive expression of interest by the universities through the form attached with this document.

Universities shall support the UKIN by sharing resources, campuses, and facilities as mutually agreed, enabling UKIN activities to be held beyond Delhi and ensuring that member institutions in other metropolitan areas also benefit.

It is expected that universities will also share their advice and insights and contribute to creation of common knowledge for the sector through their individual experience in this relatively new space. This may take the shape of leading specific committees and areas through allowing staff to engage with each other in these areas and come up with creative innovative solutions to challenges.

Disclaimer

The British Council shall not be liable for any direct, indirect, incidental, consequential, or any other type of loss, damage, or expense arising from, or in connection with, any advice, guidance, or information provided by them. Universities are strongly encouraged to seek independent professional advice, including legal, technical, and tax consultancy, before entering into any partnerships or engagements in India.

The UK Universities In India Members Programme Bespoke services are provided solely for informational purposes and do not constitute, replace, or guarantee the services provided by any commercial consultancy organisation or other service providers. The British Council make no representations or warranties regarding any third-party services. Any engagement with such services by Programme members is at their own discretion, following appropriate due diligence and consideration.

Nothing in this disclaimer shall be construed as creating any contractual, fiduciary, or other legal obligations on the part of the British Council.

Next Steps

- Fill out the expression of interest [form](#)
- Sign the contract sent to you
- Receive payment instructions to make payment
- You will receive information to join meetings.





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