

Organisation name	JoStudy English Academy, Leamington Spa
Inspection date	13 July 2023
Current accreditation status	Accredited
Reason for spot check	Routine: newly accredited institution

### Recommendation

We recommend continued accreditation. The next inspection falls due in 2026; there are no grounds for bringing this forward. However, evidence must be submitted within three months to demonstrate that weaknesses in *Publicity* have been addressed.

### Changes to the summary statement

The need for improvement in safeguarding under 18s can now be removed.

### New summary statement

The British Council inspected and accredited JoStudy English Academy, Leamington Spa in July 2022 and July 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](http://www.britishcouncil.org/education/accreditation) for details).

This private language school offers vacation courses for under 18s (12+).

The inspection report noted a need for improvement in the area of publicity.

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

### Updated summary inspection findings

#### Management

The provision meets the section standard. The management of the provision operates to the benefit of students and staff, and in accordance with the provider's stated goals, values, and publicity. The management structures in place generally provide a sound basis for the employment, management and support of teaching staff but appropriate recruitment procedures are not always followed. There is a need for improvement in *Publicity*.

#### Teaching and learning

The provision meets the section standard. The academic team has an appropriate professional profile for the courses offered. The course design is based on stated principles and teachers receive appropriate guidance to ensure that they support students effectively in their learning. The teaching observed met the requirements of the Scheme.

#### Safeguarding under 18s

Overall, the section standard is met. There is a safeguarding policy in place and thorough staff training is conducted. Supervision arrangements inside and outside set programme times are acceptable, and the accommodation arranged by the school is appropriate and safer recruitment procedures are followed.

### Organisation profile

Inspection history	Dates/details
First inspection	February 2022
Last full inspection	July 2022
Subsequent spot check(s) (if applicable)	2023 (this spot check)
Subsequent supplementary check(s) (if applicable)	July 2022
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	N/a

Other related non-accredited schools/centres/affiliates	N/a
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Student and staff profile	At inspection	In peak week: July
Total ELT/ESOL student numbers (FT + PT)	77	77
Minimum age (including closed group or vacation)	12	12
Typical age range	14–16	14–16
Typical length of stay	2 weeks	2 weeks
Predominant nationalities	Spanish and Italian	Spanish and Italian
Total number of teachers on eligible ELT courses	5	5
Total number of managers including academic	4	4
Total number of administrative/ancillary staff	4	4

Premises profile	
Address of main site	Clarence House, Clarence Street, Leamington Spa CV31 2AD
Additional sites in use	Royal Leamington Spa College, Warwick New Road, Leamington Spa CV32 5JE Moreton Morrell College, Warwick CV35 9BL
Additional sites not in use	N/a
Sites inspected	Royal Leamington Spa College, Warwick New Road, Leamington Spa CV32 5JE

## Introduction

### Background

Following accreditation in July 2022, a spot check was required within the first 12 months. The school was also required to submit evidence that weaknesses in safeguarding under 18s had been addressed within three months. The evidence was submitted and two of the three weaknesses were deemed to be addressed. Evidence that the third weakness had been addressed was to be reviewed as part of the routine spot check.

The school has a permanent office in Leamington Spa where it is based year-round, but the summer provision this year is taking place at two sites, Moreton Morrell College and Royal Leamington Spa College. The sites are eight miles apart and both belong to Warwickshire College Group. The Leamington Spa College site is being used for the first time this year. The Moreton Morrell site delivers fully residential provision and the Leamington Spa site does not, with some students transported to Moreton Morrell for their accommodation and other students in local homestays or staying with their own family.

### Preparation

This was a signalled inspection. The inspector contacted the school a week before the inspection to obtain information about the weekly schedule but the actual date of the visit was unannounced.

### Programme and persons present

The inspector visited the Leamington Spa college site. There were five teachers and 77 students, most of whom had arrived in groups with their respective group leader, but there were some individual students. All of the students were either Spanish or Italian and were mixed according to level. There were no closed groups.

The inspector arrived at Leamington Spa College at 10.00 and left at 14.00. College reception staff informed the JoStudy director of her arrival and the inspector was taken to the fourth floor of the college where the provision has sole use of the floor. This includes six classrooms, an office shared by all staff including teachers, two social spaces for students and two separate male and female toilets. The school also has the use of the large college cafeteria on the ground floor for lunch and breaks. This space is shared with another junior summer school that was taking place at the same time on the premises.

Meetings were held with the school director, the academic manager and the senior teacher, the accommodation and social programme manager and with two group leaders. One observation took place and the inspector met with four teachers and four students.

## Findings

### Management

There have been no significant changes in staffing since the last inspection. Findings in relation to this are reported in the Actions taken on points to be addressed. Findings in *Publicity* are reported in the following section.

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**Premises and resources**

New premises in Royal Leamington Spa College have been used this year. Findings are reported in the following section.

**Teaching and learning**

Findings are reported in the Action taken on points to be addressed.

**Welfare and student services**

Findings are reported in the Action taken on points to be addressed.

**Safeguarding under 18s**

Findings are reported in the Action taken on points to be addressed.

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**Management**

Publicity	Need for improvement
M22 All publicity and information is accurate, and gives rise to realistic expectations about the premises, location, and the extent and availability of the services and resources.	Not met
M23 All publicity and information about the provider and the services it offers is in clear, accurate and accessible English.	Met
M24 Publicity gives clear, accurate and easy-to-find information on the courses.	Not met
M25 Publicity includes clear, accurate and easy-to-find information on costs.	Not met
M26 Publicity or other information made available before enrolment gives an accurate description of the level of care and support given to any students under 18.	Not met
M27 Publicity gives an accurate description of any accommodation offered.	Met
M28 Descriptions of staff qualifications are accurate.	Met
M29 Claims to accreditation are in line with Scheme requirements.	Met
Comments	
The website is the main medium of publicity and there is a link to request a brochure. There is more detailed information in the brochure than on the website.	
M22 The brochure provides realistic expectations of the premises, location and resources but the website lacks clear information and images.	
M24 The brochure has more detailed information about the courses including a sample timetable, but this information does not appear on the website. Maximum class size is stated as 12 but all classes at the Leamington Spa centre had 15 students and one class had 17.	
M25 Costs for the junior courses do not appear on the website and have to be requested by email.	
M26 The brochure contains information about the level of care and support for under 18s but this information does not appear on the website.	

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**Premises and resources**

Premises and facilities	Met
P1 Premises, including any external areas, are in a good state of repair, cleanliness and decoration, and provide a comfortable environment for students and staff.	Met
P2 Classrooms and other learning areas provide a suitable study environment.	Met
P3 Students have adequate room and suitable facilities for relaxation and the consumption of food.	Met
P4 Free drinking water is available. A choice of appropriate food at affordable prices is available to students on site, if not available locally.	Met
P5 There is adequate signage to buildings, routes, rooms and exits, and there are facilities for the display of general information.	Met
P6 There is sufficient space for all staff, for meetings, relaxation and the storage of personal possessions, and for teachers to carry out their preparation and marking.	Met
Comments	
All criteria in this subsection are fully met.	

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## 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.*

### Management

M3 With all SMT staff covering key centre roles there is insufficient cover available to ensure continuity at all times.  
**Addressed. A senior teacher has been appointed to work with the academic manager.**

M10 Suitable references were not on file for some staff members.

**Partially addressed. References were on file but some teacher certificates were not.**

*M12 There is no written procedure for handling unsatisfactory performance.*

**Addressed. Procedures have been added to the staff handbook.**

M22 There are no images of the either centre and insufficient information on the range of facilities available. *Adult courses in Leamington Spa are advertised as 'coming soon' but it is not clear from the publicity where these classes will be run.*

**Not addressed. See comments above (M22).**

M24 Information on courses is not always clear. The maximum class size is stated as 12 but the reality is that classes regularly have 15 students.

**Not addressed. See comments above (M24).**

M25 *Costs are not available in any publicity material but are sent on request.*

**Not addressed. See comments above (M25).**

M26 *Information about the level of care and support for under 18s is difficult to find on the website.*

**Not addressed. See comments above (M22).**

M27 *Information on accommodation offered remains insufficiently detailed and potentially confusing. There is very little information about homestay accommodation or services provided.*

**Addressed. More information on homestay accommodation and the services provided have been added to the website.**

### Teaching and learning

T13 Students are not provided with written course outlines and learning outcomes are not always made clear during lessons.

**Addressed. Students are informed about the topic focus for each week and they review learning outcomes at the end of each week. Learning objectives are made clear at the beginning of each session.**

T15 Learning strategies are not systematically covered in the syllabus or the weekly teacher schemes of work.

**Addressed. Learning strategies have been added to the syllabus information in the teachers' handbook**

T24 No class profiles were provided, and plans did not indicate the needs or backgrounds of the students. Little attention was paid to pronunciation, particularly considering most classes were monolingual.

**Addressed. In the segment observed, the teacher paid particular attention to pronunciation. In addition, specific pronunciation points that reflected the nationalities of the students had been added into the weekly syllabus guide for teachers.**

T28 In weaker segments, feedback after activities was cursory at best. There were many missed opportunities for error correction and inaccuracies in both form and pronunciation were ignored.

**Addressed. In the segment observed, good feedback was provided and error correction was seen.**

### Welfare and student services

W1 There is no school produced risk assessment for how the MMC buildings and site will be used by international students.

**Addressed. Appropriate risk assessments were provided.**

W27 On-site activities are overly reliant on group leader participation and organisation. School staff lack experience and require more training and/or support.

**Addressed. Training has been included in the induction for activities staff and efficient organisation of activities was in evidence.**

### Safeguarding under 18s

S2 Group leaders and not all homestay hosts had received safeguarding training or guidance.

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**Addressed. Host families agree to undertake safeguarding and prevent training and the school shares a link for the training provided by British Council. Group leaders also undertake this online training.**

S4 References and overseas police certificates were not in place for some members of staff.

**Addressed. References were in place for all staff.**

S7 There were 18 students accommodated in homestays arranged by group leaders and this provision had not been checked for suitability against Scheme criteria and the homestay reference template does not ask if hosts or any of their children have had any involvement with Children's services.

**Addressed. Students are only accommodated in homestays arranged by the school. The homestay reference template has been amended to include the relevant question.**

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## **Conclusions**

Many of the weaknesses from the last visit have been addressed but there remains a problem with the *Publicity* that specifically relates to the website. The move to Leamington Spa College as a site for the summer provision is appropriate both in terms of premises and facilities and learning resources.

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