

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Organisation name | Bright School of English, Bournemouth |
| Inspection date | 18 March 2025 |
| Current accreditation status | Accredited |
| Reason for spot check | Signalled: inspect new or additional premises |

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.

New summary statement

The British Council inspected and accredited Bright School of English in September 2024 and March 2025. 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 general English for adults (18+) and young people (16+) and for closed groups of young people (16+).

Strengths were noted in the area of teaching.

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 the students and in accordance with the provider's clearly stated goals and values, and their publicity. The structure of the organisation is clear, communication is very good and student administration is carried out efficiently and effectively. However, future objectives are not clear and effective reviewing processes are not systematically followed.

Premises and resources

The provision meets the section standard. The premises provide students and staff with a comfortable, pleasant environment for work and relaxation. A range of learning resources is available, appropriate to the age and needs of the students. Guidance on the use of these resources is provided for students and staff where needed. However, some aspects of the premises' safety and security arrangements are inadequate.

Teaching and learning

The provision meets the section standard and exceeds it in some respects. The academic staff team has a professional profile appropriate to the context. Course design and learner management are effective. Teachers receive very good support, and overall the courses are managed to provide the maximum possible benefit to students. The teaching observed met the requirements of the Scheme. *Teaching* is an area of strength.

Welfare and student services

The provision meets the section standard. The provision meets the needs of the students for security, pastoral care, information and leisure activities. Students benefit from well-managed student services, including, where offered, out-of-class activities and suitable accommodation.

Safeguarding under 18s

The provision meets the section standard. There is appropriate provision for the safeguarding of students under the age of 18 within the organisation and in any leisure activities or accommodation provided.

Declaration of legal and regulatory compliance

The items sampled were satisfactory.

Organisation profile

| Inspection history | Dates/details |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| First inspection | June 2011 |
| Last full inspection | 17 August 2024 |
| Subsequent checks/visits (if applicable) | 18 March 2025 |
| 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: July |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Total ELT/ESOL student numbers (FT + PT) | 27 | 70 |
| Minimum age (including closed group or vacation) | 16 | 16 |
| Typical age range | 18–25 | 18–25 |
| Typical length of stay | 8 | 3 |
| Predominant nationalities | Saudi Arabian, Spanish, Ukrainian | Saudi Arabian, Spanish, Italian |
| Total number of teachers on eligible ELT courses | 3 | 4 |
| Total number of managers including academic | 1 | 1 |
| Total number of administrative/ancillary staff | 0 | 1 |

Academic manager qualifications profile

| Profile at inspection | Number of academic managers |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Professional qualifications | |
| TEFLQ qualification and at least three years' full-time relevant teaching experience | 1 |
| Academic managers without TEFLQ qualification or three years' relevant experience | 0 |
| Total | 1 |

Comments

None.

Teacher qualifications profile

| Profile in week of inspection | Number of teachers |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Professional qualifications | |
| TEFLQ qualification/profile | 1 |
| TEFLI qualification | 2 |
| ATEFL registered portfolio in progress | 0 |
| Non-ELT-related qualified teacher status only (for short courses for under 18s) | 0 |
| Holding specialist qualifications only (for ESP/CLIL) | 0 |
| Alternative professional profile | 0 |
| Total | 3 |

Comments

None.

Premises profile

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Address of main site | 57–59 Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth BH1 1EH |
| Additional sites in use | N/a |
| Additional sites not in use | N/a |
| Sites inspected | 57–59 Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth BH1 1EH |

Introduction

Background

Bright School of English was founded in 2010. The director manages the day-to-day running of the school supported by the director of studies and assisted by an office manager (this role was being recruited for at the time of the inspection). The school runs year-round general English programmes for students aged 16+, as well as closed-group courses.

This was a routine spot check to follow up a change of premises in September 2024, when the school relocated to Old Christchurch Road. In addition, the inspection sampled other parts of the programme and reviewed relevant points to be addressed from the previous report.

Preparation

The spot check was carried out by one inspector. The inspector contacted the provider in advance to check if there were any dates which would not be suitable and when key staff would be present. The Accreditation Unit sent the inspector relevant documents. The inspector looked at the Bright website.

Programme and persons present

The inspector arrived at 10.30 and left at 13.45. He visited the new school premises. Meetings and a tour of the school were held with the director. Focus group meetings were held with students and teachers. Upon arrival, the inspector requested a range of documents, which were provided.

Findings

Premises and resources

The school moved premises in October 2024. The new premises are on the first and second floors of a building in Bournemouth town centre. The first floor comprises a reception area, four classrooms and a staffroom. The student common room is located on the second floor. There are toilets on each floor.

Premises and resources

| Premises and facilities | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| P1 Providers ensure the safety and security of students on their premises by measures appropriate to their age and background, and the location. | Met |
| P2 Premises, including any external areas, are in a good state of repair, cleanliness and decoration, and provide a comfortable environment for students and staff. | Not met |
| P3 Classrooms and other learning areas provide a suitable study environment. | Met |
| P4 Students have adequate room and suitable facilities for relaxation and the consumption of food. | Strength |
| P5 There is adequate signage to buildings, routes, rooms and exits, and there are facilities for the display or sharing of general information. | Strength |
| P6 There is sufficient space for all staff, for work, meetings, relaxation and the storage of personal possessions. | Met |

Comments

P1 At the time of the inspection, the security measures in place for the school entrance were inadequate. This was rectified immediately after the inspection and is no longer a point to be addressed. At the time of the inspection there was no evidence of a fire risk assessment.

P3 Classrooms are spacious, quiet, well lit, heated and ventilated. Students and staff commented very positively about learning spaces.

P4 There is a spacious comfortable student lounge with a good range of facilities for students, as well as games and activities. The space provides a very welcoming environment for students.

Action taken on points to be addressed

Points from the previous full inspection with comments (in bold) to indicate how far these have been addressed.

Management

M2 The school's plans for the future are short term only and do not include explicit objectives for the longer term.

Not yet addressed.

M7 There is no evidence of mechanisms to review and self-evaluate the school's systems.

Not yet addressed.

M23 Key information on when extra classes take place is not given.

Not yet addressed.

Premises and resources

P1 The school's risk assessment does not adequately address any potential risks of the open side entrance to the street. There is no record of fire drills.

Partially addressed. There are records of fire drills in place. However, issues remain with the school's assessment and management of risks related to the new building.

Teaching and learning

T6 There is insufficient practical guidance for teachers on how to best manage continuous enrolment.

Addressed. Practical guidance in continuous enrolment is now included in teachers' files.

Welfare and student services

W1 Relevant elements of the emergency plan, particularly in regard to offsite activities and free time, are not made clear to staff, group leaders or students.

Addressed. The emergency plan has been updated to include guidance in regard to off-site activities. Staff and students are briefed appropriately.

W17 Students renting their own accommodation do not receive relevant information about the implications of living in private rented accommodation.

Not yet addressed.

W22 Risk assessments are generic and do not refer to the composition of the group, specific conditions, locations or activities.

Partially addressed. The risk assessments seen adequately identify risks for specific activities. However, risk assessments are not drawn up for all leisure programme activities.

Safeguarding under 18s

S4 There was no checklist followed or a record of responses made of verbal references accepted for one member of staff recruited this year.

Addressed. A reference request checklist has been developed.

Conclusions

The school had made a smooth transition to new premises. The premises are fit for purpose, and provide a spacious, attractive and welcoming environment for students and staff. However, issues relating to safety and security of the premises must be addressed as a matter of priority.

The school has addressed most of the more pressing points to be addressed from the previous inspection. Some of the points have not yet been addressed because the director has been focused on the move to the new premises. However, the school must ensure that risk assessments are carried out for all activities.

Items requiring early action

Evidence must be submitted within three months to demonstrate that weaknesses in P1 and W22 have been addressed. The required evidence was subsequently submitted.
