

# John Leggott College

John Leggott College, West Common Lane, Scunthorpe, Lincolnshire DN17 1DS

Inspection of residential provision

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

## Information about this further education college with residential accommodation

This college is for students aged 16 to 19. The college offers a wide range of courses, including A levels and BTEC. The staff have welcomed international students for over 30 years.

Students come from a wide range of different countries, including China, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Bangladesh and Latvia. The international students live with homestay families in the local community. This is the only form of accommodation the college provides. The homestay families undergo an assessment to check their suitability to host international students.

The inspectors only inspected the social care provision for students aged 16 to 17 years at this further education college.

### Inspection dates: 21 to 23 March 2023

**Overall experiences and progress of young people,** taking into account **outstanding**

How well young people are helped and protected **outstanding**

The effectiveness of leaders and managers **outstanding**

The college provides highly effective services that consistently exceed the standards of good. The actions of the college contribute to significantly improved outcomes and positive experiences for young people.

**Date of last inspection:** 5 February 2019

**Overall judgement at last inspection:** outstanding

## Inspection judgements

### **Overall experiences and progress of young people: outstanding**

International students enjoy a unique experience at this college. International students live with host families in the local community. Many students stay with the same family throughout their time at the college. During this time, the students get to know their host families extremely well. Many students stay in contact with their hosts once they have left college. Students appreciate the efforts that families make to show them places of interest locally and further afield. The students also experience Christmas and other festivities with their hosts. This provides them with an exceptional opportunity to experience British culture.

Students stay with families that understand their individual needs. Careful planning, preparation and induction take place before students arrive in this country. The planning ensures that students are well matched to their hosts. It provides the opportunity for the students to begin to get to know their hosts before they arrive. This helps them to settle quickly and feel at home. Students are regularly consulted about their experiences with their hosts. When any issues arise, students are listened to and problems are quickly resolved.

The international students are highly committed to their education. The college offers additional opportunities for them to study and access specialist support. College tutors play a vital role in making sure students are managing and meeting their educational targets. Bespoke support is offered where needed to make sure they remain on track. As a result, students achieve high grades in their studies. This allows them to go on to higher education to sought-after universities of their choice.

The students' emotional well-being is a high priority. The college well-being service has an exceptional range of specialist on-site support. The well-being team recently reached the top three in a national competition for well-being services. The support that students access is adapted to their needs. For example, they can access one-to-one help on site with the college mental health support advisor, or they can be linked in with specialist services in the local community.

In addition, the well-being service offers a range of advice and focused sessions to help students stay physically healthy. The topics are delivered through theme days at the college, one-to-one support or drop-in sessions. Students can access help on a range of topics, such as sexual health, healthy eating, the benefits of exercise and stress management. There is also the option for students to gain awards through completing the college's bespoke student healthy lifestyle award scheme.

A wealth of extended social opportunities are available for the students. Extra activities students participate in include music concerts and sports events, including tennis, badminton and basketball. Some students compete at national level. Other opportunities students benefit from include visits to universities they hope to attend and local cities. Some students participate in trips abroad as part of their studies, for

example to New York and Washington DC. These trips add to their positive experience at the college.

### **How well young people are helped and protected: outstanding**

The college safeguarding team takes a proactive approach to keeping the students safe. The designated safeguarding lead and their deputy meet weekly to share information and identify any students who may need additional support. Safeguarding concerns are recorded effectively on the college system. The clear recording allows any risks to be quickly identified, tracked and followed through.

The college offers a robust and proactive approach to safeguarding. The pastoral staff and the academic staff work together closely to educate students about risks. This shared learning between academic and pastoral services constantly reinforces safety messages to the students. The staff talk to students about direct risks in the local community and they provide practical advice so that students can keep themselves safe. Wider risks, such as around online safety and radicalisation, are taken very seriously. The staff deliver a range of learning to ensure that students can recognise these risks and have strategies to manage them.

The college has strong links with other agencies, including the police, social care and school improvement professionals. The college safeguarding team works with these other agencies to keep up to date with any new developments in the area. The local links ensure that they know about new and existing risks. This forward-thinking approach enables the staff to educate students to reduce risk. On the rare occasion safeguarding issues arise, the safeguarding team is swift to act and ensures that the right support and services are in place quickly.

Host families access regular training to help them keep the students safe. The work they undertake includes identifying risks in the local community and wider risks to students, such as around staying safe online. The host families also have access to a 24-hour emergency phone line. If they need any help to support the students, they have this phone number to be able to contact college staff.

### **The effectiveness of leaders and managers: outstanding**

The current management arrangements for the management and support of international students are in a period of change. A new international officer has just been appointed to lead this area and he is transitioning into the post. He is exceptionally well supported by the deputy principal of the college. The deputy principal has robust strategic oversight of the international student arrangements. She is supported in her role by the assistant principal. The layers of robust management oversight ensure that the students are receiving a high-quality service.

The leaders are highly ambitious for the students to achieve their goals. The leaders are dedicated to helping them do this by providing a range of services and support to help the students get where they want to be. The leaders have a strong understanding of the strengths of their services for international students. They

have clear development plans that focus on the areas they wish to improve. They seek the views of students and host families to help them to make effective change.

Leaders oversee the recruitment of new host families. Families are provided with an induction into what is expected of them, as well as training to help them identify and respond to safeguarding and other concerns. International officers speak to host families regularly and respond to concerns or queries about students or other issues. Full checks are undertaken before any student begins living with a host family. Management oversight of some of the written records did not identify some gaps in information. Leaders recently identified this shortfall and are putting in place new processes that are proving effective.

Leaders ensure that the college staff maintain strong links with other education settings in the area. The college hosts learning events that bring together education establishments in the community. These events provide opportunities to share learning and best practice to benefit the students.

Leaders promote a culture of tolerance, equality and diversity. Leaders ensure that students' religious beliefs are upheld. Different religious events are supported and celebrated. Leaders ensure that there is an excellent range of support and information for students to access. The students are encouraged to celebrate their differences and develop their self-identity. They take part in events such as Pride week and the college has an active LGBTQ+ community that meets regularly.

## **What does the college need to do to improve?**

### **Recommendation**

- Leaders should ensure that they improve their oversight of paperwork in relation to host families. ('Further education colleges with residential provision: national minimum standards', page 14, paragraph 13.8)

### **Information about this inspection**

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of young people, using the social care common inspection framework. This inspection was carried out under the Children Act 1989 to assess the effectiveness of the service, how it meets the core functions of the service as set out in legislation, and to consider how well it complies with the national minimum standards.

## **Further education college with residential accommodation details**

**Social care unique reference number:** SC062448

**Principal:** Leon Riley

### **Inspectors**

Jamie Richardson, Social Care Inspector (lead)

Jane Titley, Social Care Inspector Team

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