



BRITISH ACCREDITATION COUNCIL INSPECTION REPORT

INTERIM VISIT (College)

INSTITUTION: Christian Revival Church Bible School

ADDRESS: CRC Training Centre
46 Commercial Road
London
E1 1LP

HEAD OF INSTITUTION: Pastor Isak Christoffel Marais

ACCREDITATION STATUS: Accredited

DATE OF VISIT: 13 July 2017

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE DECISION AND DATE: Continued accreditation 19 October 2017

PART A - INTRODUCTION

1. Background to the institution

The Christian Revival Church Bible School (CRC/the School) is a Bible School, which is run as part of the Revival Church Europe. The School is established as a private limited company. The mission of CRC is to train its members in order to undertake effective Christian service and to establish Christian values and morals within communities. The CRC originated in Bloemfontein, South Africa where it was first established in 1944. It now has churches worldwide. The present Senior Pastor and Principal of the CRC Bible School, London was appointed in 2008. The Principal is supported, in the management of the School, by two other senior leaders.

The School first operated in London in September 2009. It offers internal awards in Christian service. The stated aim of the programmes is to train all members to become instrumental in fulfilling the Great Commission of Jesus Christ, to preach the gospel, to train members to become mature Christians in the home, workplace and the community and to enable each member to become an influential leader in the local church.

The current premises are leased and are situated in Commercial Road in East London, within easy walking distance of Aldgate underground station. The School is also well served by bus routes in an area, which is undergoing major redevelopment.

2. Brief description of the current provision

Currently the School runs two internal, sequential courses. The courses are called Year one and Year two and are in Bible study related to Christian service. The courses are similar to those that are offered in South Africa with some modifications to suit the needs of the students in the United Kingdom (UK). The courses are accredited by the River Bible Institute, which is based in the United States of America (USA). The School purchases the material and course outline from their parent church in South Africa.

The current cohort of full-time students are all employees of the Church. They are undergoing a programme of study in order to enhance their work role in the Church. Part-time students are members of the Church. There are 30 part-time evening students, who attend two evenings a week for four years and 25 full-time day students who attend two days a week for two years. The majority of students are male and all the students are over the age of 18.

3. Inspection visit process

The inspection was undertaken by one inspector over a half-day period. The inspection activity comprised of meetings with the Student Welfare Officer and the Health and Safety Officer, review of available documentation, a tour of the premises and the observation of a lesson. The staff cooperated fully during the process.

4. Inspection history

Full accreditation inspection:

28–29 June 2016

PART B – JUDGMENTS AND EVIDENCE

The following judgments and comments are based upon evidence seen by the inspector during the inspection and from documentation provided by the institution.

1. Significant changes since the last inspection

The School's future vision is to welcome students from the general public, who are interested in the Bible and Christian service and to expand its provision from its current evening and two-day courses and run courses throughout the week. In addition, it aims to widen and enhance its current courses, seek academic accreditation and move towards becoming a school of Further and Higher education during the next ten years.

There has been one significant staffing change since the last inspection. The Head of Teaching and Learning has departed to take up a new position elsewhere and a new Head of Teaching and Learning has been appointed internally.

2. Response to actions points in last report

16.2 It is of the utmost importance that exam papers, marking guides and all aspects of examinations and procedures are kept in secure locked cupboards.

The School now has a locked filing cabinet behind the reception area. The key is kept in a locked key safe, with access available only via the key held by the full-time receptionist. As a result, examination documents are safe and secure.

18.4 The College must provide emergency out of hours contact number for students.

The School now provides an out-of-hours contact number for the Student Welfare Officer, in the course handbook and induction materials. This ensures that students have constant access to appropriate support.

25.4 All visitors must be told of all relevant health and safety issues on arrival at the school.

The signing-in book for visitors is not routinely completed and there is no regular provision of health and safety information for visitors.

25.5 While there are a number of fire exit signs and push-bar escape doors, more fire exit signs need to be put in place in all teaching and work rooms.

The School has placed additional signs in all rooms in the building. This ensures that students, staff and visitors are able to locate fire exits easily.

25.5 It is recommended that notice boards are put in place in the teaching rooms stating the house rules and more especially the assembly point in case of evacuation.

Notice boards are now clearly visible with all the relevant information required. This ensures that students can read required information in every area.

3. Response to recommended areas for improvement in last report

Minutes need to be more informative and circulated wherever possible to all the staff.

Minutes are now very detailed and actions are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely.

It is the inspectors' considered view that the Student Handbook could be enhanced with a map showing the location of the Bible School.

There is now a map on the website, but not in the Student Handbook.

It is considered that much more information could be gathered if the feedback questions and response mechanism is improved.

This recommendation has not been addressed.

Whilst it is recognised that systems have recently been put in place, monitoring of all aspects of performance, attendance and student retention on a regular basis with annual reviews must be implemented.

Students' attendance and retention data is scrutinised to provide support for those who fall behind and to measure the School's performance. However, the School has not yet been able to complete an annual report since it has not completed a full year of study with its current cohort.

Whilst the lecture observed was delivered most satisfactorily, in discussion with the teachers, it is felt that there is room for a wider range of delivery methods to involve student participation and help with their learning experience.

Students now have access to a wide variety of online resources to support the learning that takes place on-site. However, the lecturing style favoured is rather didactic, leaving minimal scope for students to be active participants.

A minor enhancement could be achieved through the teachers wearing lapel mics rather than the more cumbersome handheld mics.

Teachers wear lapel mics, although they still favour the hand-held mics.

It is recommended that suitable training is considered in order to support the Student Welfare Officer who expressed a lack of experience in this area of the provision.

The Student Welfare Officer has accessed training materials that have met any skills and knowledge gaps.

BAC complaints procedure must be added and communicated to all students.

The BAC complaints procedure is in the Student Handbook and on the website.

Periodically CRC hires premises across the city for various meetings. It is strongly recommended that full risk assessments are undertaken prior to CRC Bible School's usage.

This recommendation no longer applies. The School does not now use any external premises at any time.

The Bible School needs to ensure that it can cope with disabled students and those with dyslexia and other health associated problems.

The School does not currently enrol any students with accessibility issues, though it has suitable plans for this eventuality. However, the specific learning needs of students are not clearly identified early on for example at enrolment or induction.

4. Compliance with BAC accreditation requirements

4.1 Management, Staffing and Administration (spot check)

	Met	Partially met	Not met	
The standards are judged to be	✓			
Comments <p>The systems and documentation are of a high standard.</p> <p>Many of the staff bring a wealth of skills and experience of business from outside the Bible School adding value to their roles.</p> <p>Staff share the vision of the Church and the School which brings energy and enthusiasm to the role they carry out in the organisation.</p>				

4.2 Teaching, Learning and Assessment (spot check)

	Met	Partially met	Not met	
The standards are judged to be	✓			
Comments <p>The teachers are highly knowledgeable in theology and able to demonstrate its everyday relevance and practicality to current lifestyles.</p> <p>Teachers bring their passion and enthusiasm for scripture into the lessons and as a result, students pay close attention.</p>				

4.3 Student Welfare (spot check)

	Met	Partially met	Not met	
The standards are judged to be	✓			
Comments <p>Students say that they feel happy and safe. They are welcoming to visitors and enthusiastic about their studies.</p> <p>The Student Handbook includes out-of-date assessment arrangements.</p>				

4.4 Premises and Facilities (spot check)

	Met	Partially met	Not met	
The standards are judged to be	✓			
Comments <p>The premises are ideal for the current teaching requirements as well as for future expansion.</p> <p>The location has good transport facilities.</p> <p>Signage is sufficient and general safety arrangements are good.</p>				

However, the current system for signing in and out does not extend to staff. In addition, students scan into the building but do not scan out. Both these practices may lead to misinformation concerning who is in the building.

The managers who lock up each night do not currently sign off to say that the procedure has been completed and the building thoroughly secured. This does not enable comprehensive recording of adherence to security arrangements.

PART C – SUMMARY OF STRENGTHS AND ACTION POINTS

STRENGTHS
Thoughtful management who have the students’ interests at heart.
Enthusiastic staff, including teachers, who motivate their students to learn, to make positive contributions to, and participate in, community life.
Good development of Information Technology (IT) based systems to support learning, including the use of video recordings of all lessons so that students can learn more effectively when they are away from the School.

ACTIONS REQUIRED	Priority H/M/L
25.4 All students, staff and visitors must be required to sign in and out of the premises and must be told of all relevant health and safety issues on arrival at the School.	H

RECOMMENDED AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT
It is recommended that the Student Handbook includes a map showing the location of the premises.
It is recommended that the College improves the feedback questions and response mechanism in order to gather much more information.
It is recommended that the regular monitoring of all aspects of the School’s performance, including attendance and student retention data, leads to the production of an appropriate annual report to ensure effective recording of strengths and areas to improve.
It is recommended that the favoured lecture teaching style is varied in order to enable more opportunities to gather the views and assess the learning of students in lessons.
It is recommended that the current arrangements for enrolment are extended so that students who have identified learning needs disclose this information at the outset. This will enable better support to be provided early on in their course.
It is recommended that the Student Handbook is updated so that the assessment arrangements outlined are accurate.
It is recommended that all staff and students should use the current entry and exit system to both scan in and out of the building.
It is recommended that senior managers who carry out the nightly lock-up procedure, sign each day to say that this task has been satisfactorily completed and note any actions for follow up.

COMPLIANCE WITH STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS	
Declaration of compliance has been signed and dated.	YES
Further comments, if applicable	