

Organisation name	ILC Birmingham
Inspection date	2 February 2023
Current accreditation status	Accredited by extension
Reason for spot check	Routine: newly accredited institution

Recommendation

We recommend continued accreditation. The next inspection falls due in 2025; there are no grounds for bringing this forward.

Changes to the summary statement

No changes need to be made to the summary statement, apart from adding the date of this inspection and substituting ILC for TEG.

New summary statement

The British Council inspected and accredited ILC Birmingham in October 2021 with a spot check in February 2023. The Accreditation Scheme assesses the standards of management, resources and premises, teaching, welfare, and safeguarding under 18s and accredits organisations which meet the overall standard in each area inspected (see www.britishcouncil.org/education/accreditation for details).

This private language school offers courses in general English for adults (18+) and young people (16+).

Strengths were noted in the areas of student administration, premises and facilities, academic management, and leisure opportunities.

The inspection report stated that the organisation met the standards of the Scheme.

Updated summary inspection findings

N/a

Organisation profile

Inspection history	Dates/details
First inspection	October 2021
Last full inspection	October 2021
Subsequent spot check(s) (if applicable)	February 2023
Subsequent supplementary check(s) (if applicable)	N/a
Subsequent interim visit(s) (if applicable)	N/a
Other related non-accredited activities (in brief) at this centre	N/a
Other related accredited schools/centres/affiliates	ILC Bristol, ILC Cambridge, ILC Colchester, ILC Portsmouth and ILC Southampton
Other related non-accredited schools/centres/affiliates	None.

Student and staff profile	At inspection	In peak week: <i>July</i>
Total ELT/ESOL student numbers (FT + PT)	18	35
Minimum age (including closed group or vacation)	16	16
Typical age range	16–26	16–26
Typical length of stay	12 weeks	12 weeks
Predominant nationalities	Saudi Arabian	Saudi Arabian
Total number of teachers on eligible ELT courses	3	3

Total number of managers including academic	2	2
Total number of administrative/ancillary staff	1	1

Premises profile

Address of main site	Grosvenor House, 97 Broad Street, Birmingham B15 1AU
Additional sites in use	None
Additional sites not in use	None
Sites inspected	Grosvenor House

Introduction

Background

This was a routine spot of a newly accredited school. It was also to follow up on aspects of accommodation provision which could only be partially assessed at the time of the initial inspection.

Preparation

The 2021 report was reviewed and the school was contacted to determine when key staff would be present.

Programme and persons present

The inspector arrived at 11.30 and left at 15.30. Discussions were held with the director of studies (DOS) (Southampton) and former Birmingham DOS covering for the ILC principal, the current Birmingham DOS, the office manager and the school administrator. Both afternoon classes were observed.

Findings

Although at the time of the last inspection there were plans to re-instate homestay accommodation and provision was partially assessed, the school is not currently offering any accommodation. However, it does recommend hotels and residences if requested.

W9–20 (and M22) In common with all the other ILC schools, ILC Birmingham has a webpage giving details of the homestay accommodation that it offers. However, unlike the others, it does not currently offer such accommodation. This page was withdrawn after the spot check and is no longer a point to be addressed.

Other findings are presented in the points to be addressed section below.

<i>Accommodation: other</i>	
W21 Students receive information about the implications of their living in private rented accommodation and advice in case of difficulties.	Met
W22 The provider monitors any other accommodation recommended, and booking and payment arrangements are clear.	Met

Comments

None.

Action taken on points to be addressed

Points from the previous full inspection and/or subsequent spot checks or interim visits with comments (in bold) to indicate how far these have been addressed.

Points which must be addressed within three months

Safeguarding under 18s

S2 The designated safeguarding lead has completed training to an advanced level, but not to a specialist level safeguarding.

Addressed. The safeguarding lead has completed training at the specialist level.

S4 It is not made clear that all adults in a homestay must have a criminal records check unless the main carer's check includes checking other adults in the household.

Addressed. This is made clear in the homestay manuals that will be used if and when the school starts offering homestay accommodation again.

Other points to be addressed

Management

M25 There is no indication of approximate course-related exam fees on the website and no information about terms and conditions.

Addressed. This information is now included in the relevant web pages.

M27 The publicity does not make it clear that the residential accommodation is not arranged by the school.

Addressed. This is now made clear.

Teaching and learning

T13 Written course outlines and learning outcomes are not routinely made available to students.

Addressed. They are now made available.

T15 Strategies and advice to support independent learning are not covered systematically in the syllabus.

Addressed. These are now included.

T25 Learning outcomes were not always made clear to students.

Addressed. Learning outcomes were on the whiteboards in both classes observed.

Welfare and student services

W1 Some room-specific risks had not been identified.

Addressed. The building risk assessment is now very detailed and included specific information for each room.

Conclusions

All outstanding issues from the last full inspection have been resolved.
