

UK College of Business Limited

Monitoring visit report

Unique reference number: 2654181

Name of lead inspector: Mike Finn, Her Majesty's Inspector

Inspection date: 1 September 2022

Type of provider: Independent learning provider

Address: 16–17 Grand Arcade
North Finchley
London
N12 0EH

Monitoring visit: main findings

Context and focus of visit

From October 2018, Ofsted undertook to carry out monitoring visits to all newly directly funded providers of apprenticeship training provision which began to be funded from April 2017 or after by the Education and Skills Funding Agency and/or the apprenticeship levy. This follow-up safeguarding monitoring visit has been carried out consequent to the provider being found to be making insufficient progress in ensuring effective safeguarding arrangements were in place at the previous monitoring visit. It follows the arrangements outlined in the 'Further education and skills inspection handbook'.

The focus of this visit is only on the safeguarding theme below.

UK College of Business Limited is an independent learning provider based in north London. The company gained a contract to teach apprenticeships in April 2020. At the time of the monitoring visit, there were 54 apprentices in learning. All apprentices are adults.

The college offers standards-based apprenticeships across a range of levels to non-levy paying employers. The majority of apprentices take the junior content producer standard at level 3. A further 15 apprentices are enrolled on the level 7 senior leader apprenticeship. The remaining apprentices are taking the children, young people and families manager standards, with a very small number of apprentices on the fundraiser, dental practice manager and digital community user apprenticeships.

Theme

How much progress have leaders and managers made in ensuring that effective safeguarding arrangements are in place?

Reasonable progress

Leaders have made progress in developing a stronger safeguarding culture. For example, staff and the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) receive appropriate training for their roles. As a result, they understand the signs that an apprentice may require more support. Staff know the procedures they need to follow to refer any concerns about apprentices to the DSL or their deputy.

Apprentices feel safe. They say that tutors are friendly and approachable. They feel confident that tutors would help them if they had any welfare concerns. Apprentices know how to contact the DSL or deputy DSL.

Leaders take appropriate actions to support apprentices who have reported concerns of a safeguarding nature. However, the DSL does not record in sufficient detail the actions taken. Consequently, senior leaders lack oversight about how safeguarding concerns are managed.

Leaders have developed an adequate safeguarding policy and 'Prevent' risk assessment. However, they have not, in the risk assessments, considered the risks apprentices may face in the different areas where they live and work.

Tutors have ensured that the curriculum includes safeguarding topics such as sexual harassment and the dangers of extremism and radicalisation. However, these topics are not always covered in ways that ensure apprentices remember what they have been taught. For example, too many apprentices do not have a good enough understanding of the signs that someone may be influenced by a person with extremist views.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for children looked after, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022