



BRITISH ACCREDITATION COUNCIL INSPECTION REPORT

INTERIM INSPECTION (Short Course Provider)

ORGANISATION: Axiom Tutoring Ltd, trading as Oxford Spires Summer School

ADDRESS: Flat 1, 45 Tower Bridge Road
London
SE1 4TL

HEAD OF ORGANISATION: Mr Revi Panidha

Accreditation status: Accredited

Date of inspection: 15 July 2015

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE DECISION AND DATE: 10th September 2015

PART A - INTRODUCTION

Background to the organisation

Axiom Tutoring Ltd was established in January 2012 to provide bespoke, one-to-one, tutoring services for students at various universities. Subjects covered are from the economics, mathematics, economic history, statistics, law, finance and accounting study areas. The tutoring is not part of the students' official university course but is a supplement. Axiom is now expanding its services into the international arena by providing short courses, advertised as Introductory University Level Courses. These courses are devised by Axiom and delivered in St Catherine's College at the University of Oxford during the summer months. Hence Axiom is using the trading name of Oxford Spires Summer School (the School). Students currently enrolled are either from outside the EU or are local UK residents.

2. Brief description of the current provision

Courses for international students commenced in the summer of 2014 and are based in the teaching accommodation of the University of Oxford. The short courses cover subjects such as business, economics, international law and international relations which are also taught by the Axiom tutors in other employments. Students at the summer school are organised into class sizes of five to eight and have additional one-to-one meetings to discuss their individual progress. The company currently supports 46 learners with seven tutors currently utilised to provide the service.

Residential accommodation is provided by the University. Courses run for two weeks' duration and include some in-depth analysis of key concepts in the subjects studied. There is also an extensive social programme but no tuition in English, as all the students have the required minimum level. The original intention was to enrol students from the age of 16 and over. At the time of inspection there were 14 under 18 year-olds on the School roll.

There has been no real change in provision since the stage 3 inspection of 4 September 2014.

3. Inspection process

The interim inspection took place at the flat in Tower Bridge Road which is used for administrative purposes. This was conducted by one inspector over one morning. The Director was interviewed. Key personnel were linked in via skype from Hong Kong and Albania during the inspection. All key documentation and policies and procedures were reviewed to ensure standards were still being met.

4. Inspection history

Stage 2 inspection: 20 February 2014

Stage 3 inspection: 13 August 2014

PART B – JUDGEMENTS AND EVIDENCE

The following judgements and comments are based upon evidence seen by the inspector(s) during the inspection and from documentation provided by the provider

1. Significant changes since the last inspection

There has been no significant change since the last stage 3 inspection held on 13 August 2014.

2. Response to action points in last report

Recommended areas for Quality Improvement

At least one member of senior management should undergo level 3 training in Child Protection and Safeguarding.

Very good progress has been made against this recommendation. A senior member of staff has now been trained and holds the level 3 certificate in Child Protection and Safeguarding. All other staff members undergo an internal certificated and awarded training at level 2 in Safeguarding. The School is looking towards making it a mandatory requirement for all staff to hold the level 3 in safeguarding prior to appointment.

Withdraw from circulation child protection documentation from St. Catherine's College.

The School has withdrawn from circulation all child protection documentation from St. Catherine's College

BAC complaints procedure should be brought to the attention of students.

Good progress has been made against this recommendation. The procedure is in the Student Handbook. Parents, guardians and students are informed of this during Induction.

3. Compliance with BAC accreditation requirements – spot check

3.1 Management, Staffing and Administration

	Met	Partially met	Not met	NA
The standards are judged to be	✓			
Comments Leadership and Management provide clear educational direction, as reflected in the quality of the students' education.				

3.2 Teaching, Learning and Assessment

	Met	Partially met	Not met	NA
The standards are judged to be	✓			
Comments Teaching is maintained at a very high level. Most students learn and make excellent progress. As a result they acquire knowledge and skills that are relevant to meeting their core objectives				

3.3 Participant Welfare

	Met	Partially met	Not met	NA
The standards are judged to be	✓			
Comments Support for students is very good with high levels of support from individual tutors. There is evidence that support provided is having a real impact on their achievement and progress.				

3.4 Premises and Facilities

	Met	Partially met	Not met	NA
The standards are judged to be				✓
Comments The interim inspection was conducted at the administrative premises in London where no teaching and learning is taking place.				

PART C – SUMMARY OF STRENGTHS AND ACTION POINTS

Institution's strengths

Managers are effective in self-evaluation and in setting challenging targets which are monitored regularly and effectively. Safeguarding has a high profile with management and there is a clear strategy known by staff for protecting vulnerable adults. Leadership and Management provide good oversight of the School in line with its aims and fully discharge their responsibilities for educational standards, financial planning and investment.

Actions required	Priority H/M/L
None	

COMPLIANCE WITH STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Declaration of compliance has been signed and dated.	YES
Further comments, if applicable None	