

Organisation name	Plymouth Marjon University
Inspection date	12 November 2025
Current accreditation status	Accredited
Reason for spot check	Signalled: check provision not seen at inspection

Recommendation

We recommend continued accreditation. The next inspection falls due in 2028; 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. On-campus residential accommodation can be added to the Accommodation profile.

Summary inspection findings

Management

The provision meets the section standard and exceeds it in some respects. The management of the provision operates to the benefit of the students, and in accordance with the provider's stated goals, values, and publicity. *Strategic and quality management* is an area of strength.

Premises and resources

The provision meets the section standard and exceeds it in some respects. The environment is conducive to teaching and learning, and learning resources are highly appropriate. *Premises and facilities* and *Learning resources* are areas of strength.

Teaching and learning

The provision meets the section standard and exceeds it in some respects. The academic staff team has a good professional profile (qualifications, experience and continuing professional development) appropriate to the context. Teachers receive sufficient guidance to ensure that they support students effectively in their learning. Courses are well structured and managed to provide the maximum possible benefit to students. The teaching observed met the requirements of the Scheme. *Academic staff profile, Academic management, Course design, Learner management* and *Teaching* are areas of strength.

Welfare and student services

The provision meets the section standard and exceeds it in all respects. Students are very well cared for by various staff attached to the programme, with support from the wider university student well-being team. Accommodation in both the university residences and the homestays is of a good standard, and the management of the accommodation systems works effectively to the benefit of students. A wide-ranging, well-organised and resourced sporting and leisure programme, which includes naval components, is integral to the course. Staff leading these activities have relevant qualifications and military training and experience. *Care of students, Accommodation* and *Leisure activities* are areas of strength.

Safeguarding under 18s

No students under the age of 18 are accepted.

Declaration of legal and regulatory compliance

The items sampled were satisfactory.

Organisation profile

Inspection history	Dates/details
First inspection	1992
Last full inspection	April 2024
Subsequent checks/visits (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	
Student and staff profile	At inspection	Estimate at peak: February
Total ELT/ESOL student numbers (FT + PT)	10	20
Minimum age (including closed group or vacation)	18+	18+
Typical age range	20–22	20–22
Typical length of stay	7 weeks	14 weeks
Predominant nationalities	Omani	Omani
Total number of teachers on eligible ELT courses	5	5
Total number of managers including academic	2	2
Total number of administrative/ancillary staff	3	3

Premises profile	
Address of main site	Derriford Road, Plymouth PL6 8BH
Additional sites in use	None
Additional sites not in use	None
Sites inspected	Main campus

Introduction

Background

The last full inspection of Plymouth Marjon was in April 2024. The university continues to offer closed-group junior naval officer training programmes to students from Oman. The only change to the provision inspected in 2024 is that the current cohort of students now spend two weeks in university residential accommodation before transferring to their homestay accommodation. This change was made in order to offer the Omani students the possibility of mixing more with home students on campus. The purpose of the spot check was to view the university residences which were not inspected at the last full inspection.

Preparation

A pre-inspection meeting was held, and, with the agreement of the Unit, it was decided that the spot check could be carried out remotely. Relevant documents were sent in advance and a timetable of meetings and visit to the residences agreed. The inspector was one of the two inspectors at the last full inspection and was familiar with the university campus.

Programme and persons present

The spot check was conducted remotely by one inspector and lasted half a day. Meetings were held with the accommodation manager, the senior programme manager responsible for the Omani students and the ELT academic manager. A focus group meeting was held with two of the Omani students and a remote tour of the accommodation was conducted.

Findings

Findings are reported in the following section

Welfare and student services

The university residences are located centrally on the campus. Most are six-bedroom flats with a shared kitchen/living room area and shared bathroom facilities. Students are expected to keep the accommodation clean and regular checks are carried out. On arrival the Omani students were given cleaning materials and kitchen/bedding packs and issued with paid cards to have their meals in any of campus refectories, or they can opt to cater for themselves.

Accommodation (W7–W18 as applicable)	Area of strength
<i>All accommodation</i>	
W7 Students have a comfortable living environment throughout their stay.	Strength
W8 Arrangements for cleaning and laundry are satisfactory.	Strength
W9 A responsible representative inspects all accommodation (for safety and suitability) before students are placed, and at least every two years after that.	Strength

W10 Students receive written confirmation of accommodation booked, giving clear and accurate information.	N/a
W11 There are effective procedures for identifying and resolving any problems students have with their accommodation.	Strength
W12 Accommodation providers receive written confirmation of the rules, terms and conditions applied by the provider with respect to the provision of accommodation services.	N/a
W13 Students receive meals as agreed; these offer a well-balanced diet, taking into account any reasonable dietary requirements students may have.	Met

Comments

W7 Residential accommodation viewed was of a very good standard. Students in the focus group were extremely positive about their campus accommodation.

W8 Students are responsible for keeping their accommodation clean in order to foster a sense of student accountability and community. Visting students are provided with all the materials necessary to look after their accommodation and a housekeeper visits regularly to make sure standards are being maintained.

W9 Comprehensive safety checks and fire risk assessments are carried out regularly by independent specialist companies.

W11 Daily check-ups on student wellbeing ensure that any issues students might have with their accommodation are picked up and dealt with immediately.

Action taken on points to be addressed

There were no points to be addressed at the last inspection

Conclusions

The focus of the spot check was to inspect on-campus residential accommodation now being offered to the closed group of naval cadets from Oman. The residential accommodation visited remotely is entirely suitable and students spoken to expressed high levels of satisfaction with the accommodation and the experience of living on campus. All checks, documentation, and risk assessments are in place; student wellbeing is ensured through regular checks and effective liaison between the accommodation office and the programme managers.

New points to be addressed arising from this visit

None.

Action plan

N/a