

# **INTERIM INSPECTION REPORT FOR BETH MIDRASH LEMOROTH - JEWISH TEACHERS' TRAINING COLLEGE (JTTC)**

**UKVI LICENCE No: 02JYGYE56**

Education oversight inspection of private further education colleges on behalf of the Home Office's division of United Kingdom Visas and Immigration (UKVI)

## **The overall inspection findings for this college**

**UKVI Standards for**

<b>courses and qualifications are</b>	<b>MET</b>
<b>teaching, learning and assessment are</b>	<b>MET</b>
<b>the cultural and moral development of students are</b>	<b>MET</b>
<b>welfare, health and safety are</b>	<b>MET</b>
<b>the effectiveness and suitability of staff are</b>	<b>MET</b>
<b>financial sustainability, leadership and governance are</b>	<b>MET</b>
<b>premises and accommodation are</b>	<b>MET</b>
<b>information and complaints are</b>	<b>MET</b>

## **Compliance with UKVI Standards**

**The college meets all the UKVI Standards**

## **Introduction**

### **Purpose and scope of the inspection**

Mainland Education Ltd is an approved educational oversight body authorised by the United Kingdom Visas and Immigration (UKVI) section of the Home Office to inspect privately funded further education colleges in England, with a Steiner, Montessori or Eurythmy basis or background, or with a clear religious purpose. Inspection is designed to assess the college's compliance with the Standards for colleges agreed with the Home Office. These Standards cover the quality of education and welfare provided to all

students, including those from overseas who are sponsored by the college for Tier 4 visas, and, where applicable, those who are under eighteen or are vulnerable adults. On-site student accommodation, where provided, is assessed for compliance with the Standards but is not subject to a full boarding inspection. Inspection provides objective and reliable reports on the extent to which colleges meet the Standards. By placing reports in the public domain, the information they contain is available to students, the UKVI, 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. It helps colleges, their staff and trustees, governors, and/or proprietors to recognise and build on their strengths and to identify and remedy their weaknesses in relation to compliance. The inspection also takes account of the college's financial performance since the last inspection and makes an assessment of the college's financial sustainability going forward, on the basis of information provided by the college. Prospective students, their parents and agents should make their own enquiries into the financial viability of institutions before accepting a place.

Colleges are subject to a full inspection once every four years which is conducted by two inspectors over two days. In the intervening years, colleges receive an annual interim inspection and are kept under review. Interim inspections build on the findings from the last full inspection and state whether or not the college continues to meet the agreed Standards.

The last full inspection of Beth Midrash Lemoroth, also known as the Jewish Teachers' Training College (JTTC), was conducted by Mainland Education Ltd in June 2023 when the college met all the required Standards for privately funded colleges.

## **Characteristics of the college**

Beth Midrash Lemoroth, the Jewish Teachers' Training College (JTTC), is an internationally recognised training college for girls and young women aged between 16 and 21. Students are trained in Torah studies, including the training of teachers for orthodox Jewish educational settings, particularly schools. The college also works in partnership with Gateshead College, a local further education (FE) college, to provide A level and Level 3 vocational courses. There are 465 students on roll, of whom 96 are sponsored under UKVI Tier 4 visa arrangements and come principally from Europe, the United States and Israel as well as a small number from a range of other countries. Almost all students live in college accommodation, and two-thirds of them are aged under 18.

## **Main Findings of Interim Inspection**

Beth Midrash Lemoroth, the Jewish Teachers' Training College (JTTC), continues to meet all the UKVI Educational Oversight Standards, as it did at the time of the last full inspection in 2023. Over the last year the college has maintained its high standards of educational provision and has strengthened further its safeguarding arrangements to provide better support for students.

The Standards for courses and qualifications continue to be met. The college provides a two-year core programme of Jewish studies in the mornings which is taken by all students and leads to the Level 3 Diploma in Torah Studies accredited by Awards for Training and Higher Education (ATHE). Additional units are completed in the third-year of study, which

lead to the Extended Diploma in Torah Studies. In addition, third year students take a Level 3 initial teaching qualification which equips them to teach in Jewish schools. JTTC has for a number of years enjoyed the 'High Performing Status', awarded by ATHE for the consistently high quality and reliability of the college's course planning, teaching and assessment. The students' results continue to be very high, with 97% of all students achieving the Level 3 Diploma in Torah Studies last year, and 40% obtaining the Extended Diploma. Accurate, detailed and informative assessment continues to be an impressive feature of the college's work, so that students receive excellent feedback on their work as they move through the course. The annual report from the Internal Verifier (IV) provides a clear and detailed analysis of performance in all course units, and this document is used critically by college leaders and teachers to make adjustments where needed. The exceptional quality of the tutoring with personal attention given to all students is another decisive factor in helping every girl to make excellent progress and achieve their best. The afternoon programme of A Levels and NVQ courses, provided in partnership with Gateshead College on JTTC's premises, offers the students a good choice of subjects to meet their needs and interests, and the girls achieve very well. In this way, JTTC ensures that its students are thoroughly prepared for the world of work or further study, in addition to taking their place in orthodox Jewish community life.

Pastoral care arrangements continue to be strong and effective, in line with the college's Jewish ethos. The students report that they particularly enjoy the diversity and inclusivity of their boarding experience which enables them to make strong friendships with others from both home and abroad. In conversation, they were sensitive to the way in which trustees and leaders continually monitor and improve the college provision to ensure that they are comfortable and well cared-for. This year, JTTC has strengthened its safeguarding arrangements further by establishing a formal Safeguarding Working Group for the Well-being, Safety and Protection of Students, consisting of the Principal (who is also the Designated Safeguarding Lead, DSL), his Deputy, both matrons and the Learning Coordinator. The Working Group meets formally each term to monitor and review the effectiveness of boarding arrangements using evidence from its records of the attendance, well-being and welfare of students. This ensures that the progress and well-being of every student is considered, and that appropriate action has been taken and recorded in all cases where concerns have arisen. Pastoral staff also discuss new issues as soon as they emerge so that they can be rectified before they escalate. All staff have received basic safeguarding training, and those in key safeguarding roles have been trained to a higher level, as required by the Standards.

The college has all the necessary policies and procedures to ensure the safety and welfare of the students, and these are kept under review and their implementation monitored carefully so that they can continue to work well. The college operates safe recruitment procedures and holds clear and accurate records of the checks it conducts when new staff are appointed. Medical arrangements, including First Aid, continue to be very good. Health and safety, fire prevention and other policies are implemented effectively; and there are clear procedures for monitoring and recording attendance and admissions. The college buildings are kept clean and are well-maintained. The Standards for information and complaints continue to be met, and there have been no complaints this year.

The college is well-resourced and runs efficiently and sustainably. Communications with parents are strong. The Principal and his team evaluate rigorously the effectiveness of the college's provision and implement improvements as necessary, to ensure that the college continues to run smoothly and gives excellent service to the orthodox Jewish community.

Overall Main Finding	Compliance	Outcome for the College
The college meets UKVI requirements.	It meets all the Standards.	It will receive an interim check in 2025.

## Actions Required

- No action is required

## COLLEGE AND INSPECTION DETAILS

### Details of college

Name of college:	Beth Midrash Lemoroth – Jewish Teachers’ Training College (JTTC)
Address of college:	50, Bewick Road, Gateshead, NE8 4HB
Telephone number:	0191 477 2620
Email address:	<a href="mailto:office@jttc.org.uk">office@jttc.org.uk</a>
Proprietor:	Rabbi S Kohn
Name of Principal:	Rabbi Simcha Kohn
Licence number:	02JYGYE56
Type of college:	Private Jewish College of Further Education

### Details of student body

Age range	16-21 years
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Number of students on roll:		Visa	UK	Total
	Full Time:	96	369	465
	Over 18:	56	96	152
	Below 18	40	273	313

### Details of inspection

Type of inspection:	Educational Oversight: Interim		
Inspection Team:	Reporting Inspector:	Mrs Jane Cooper	
Date of inspection:	19 <sup>th</sup> November 2024		