

Organisation name	SCL International College – Stay Campus London
Inspection date	20 March 2024
Current accreditation status	Accredited
Reason for spot check	Signalled: check provision not seen at inspection

**Recommendation**

We recommend continued accreditation.

**Changes to the summary statement**

The need for improvement in Care of students can now be removed.

**New summary statement**

The British Council inspected and accredited Stay Campus London International College in September 2023 and March 2024. 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 was a compliance-only inspection during which the inspectors focused only on whether inspection criteria were met or not met. Inspectors did not evaluate the extent to which requirements were exceeded and no strengths were awarded. No new summary statement has been issued; please refer to the 2018 inspection report for any areas of strength previously awarded.

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

**Updated summary inspection findings**
**Welfare and student services**

The provision meets the section standard. Generally, care is taken by staff to meet the needs of students for security, pastoral care, and local information. Residential accommodation is of a good standard, and the management of the accommodation systems works to the benefit of students. Leisure activities, with a focus on London, are available to students. Staff-student ratios are satisfactory.

**Premises and resources**

The provision meets the section standard. The premises provide students and staff with a very comfortable, pleasant environment for work and relaxation. However, there is no risk assessment or evidence of sufficient fire drills for the North Acton site. Suitable learning resources are available for students and teachers.

**Organisation profile**

Inspection history	Dates/details
First inspection	August 2014
Last full inspection	September 2023 (Compliance only)
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: July
Total ELT/ESOL student numbers (FT + PT)	59	700
Minimum age (including closed group or vacation)	14	12
Typical age range	15–17	15–23
Typical length of stay	1–2 weeks	1–2 weeks

Predominant nationalities	Italian, Ecuadorian, Spanish	Argentinian, Italian, Saudi Arabian
Total number of teachers on eligible ELT courses	4	35
Total number of managers including academic	2	5
Total number of administrative/ancillary staff	15	25

### Premises profile

Address of main site	SCL Kentish Town: 65 Holmes Road, London NW5 3AN	
Additional sites in use	SCL North Acton: 210 Western Avenue, London W3 6YW	
Additional sites not in use	34 Chalk Farm Road, Chalk Farm, London NW1 8AJ	
Sites inspected	Kentish Town	

### Introduction

#### Background

This was a signalled spot check to inspect the additional premises of Stay Campus London (SCL), following a compliance-only inspection in September 2023. The North Acton site was not operational during the 2023 inspection, and it was recommended that a spot check of this new location, which only accommodates closed groups, should take place within 12 months.

#### Preparation

The spot-check inspector was sent relevant documents by the Accreditation Unit and looked at the school's website. The inspector contacted the head office in advance to establish when key staff would be on site in order to plan when the inspection would take place. The inspector did not indicate to the school the date of the spot check.

#### Programme and persons present

During the week of the spot check, there were four teachers working. Courses running were all in general English for students from three closed groups aged 12 to 18.

The inspector arrived at the school's building at 10.15 and left at 14.30. He met the school director and the admissions manager. In addition, he held meetings with a group of teachers, a group of students and three group leaders. The inspector was given a tour of the site and was provided with access to various additional documents, as requested.

#### Premises and resources

The provision meets the section standard. The premises provide students and staff with a very comfortable, pleasant environment for work and relaxation. However, a premises risk assessment and records of fire drills are not in place for the North Acton site. Suitable learning resources are available for students and teachers.

### Findings

#### Premises and resources

SCL North Acton is located within one of the blocks in The Stay Club North Acton residence. The building, in a modern commercial area, is located on the Western Avenue in Acton, West London. The residence, which was completed in 2023, consists of six floors of accommodation units above the ground floor and one basement level. All rooms are ensuite for twin occupancy. The school occupies most of the ground floor. There is an academic office, eight classrooms, a canteen area, a 24-hour staffed reception area with common area for relaxation. In the basement there is a cinema room and a laundry room. There are unisex toilets next to the reception area which can be used by students aged 18 and over. Under 18s are required to use the toilet facilities in their rooms.

Findings are reported in the following section.

#### Welfare and student services

Findings are reported in the following section.

#### Safeguarding under 18s

There were 59 students aged under 18 at the time of the inspection of the North Acton site. There is an appropriate and detailed safeguarding policy, and safeguarding procedures are clearly communicated to staff. All staff are safeguarding-trained to a level appropriate to their responsibilities. Supervision and safety of students is mostly effective, although there is no risk assessment or policy focusing on the shared use of the building and facilities between students aged under 18 and adult students and residents. In addition, guidelines on student supervision outside the programme are not consistently understood by students or group leaders, and there is no risk assessment of unsupervised or remotely supervised activities.



## Premises and resources

<b>Premises and facilities</b>	<b>Met</b>
P1 Providers ensure the safety and security of students on their premises by measures appropriate to their age and background, and the location.	Not 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.	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.	Met
P5 There is adequate signage to buildings, routes, rooms and exits, and there are facilities for the display or sharing of general information.	Met
P6 There is sufficient space for all staff, for work, meetings, relaxation and the storage of personal possessions.	Met

### Comments

There is no evidence of a risk assessment of the premises, and no evidence of fire drills being carried out twice per year. Premises are in a good state of repair with clear and helpful signage throughout the building. Classrooms provide suitable learning spaces for the courses being run. Students can relax in good-sized common areas, and there is ample space for staff to work and relax. There is a very good range of food available for students on site.

## Welfare and student services

<b>Care of students</b>	<b>Met</b>
W1 There is a comprehensive plan to respond to any emergency. This plan is known to all staff, and relevant elements are known to students.	Met
W2 Students receive pastoral care appropriate to their age, background and circumstances. All staff and students know the name(s) of the person or people who deal with students' personal problems.	Met
W3 There are policies to promote tolerance and respect, and procedures for dealing with any abusive behaviour. All staff and students are aware of these.	Met
W4 Where relevant, students receive a 24-hour emergency contact number for the provider, in writing.	Met
W5 Students receive advice on relevant aspects of travel to and life in the UK.	Met
W6 Students have access to adequate health care provision.	Met

### Comments

Safety, security and student welfare at SCL are considered priorities. Good security measures are in place, with differentiated key cards to each level, and all students carry the emergency contact number on their lanyards and phones. Students' welfare needs are generally met, including a clear focus on mutual respect. There is a comprehensive emergency management plan. Students receive clear information on transport to the school, and advice on relevant aspects of life in the UK.

<b>Accommodation (W7–W18 as applicable)</b>	<b>Met</b>
<i>All accommodation</i>	
W7 Students have a comfortable living environment throughout their stay.	Met
W8 Arrangements for cleaning and laundry are satisfactory.	Met
W9 A responsible representative inspects all accommodation (for safety and suitability) before students are placed, and at least every two years after that.	Met
W10 Students receive written confirmation of accommodation booked, giving clear and accurate information.	Met
W11 There are effective procedures for identifying and resolving any problems students have with their accommodation.	Met
W12 Accommodation providers receive written confirmation of the rules, terms and conditions applied by the provider with respect to the provision of accommodation services.	Met
W13 Students receive meals as agreed; these offer a well-balanced diet, taking into account any reasonable dietary requirements students may have.	Met

## Comments

Good levels of satisfaction with both the residential accommodation and the meals is indicated in both written and oral student feedback. Appropriate safety measures are in place. Any maintenance or social issues raised by students are dealt with promptly. Rules are explicit in student and group leader guidance and handbooks.

## Action taken on points to be addressed

*Points from the previous full inspection report with comments (in bold) to indicate how far these have been addressed. Only points reviewed during this spot check are included here. Any points outstanding will be checked at the next full inspection.*

### Management

M18 Enrolment information does not include confirmation of the emergency contact's ability to speak English.

**Addressed. The parental consent form now requires emergency contact information and their level of English.**

### Welfare and student services

W1 (2024: P1) Fire drills are conducted only twice a year.

**Partially addressed. While induction now includes detailed guidance on what action to take in case of fire, there was not a record on site of two fire drills being carried out per year.**

W2 (2024: W1) The emergency management plan is not made explicit in a simplified form to students.

**Addressed. The emergency plan is shared in an appropriately simplified way with students via handbooks, induction and noticeboards.**

W8 (2024: W6) Not enough information is available for longer-stay students on eligibility to health care in the NHS.

**Addressed. This information is now available in the student handbook.**

## Conclusions

The school has taken appropriate steps to rectify the points which it was given three months to address at the previous inspection. However, in the case of W1 (2024: P1), some of the safety and security documentation in the North Acton site is not adequate and is not reflective of SCL's commitment to the safety of students.

## Items requiring early action

Evidence must be submitted within three months to demonstrate that weaknesses in P1, S5 and S6 have been addressed. The required evidence was subsequently submitted.