



Education and Training
Inspectorate

Babcock Training

Report of a Quality Improvement
Planning Inspection in
October 2018



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education
Department for the Economy
and other commissioning Departments

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Introduction

In October 2018, the Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out a quality improvement planning inspection of Babcock Training to evaluate the effectiveness of the organisation's self-evaluation and quality improvement planning processes. The purpose of the inspection was to evaluate the effectiveness of the organisation's self-evaluation and quality improvement planning processes. At the last inspection in April 2016, the organisation demonstrated a high level of capacity to identify and bring about improvement.

Focus of the quality improvement planning inspection

The quality improvement planning inspection focused on the following key areas which the organisation had prioritised for improvement through its self-evaluation and quality improvement planning processes:

- the introduction of a tailored hospitality curriculum with a specific focus on the development and implementation of bespoke provision for a key international employer across the region; and
- the priority to drive continuous improvement of the essential skills provision to ensure outstanding learning experiences for every learner.

The arrangements for safeguarding were also included.

Key findings

The inspection identified the following key findings:

- Babcock Training is highly responsive to supporting the changing needs of the hospitality sector and has developed a prestigious strategic partnership with a key international employer, to deliver tailored industry relevant curriculum. In February 2018, the organisation successfully developed and launched customised hospitality provision with this employer. Babcock Training's quality improvement planning is very well-informed and underpins the successful collaborative approach used to support the development and implementation of this provision. All delivery staff have been involved in appropriate professional development in preparation for the delivery of the new provision, including participation in real industry experiences with this key employer, which is highly valued by them.
- The organisation has implemented more robust monitoring of the quality of the learning, teaching and training in the essential skills, through an enhanced peer observation process and improved collaboration between the professional and technical staff and the essential skills staff. Consequently, this informs a helpful monthly analysis of the provision and promotes further improvement, including the sharing of best practice across the staff teams. The sessions observed were characterised by well-planned, highly effective learning, teaching and training including the use of occupationally relevant resources specific to the apprentices' workplaces. Across the provision, the learner-centred approaches, including the one-to-one delivery model and the tailored support, are highly successful in delivering outstanding outcomes in the essential skills for all of the apprentices.

Safeguarding

Based on the evidence available at the time of the quality improvement planning inspection, the arrangements for safeguarding the apprentices reflect the guidance issued by the Department for the Economy (Department).

Overall Outcome

At the time of the quality improvement planning inspection visit, and in the areas evaluated, Babcock Training continues to demonstrate a high level of capacity to identify and bring about improvement in the quality of provision.

The outcome from this inspection will inform the next steps for the organisation with regard to the inspection cycle.

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