



**EDUCATIONAL OVERSIGHT INSPECTION OF PRIVATE FURTHER
EDUCATION COLLEGES AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOLS**

MONITORING VISIT

EYNSFORD COLLEGE

(6531257)

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Age Range 14+

Total number of students 20

Numbers by age and type of study 18+ 20
EFL only: 20

Inspection date **10 November 2015**

PREFACE

This inspection report follows the Framework for Educational Oversight Monitoring Visits and Extended Monitoring Visits of private further education colleges and English language schools. The focus of the visit is to confirm that the quality standards reported at the last full inspection are being maintained.

The ISI is an approved Educational Oversight body authorised by the Home Office to inspect privately funded further education colleges and English language schools in England and Wales offering courses on the Qualifications and Credit Framework. It is designed to improve the quality of education on offer to international students who attend UK colleges through Tier 4 of the points-based system for student visas.

ISI inspections are required to:

- Report on the extent to which colleges comply with the published Educational Oversight Standards;
- Assess and report on the quality of educational outcomes and provision;
- Where applicable, make recommendations outside the scope of the Standards to support continued improvement of quality.

Inspection provides objective and reliable reports on the quality of colleges, and by placing reports in the public domain, makes this information available to students, Government and the wider community. Inspection takes account of the context of each individual college, and of how it evaluates its own performance and demonstrates its success.

The inspection of the college is from an educational perspective and provides limited inspection of other aspects, though inspectors will comment on any significant hazards or problems they encounter which have an adverse impact on students. The inspection does not include:

- (i) an exhaustive health and safety audit;
- (ii) an in-depth examination of the structural condition of the college, its services or other physical features;
- (iii) an investigation of the financial viability of the college or its accounting procedures;
- (iv) an in-depth investigation of the college's compliance with employment law.

A monitoring visit is for those colleges found at the last inspection to have met or exceeded the Standards for Educational Oversight. Inspectors will make judgements on progress against any action points and recommendations made at that time. The inspection will not examine all other Standards in detail but will sample to confirm that previous Standards have been maintained and that there are no contrary indicators to those quality judgements.

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1. CHARACTERISTICS AND CONTEXT

- 1.1 Eynsford College is an English language school, which was founded in 2008 and moved to its current location in Oxford Street, London in 2011. It occupies a two-floor suite above a shopping area. The college is jointly owned by two proprietors, one of whom acts as principal and leads the senior management team. The aim of the college is to improve language skills so as to make education and university-level studies accessible to all students in a central London location.
- 1.2 Currently the college offers general English language courses for students above the age of 18 years throughout the year. The college provides a range of general English courses for closed groups of 14 to 17 year olds during national holiday periods for schools. Students are also offered International English Language Testing System (IELTS) and Cambridge Examination courses. All are linked to the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR).
- 1.3 Students may enrol at the start of any week. They are required to take a placement test before commencing a course and are encouraged to take a trial lesson where further assessment of skills is carried out. Course duration varies from 1 week to 52 weeks.
- 1.4 At the time of the inspection there were 20 students enrolled. All were over the age of 18. The majority are attending short courses of four-week duration, while the rest are attending longer programmes lasting from 4 weeks to 12 months. There is an even balance between female and male students. The majority of students are from Europe, others are from a variety of other countries. All students arrange their own accommodation. There were no students identified as having special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).
- 1.5 The college was last inspected on 22 October 2013 when it met all key standards and the quality of education was judged to exceed expectations. The recommendation from the previous inspection was:
 - Increase the uptake for the excellent social programme.

2. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- 2.1 **The college exceeds expectations.** At the previous inspection of 22 October 2013 the college was found to exceed expectations and the quality of education as judged at that time has been maintained.
- 2.2 The quality of the curriculum, teaching and learners' achievements is excellent. The curriculum is well resourced, very well suited to student needs and accurately linked to CEFR levels. Courses on offer to students meet the definition of an approved qualification, as set out in the Home Office guidance. Initial assessment of students' language skills and needs facilitates accurate placement and excellent progress. Teaching is excellent and provides very effective individualised support for students. Teachers demonstrate high levels of knowledge and expertise. Assessment of student progress is accurate and timely. Teachers provide accurate and useful feedback for students on how to progress effectively and how to benefit best from their time in the UK. Consequently, progress and attainment on general English courses is excellent and students perform extremely well in external examinations.
- 2.3 Students' welfare, including health and safety, is excellent. Comprehensive policies and procedures regarding health and safety are successfully implemented to reduce the risk from hazards, including first aid and fire. Robust risk assessments are carried out for all college activities. Buildings are well maintained and fit for purpose. Access to the college is not suitable for wheelchair users; otherwise access is appropriate. Registration and attendance registers are accurately kept. Appropriate procedures are in place for reporting to the Home Office on concerns regarding Tier 4 students. Pastoral support is excellent. A thorough induction programme effectively ensures that students are aware of college provision and procedures. Students state that they receive excellent academic and personal support. Satisfactory progress has been made in improving the number of students using the social programme. Safeguarding of students aged under 18 years is excellent and the college complies with all safeguarding regulations.
- 2.4 The effectiveness of governance, leadership and management is excellent. The clearly stated educational direction is effectively implemented throughout the college. Excellent relationships between all staff ensure that both formal and informal communication is accurate and facilitates the smooth management of the college. Well-qualified staff are successfully supported through appropriate policies and procedures and an excellent professional development programme. Quality assurance is excellent. Data from a variety of sources is effectively analysed and used successfully to plan for improvements in provision. The clearly stated complaints procedure is effectively communicated during induction programmes. All required checks are completed prior to confirmation of appointment of staff and accurately recorded on the single central register.

3. THE QUALITY OF THE CURRICULUM, TEACHING AND LEARNERS' ACHIEVEMENTS

- 3.1 The quality of the curriculum, teaching and learners' achievements is excellent. All Key Standards continue to be met.
- 3.2 A clear curriculum policy is successfully implemented. This is well supported by detailed schemes of work which are accurately linked to CEFR level.
- 3.3 Very suitable courses are offered, based on an accurate assessment of the individual students' needs and objectives. These provide effective routes for progression. Courses on offer to students meet the definition of an approved qualification, as set out in the Home Office guidance.
- 3.4 Initial assessment is accurate and used very well to generate effective individual learning plans (ILPs) in the post-16 sector. These are successfully used by teachers to plan for individual student progress.
- 3.5 Teaching is excellent. Whole class teaching is good and forms the basis for highly individualised support in lessons, which is very carefully planned. Classes provide a wide range of challenging activities. Consequently students progress very well. Teachers are very well qualified, highly skilled and experienced.
- 3.6 Assessment of students' work is extremely thorough and frequent. Information from assessment is used very effectively in tutorials to inform students what they must do to progress. Tutorial advice is followed up accurately so that students progress quickly.
- 3.7 Classroom activities together with the social programme, which is lead by teachers, effectively encourage students to take responsibility for their progress and time in the United Kingdom (UK). Wi-Fi access is sometimes slow which restricts research opportunities for students.
- 3.8 Attainment both in general English classes and on externally examined courses is excellent. All students progress well against their starting levels and objectives. All progress is linked accurately to CEFR levels.

4. STUDENTS' WELFARE, INCLUDING HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 4.1 Students' welfare, including health and safety, is excellent. All Key Standards continue to be met.
- 4.2 The recommendation in this area from the previous inspection report is:
- Increase the uptake for the excellent social programme.
- 4.3 The college has made satisfactory progress in addressing this recommendation. Class teachers now lead the trips and activities, which facilitates accurate communication regarding the programme. Students now perceive the programme as an excellent way to get to know London and other members of the college. Consequently, participation has increased.
- 4.4 The college demonstrates excellent regard for health and safety issues. Comprehensive policies regarding welfare, health and safety, first-aid and fire prevention are effectively implemented. Senior management ensures that best practice is followed at all times. Designated members of staff have received appropriate training in safeguarding, first-aid and fire prevention. They are identified clearly to the college community. Detailed risk assessment procedures exist for all activities.
- 4.5 The college buildings are fit for purpose. There is no wheelchair access but otherwise access to all areas is good. Lighting, heating and ventilation throughout the college are excellent and the premises are well maintained.
- 4.6 Accurate admissions and attendance registers are kept and electronically recorded. Appropriate procedures are in place to report non-compliance with visa regulations to the Home Office.
- 4.7 Pastoral support is excellent. Clearly stated procedures are successfully implemented. These are effectively introduced during the thorough and well structured induction programme. Consequently, students are very well supported both personally and academically. The social programme contributes positively to student progress in learning English.
- 4.8 Arrangements for safeguarding students aged under 18 years are excellent. All safeguarding policies and procedures are robust, including those dealing with radicalisation. These are effectively implemented and monitored by senior managers and are reviewed regularly. The college e-safety procedures are clearly publicised and covered thoroughly during induction. All staff, including the designated safeguarding person (DSP), are trained to suitable levels.

5. THE EFFECTIVENESS OF GOVERNANCE, LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 The effectiveness of governance, leadership and management is excellent. All Key Standards continue to be met.
- 5.2 The college leadership provides excellent educational direction, which is effectively shared and implemented in the college in fulfilment of the college's aims and ethos. Relationships are excellent and both informal and formal communication is clear and accurate.
- 5.3 Staff are extremely well qualified and experienced. They feel valued by the management and appreciate the effective support they receive, particularly by the excellent professional development programme. Many are long-term teachers at the college which they perceive as being very smoothly run.
- 5.4 The proprietors provide appropriate policies and procedures, which are communicated successfully to staff and students during induction. These are monitored well for effectiveness. The provision is very well resourced through robust financial management.
- 5.5 Quality assurance is excellent. Data from a variety of sources is used effectively to prioritise areas for improvement. This information is used very well to generate realistic college development plans. These plans are communicated clearly to the whole college community and effective implementation is successfully monitored.
- 5.6 Data from lesson observations and student feedback is integrated well to accurately identify training needs. The continuous professional development programme is successful in establishing consistency of best practice in classes. Teachers find the programme very useful in improving their teaching strategies. They consider the peer observation programme to be particularly helpful in improving learning outcomes for students.
- 5.7 A clearly stated complaints procedure is well publicised throughout the college. This is effectively shared with staff and students during induction.
- 5.8 Staff recruitment is rigorous, transparent and fair and the necessary checks are completed prior to confirmation of appointment. All staff have undergone appropriate DBS checks. All required information is entered on the accurate single central register, which is regularly updated.
- 5.9 The college website has clear details of the complaints procedure and access to relevant policies, such as safeguarding. Information regarding refund of fees and access to English UK is well publicised throughout the college.
- 5.10 The college complied with all requests for information regarding the inspection.

6. ACTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The college maintained the excellent quality found at the last inspection.

Recommendations for further improvement

In order to further improve the excellent quality provided, the college should:

- Improve its WiFi access to improve research facilities for students.

INSPECTION EVIDENCE

The inspectors observed lessons, conducted formal interviews with students and examined samples of students' work. They held discussions with senior members of staff and with the proprietor and observed registration taking place in lessons. The responses of staff and students to confidential pre-inspection questionnaires were analysed, and the inspectors examined regulatory documentation made available by the college. .

Inspectors

Ms Mareve Kilbride-Newman	Lead Inspector
Ms Jane Beeson	Team Inspector