



**EDUCATIONAL OVERSIGHT INSPECTION OF PRIVATE FURTHER
EDUCATION COLLEGES AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOLS**

MONITORING VISIT

THE TTE TECHNICAL TRAINING GROUP

(Company Registration Number - 02360140)

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Full Name **The TTE Technical Training Group**

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Principal Mr Steve Grant

Proprietor Andrea Preston

Age Range 18+

Total number of students 18

Numbers by age and type of study 18+: 18

FE only: 18

Inspection date **07 Jun 2016**

PREFACE

This inspection report follows the Framework for Educational Oversight Monitoring Visits and Extended Monitoring Visits of private further education colleges and English language schools. The focus of the visit is to confirm that the quality standards reported at the last full inspection are being maintained.

The ISI is an approved Educational Oversight body authorised by the Home Office to inspect privately funded further education colleges and English language schools in England and Wales offering courses on the Qualifications and Credit Framework. It is designed to improve the quality of education on offer to international students who attend UK colleges through Tier 4 of the points-based system for student visas.

ISI inspections are required to:

- Report on the extent to which colleges comply with the published Educational Oversight Standards;
- Assess and report on the quality of educational outcomes and provision;
- Where applicable, make recommendations outside the scope of the Standards to support continued improvement of quality.

Inspection provides objective and reliable reports on the quality of colleges, and by placing reports in the public domain, makes this information available to students, Government and the wider community. Inspection takes account of the context of each individual college, and of how it evaluates its own performance and demonstrates its success.

The inspection of the college is from an educational perspective and provides limited inspection of other aspects, though inspectors will comment on any significant hazards or problems they encounter which have an adverse impact on students. The inspection does not include:

- (i) an exhaustive health and safety audit;
- (ii) an in-depth examination of the structural condition of the college, its services or other physical features;
- (iii) an investigation of the financial viability of the college or its accounting procedures;
- (iv) an in-depth investigation of the college's compliance with employment law.

A monitoring visit is for those colleges found at the last inspection to have met or exceeded the Standards for Educational Oversight. Inspectors will make judgements on progress against any action points and recommendations made at that time. The inspection will not examine all other Standards in detail but will sample to confirm that previous Standards have been maintained and that there are no contrary indicators to those quality judgements.

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1. CHARACTERISTICS AND CONTEXT

- 1.1 The TTE Technical Training Group (TTE) is a private training company limited by guarantee with charitable status, established in 1990 and located at South Bank in the Borough of Redcar and Cleveland. It aims to deliver high quality training that improves performance in a variety of industries and enhances the lives of both local and international students. TTE has a board of non-executive directors with an elected chair. The group managing director reports performance to the board three times a year. The group operations director and managing director oversee the educational vision and delivery for international students. TTE has strong links with employers and provides flexible training arrangements to meet their needs.
- 1.2 TTE provides technical training up to level 5 for the oil, gas, manufacturing, pharmaceutical and petrochemical industries. International students currently on programme are studying level 2 City and Guilds and Engineering Training Awards Level 2 courses in Process Technology.
- 1.3 At the time of the inspection 18 students were enrolled. All are aged 18 and over, male and do not have English as their first language. Students are from Kurdistan and Equatorial Guinea. No students have been identified as having special education needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Enrolment is throughout the year, linked to the requirements of sponsoring employers and offers of employment.
- 1.4 The college was inspected on 21 July 2015 when it met all key standards and the quality of education was judged to meet expectations. The recommendations from the previous report are:
 - Produce and fully implement action plans with measurable targets as a result of course reviews to ensure further improvement.
 - Fully complete ILPs with regular reviews for all students in order to monitor progress and inform improvement.

2. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The college meets expectations. At the previous inspection of 21 July 2015 the college was found to meet expectations and the quality of education as judged at that time has been maintained.

- 2.1 The quality of the curriculum, teaching and learners' achievements is good. Initial assessment is highly effective and ensures students are able to meet the required standards of the courses. Course provision is good and meets employers' needs. All courses on offer to Tier 4 entrant international students lead to qualifications or outcomes which meet the definition of an approved qualification for Home Office purposes. The quality of teaching and learning is good. Lessons are well planned and effectively resourced. Teaching in most lessons is effective and maintains students' interest. However in a few lessons teaching is more teacher centred, lacks pace and has limited opportunities for students to be involved in their learning. Teachers have an excellent technical knowledge and a good understanding of the students' cultural backgrounds. Outstanding workshop facilities contribute positively to students' skills development and preparation for employment. Technology is used appropriately to support learning. Teachers and students have a good working relationship. ILPs are used effectively. Achievement is excellent.
- 2.2 Students' welfare, including health and safety, is excellent. TTE ensures a safe and secure teaching and learning environment for staff and students. Classrooms and workshops are clean, tidy and well maintained. TTE has a strong emphasis on safe working practices and all students have appropriate clothing and safety equipment. Attendance and registration are accurate, up-to-date and meet the requirements of the Home Office. Pastoral support is excellent and both employers and students are very pleased with the high level of personal and professional support they receive from TTE. Induction is very comprehensive. Levels of attendance are very high with excellent punctuality supporting timely progress and achievement.
- 2.3 The effectiveness of governance, leadership and management is good. Ownership and oversight is effective. Senior management has a good knowledge of the industry requirements and is flexible in adapting rapidly to the changing training needs of employers. TTE has an excellent relationship with employers and the local community. Staff responsibilities are clearly defined. TTE effectively evaluates provision in its self-assessment report and the quality improvement plan identifies areas for improvement. Quality assurance is good. Appropriately qualified and experienced staff receive regular continuous professional development which ensure staff are up-to-date. There is a good working relationship between staff and senior management

3. THE QUALITY OF THE CURRICULUM, TEACHING AND LEARNERS' ACHIEVEMENTS

- 3.1 The quality of the curriculum, teaching and learners' achievements is good. All Key Standards continue to be met.
- 3.2 The recommendation in this area from the previous inspection report is:
- Fully complete ILPs with regular reviews for all students in order to monitor progress and inform improvement.
- 3.3 Good progress has been made against this recommendation. The ILP is now a working document which is frequently used and updated by students and teachers at regular, one-to-one interviews throughout their course of study. Achievable targets are set to be completed by the student before the next interview. Students are given a calendar to plot when course units should be completed and when interviews will take place. All students interviewed felt they were making good progress.
- 3.4 Schemes of work and lesson plans are used effectively for the planning of teaching. Courses are tailored to enable students to meet the needs of their employers and their own career aspirations. Initial assessment is very effective and allows TTE to ensure that students will be able to successfully complete the course and maintain industry standards. All courses on offer to Tier 4 entrant international students lead to qualifications or outcomes which meet the definition of an approved qualification for Home Office purposes.
- 3.5 The quality of teaching and its impact on learning is good. Lessons are well planned and resourced. Teaching in most lessons is good and maintains students' interest. However some teaching is more teacher centred and lacks pace resulting in students having limited opportunities to be actively involved in their learning. Teachers have an excellent technical knowledge and use this effectively to enhance students' understanding. Technology is used in lessons to support learning and classrooms are well resourced. Outstanding workshop facilities contribute positively to students' skills development and preparation for employment. Teachers and students have a good working relationship. Learning takes place in a relaxed and supportive environment. One-to-one support during the lesson ensures that all students are able to make progress. There is good support for all learners to improve their spoken and written English. Teachers have a good understanding of the cultural backgrounds of students with practical activities planned to accommodate religious requirements.
- 3.6 Students' progress is good. Student portfolios are of a good quality and assessment is timely. Students have been helped in preparing written work by an Arabic speaker and this has contributed to the good quality of the portfolios. Feedback accurately identifies the students' skills and supports improvement. Verbal feedback in workshop sessions is supportive.

- 3.7 Students' achievement is excellent. All students complete their courses and gain qualifications within expected timescales.

4. STUDENTS' WELFARE, INCLUDING HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 4.1 Students' welfare, including health and safety, is excellent. All Key Standards continue to be met.
- 4.2 Arrangements for health and safety are excellent. TTE ensures a safe and secure teaching and learning environment for staff and students. Staff are appropriately trained as First Aiders and Fire Marshals and policies and procedures are effectively implemented and recorded. There is a fully equipped medical room for sick or injured students. There is a strong emphasis at all times on safe working practices which are reinforced throughout the course. All students have appropriate overalls and safety equipment when working in the workshop. Risk assessments are thorough and include assessment of off-site social activities for students.
- 4.3 Classrooms and workshops are very well maintained and are clean and tidy with suitable lighting, ventilation and heating. Furniture is of a good quality and classrooms are well resourced and provide a pleasant learning environment. Washrooms are all in good decorative order, well-maintained and sufficient for the numbers of students. There are facilities for the hygienic preparation, serving and consumption of food.
- 4.4 Student attendance and registration records are accurate and up-to-date. Managers are conversant with Home Office requirements for monitoring and reporting attendance. Students sign in and sign out daily. Attendance and lateness policies are rigorously implemented and as a result attendance and punctuality are both excellent.
- 4.5 Pastoral support is excellent. Welfare staff have had PREVENT and CHANNEL anti-radicalisation training and have good working relationships with community organisations who form part in the comprehensive induction programme. A prayer room is available for Islamic students. Both employers and students speak highly of the level of personal and professional support TTE give to all their students. Students have access to a range of social activities which allow them to make best use of their leisure time in the United Kingdom.

5. THE EFFECTIVENESS OF GOVERNANCE, LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 The effectiveness of governance, leadership and management is good. All Key Standards continue to be met.
- 5.2 The recommendation in this area from the previous inspection report is:
- Produce and fully implement action plans with measurable targets as a result of course reviews to ensure further improvement.
- 5.3 The college has made good progress in meeting this recommendation. Final course reviews now include reports from operations and welfare staff as well as teaching staff. A consequence of these final reviews is that a bi-lingual member of staff now works with Arabic speaking students to support their written English skills. ILP course reviews are sent to employers monthly to allow them to track progress. These are also assessed by the quality manager and form part of the final course review.
- 5.4 Ownership and oversight are very good. Both the non-executive board and senior management have a good understanding of the needs of the students and employers and ensure that planned delivery is timely through robust, regular monitoring of business and financial performance. In addition the board and senior management are able to provide an effective response to the changing training needs of employers.
- 5.5 The senior management team successfully secures well qualified and vocationally experienced staff. Staff roles, responsibilities and accountabilities are clearly defined and fully understood. There is a good working relationship between staff and senior management and communication is effective with regular, fully documented staff meetings at all levels. The company's self-assessment report is accurate in evaluating current performance and the quality improvement plan sets out clear targets for improvement.
- 5.6 Quality assurance is good. Awarding body requirements are strictly observed. The college has an effective system for monitoring course performance and student progression. A close working relationship with employers ensures TTE is constantly meeting training requirements. There is a students' forum and staff respond positively and quickly to students' suggestions for improvement. A programme of lessons observations carried out by an external observer results in appropriate support and forms part of regular appraisal process for all staff.
- 5.7 Regular whole college staff training days ensure all staff are up-to-date. Appropriate checks confirm the identity of staff and their right to work in the United Kingdom.
- 5.8 The website is professionally presented and easy to use, providing detailed and accurate information about courses, life in the UK and Middlesbrough.
- 5.9 Information provided for the inspection was well-organised and readily available.

6. ACTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The college has maintained the good quality found at the last inspection.

Recommendations for further improvement.

In order to further improve the good/satisfactory quality provided, the college should:

- Improve the quality of teaching across all lessons by building in a lively pace to maintain students' learning and encourage progress by providing many opportunities for active participation.

INSPECTION EVIDENCE

The inspectors observed lessons, conducted formal interviews with students and examined samples of students' work. They held discussions and interviews with senior members of staff, teachers, employers and students. The responses of staff and students to confidential pre-inspection questionnaires were analysed, and the inspectors examined regulatory documentation made available by the college.

Inspectors

Mrs Sally Butler	Lead Inspector
Mr Tim Miller	Team Inspector