



# INTERIM INSPECTION REPORT FOR YESHIVA GEDOLA LUBAVITCH - LONDON

**UKVI LICENCE No: 3XQJ4HNJ6**

**Inspection relating to the educational oversight 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

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

### Compliance with UKVI Standards

The college meets all the UKVI Standards

## CONTENTS OF THE REPORT

### Introduction

**Section A: Main Findings and actions required**

**Section B: College and Inspection Details**

# INTRODUCTION

## Purpose and scope of the inspection

The School Inspection Service (SIS) is an approved educational oversight body authorised by the UK 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 by SIS is designed to assess the college's compliance with the SIS College Standards. The 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 under eighteen and 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 governors/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 over the last two years for new providers and since the last inspection for established providers. Based on this evidence an assessment is made of the college's financial sustainability over the next four-year period. This work is done by a qualified accountant 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 inspected on a four year cycle, with a full inspection of two days by two inspectors every four years, and an interim inspection of one day by one inspector in each of the three intervening years.

Yeshiva Gedola Lubavitch London received a full inspection in December 2016 and an interim inspection in December 2017. Both inspections resulted in published reports which are available on the SIS website: [www.schoolinspectionsevice.co.uk](http://www.schoolinspectionsevice.co.uk).

## **Characteristics of the college**

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Yeshiva Gedola Lubavitch is a rabbinical college located in Hampstead, London. Founded in 1982, it educates young men in the Talmud and in Chassidic philosophy as part of the international Lubavitch Yeshivas network. Students attend the college for one, two or three years. Student numbers have increased since the last inspection and there is now a total of 48 students, aged 16 to 21 of whom 31 are under eighteen. Most of the students are British while others come from the USA, Canada, Spain, Germany and Poland. The great majority of the 24 Tier 4 students are from the USA. About half of the students receive some form of support with their fees. Not all students become full-time rabbis at the end of their course, with some taking on other occupations. The college is led and managed by experienced rabbis with a small governing body from the Lubavitch community. The college states its aims as follows: 'The yeshiva aims to provide an orthodox Jewish education within the framework of the Code of Jewish Law in accordance with Chassidic teachings, enabling the students to reach the standard required by each course, whilst fostering in the students an understanding that Torah study is not just an academic exercise, but instruction in a way of life'.

## **SECTION A: Main Findings and Actions Required**

### **Main findings**

Yeshiva Gedola Lubavitch London continues to meet the Standards required of privately funded further and higher education colleges sponsoring students on a Tier 4 visa. The college provides a progressive range of three full time courses in Rabbinic Studies, fully in keeping with the worldwide Lubavitch education system and accredited externally by the Council for Higher Education and Accreditation (ACHE). The qualifications on offer to international students using Tier 4 meet UKVI requirements. Course completion continues to be at a very high level.

Careful planning by teachers ensures that students study at a level which matches their learning needs and abilities and focuses on developing their learning skills. Evidence from the inspection shows students conscientiously apply intellectual effort through the verbal analysis and interpretation of key texts with their teachers and amongst themselves, as for example, in seminars and paired study. The teachers, all of whom are rabbis, are experts in their field and show confident knowledge and understanding of their subject matter, allowing them to communicate effectively with their students. Teachers assess student progress through monitoring their verbal contributions to discussion and debate and through regular written tests and assignments. Students confirm that their self-confidence develops through a strong sense of achievement in their studies and they say that they are clearly shown what they must do to improve and make progress. Meetings with students showed them to be mature and aware of the importance of showing respect for others, including those of different cultural traditions. They undertake outreach work, most notably the Mivtzo'im programme which includes support for older members of the local Jewish community. A member of staff has undertaken Prevent training and the college is aware of the need to guard against students developing extreme views.

Policies and procedures for health and safety have been well maintained, and the college makes good use of external consultants to support this provision. Fire risk assessments, fire equipment checks and fire drill records are up to date. First aid provision continues to be in place with two trained members of staff. A designated safeguarding lead (DSL) who is a senior member of staff has received enhanced and up to date DSL training and is in charge of pastoral care, including for those students under the age of eighteen. Students say they are known to staff and are well cared for. The college maintains the required admissions and attendance registers and is aware of UKVI reporting procedures in the event of any Tier 4 student attendance issues.

The Standards for the effectiveness and suitability of staff continue to be met with the same personnel as at the time of the previous inspection and up to date Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks in place.

The college continues to meet the Standard for financial sustainability, with evidence of continuing financial support from the Lubavitch community in the UK and overseas. The college's financial position and the availability of very similar Lubavitch rabbinical education elsewhere in the UK and overseas to which students could transfer gives reasonable confidence that they are not at risk of being unable to complete their course.

Governance and management continue to be secure and aimed at the agreed purpose of furthering the religious and educational aims of the college. The principal of the college delegates management responsibility appropriately to senior colleagues who work effectively together to sustain and improve provision.

Premises and accommodation, including two off-site apartments, are fit for purpose and adequately maintained, although college managers are aware that some areas of the premises are ready for re-decoration. Security has been increased since the time of the last inspection and this contributes to students feeling safe in the college. The college no longer has food preparation facilities on site.

Accurate information about the college is provided for prospective and current students through a prospectus and student handbook. The college website has been updated to include the most recent inspection report, and the college has plans to overhaul and renew all of the website content. The college has a well-documented complaints policy, known to students. There have been no formal complaints since the time of the last inspection.

Overall Main Finding	Compliance	Outcome for the College
The college meets UKVI requirements.	It meets all the Standards.	It will receive an interim inspection check in one year and a further full inspection four years after the last full inspection.

## Actions Required

No action is required.

## SECTION B: COLLEGE AND INSPECTION DETAILS

### Details of college

Name of college:	Yeshiva Gedola Lubavitch - London
Address of college:	3-5 Kingsley Way, London N2 0EH
Telephone number:	0208 731 6049
Email address:	<a href="mailto:yeshivalondon@gmail.com">yeshivalondon@gmail.com</a>
Proprietor:	Lubavitch Foundation (UK) Ltd.
Name of Principal:	Rabbi I.M.Hertz
Licence number:	3XQJ4HNJ6
Type of college:	Rabbinical college

### Details of student body

Age range	16-21
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Number on roll:		Male	Female
	Full Time:	48	0
	Part Time:	0	0
	Below 18	31	0

Annual fees:	From £6,000 to £11,000
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### Details of inspection

Type of inspection:	Educational Oversight: Interim	
Inspection Team:	Reporting Inspector:	Peter Jones
Dates of inspection:	6 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	

This report has been prepared by the School Inspection Service (SIS), which provides independent professional inspection of colleges who offer education on offer to international students through Tier 4 of the points-based system for student visas. Further copies of the report are available from the college and on the SIS website: [www.schoolinspectionservice.co.uk](http://www.schoolinspectionservice.co.uk)