

You said, we did...

Our responses to student feedback

You said	We did
2018	
You would like us to reduce our use of plastic disposable cups at training weekends	We have sourced a supply of recyclable disposable paper cups to use at training weekends and other events. A separate box is provided for used cups which will be recycled. Our new catering supplier also provides paper plates rather than polystyrene and reuses the platters that food is delivered on. Students are also encouraged to bring their own reusable cups. * update 2023 – a new recycling bin is now available in the conference centre, which allows for mixed recycling types. In addition, we reuse items such as files, folders, plastic wallets and even paperclips as much as possible. All of our paper and confidential waste are shredded and recycled.
Could we provide a small number of chairs with no arms, to help those with mobility issues?	We have 6 new chairs with no arms. They will be divided between the conference room and library. These can be easily identified by the slightly darker grey on the backs of the seats.
You would like more Bibles available in the library	The library is an academic resource, and there are several Bibles available. Students studying any Theology course are expected to bring their own Bibles with them, therefore we feel our limited resources are best used elsewhere.
2019	
You would like to introduce a Student Code of Conduct	After much discussion with student reps at Course Board meetings, it was felt that this was not necessary at this time.
2023	
The residential weekends are intense and tiring. Could they be shortened?	We are obliged to deliver a certain number of teaching hours per module, so we cannot reduce the amount of teaching time. We have made alterations to the timetable, which means less free time on a Saturday, but an earlier finish in the evenings. We have worked with the hotel to establish

	better times for breakfast and a smoother service for evening meals, ensuring students can be on time for sessions.
Could a session on using Microsoft Teams be included in one of the weekend sessions?	Using Teams for marking is new to all of us. A user guide has been issued to students and tutors. Once we have used this system a couple of times we can establish whether there is a further training need, in which case a session will be arranged.
We would like more vegetarian food plus salads and fruit provided at the lunch time buffets.	We will be working with our catering suppliers to ensure we provide plenty of vegetarian and healthier options. Update January 2024: 50% of our buffet lunch is now vegetarian and we have increased the amount and variety of healthier options available.
2024	
Breakfast times at the hotel are rushed and don't leave enough time to get to the centre on time.	We have worked with the hotel to compromise on breakfast times, and to slightly adjust the residential timetable. We have also introduced 15 minutes 'travel time' to allow time to walk to/from the hotel for evening meals.
You wanted more time for private study/study support/other activities at residential weekends.	We have trialled a varied activities session on the Saturday evening of the April residential, which included opportunities for private study, surgeries with tutors, worship preparation and craft activities. This may potentially be included once or twice per year.
Can we have takeaway pizza for one evening meal at a residential?	Unfortunately this would not be practical to accommodate with respect to costing, ordering, time constraints and clearing waste.
2025	
4.1 students would appreciate academic skills sessions in September.	We will look at how we organise the induction session for 2025 to accommodate this, if at all possible.
Tutorial groups covering more diverse subjects as requested by students.	Tutorial groups are new to us this academic year and so we are all learning about this process together. Further developments will follow as we settle into this new pattern.

<p>Do we need to have as many student meetings?</p>	<p>It is a requirement of our validation with the university that students meet in plenary with time to feedback joys and concerns without tutors being present. We will check the exact number of meetings required and explore this matter at the next course board.</p>
<p>Could the timetable be changed to allow for Saturday evenings to be free?</p>	<p>We have made changes over the past two years to allow for earlier finish times in an evening (sessions/evening prayers used to run until 10pm). Some people like the free time in the afternoon to “recharge their batteries” whilst others would clearly prefer to have less unstructured time in the day to allow for an earlier finish. We will take this suggestion to the course board for further discussion.</p>