



Educational Oversight for embedded colleges: report of the monitoring visit of Kaplan International Colleges UK Ltd, April-May 2018

Liverpool International College (LIC)

1 Outcome of the monitoring visit

1 From the evidence provided in the annual return and at the monitoring visit, the monitoring team concludes that Kaplan International Colleges UK Ltd (Kaplan) Liverpool International College (LIC) is making commendable progress with continuing to monitor, review and enhance its higher education provision since the June 2016 [Higher Education Review \(Embedded Colleges\)](#).

2 Changes since the last QAA review

2 Liverpool International College (LIC) was established by Kaplan International Colleges UK Ltd (Kaplan) (branded as Kaplan International Partnerships) in 2007 in partnership with the University of Liverpool (the University). In 2017-18, LIC enrolled 800 students (data as of 28 February 2018). LIC has appointed two Transition Posts to work with the University to enhance further the transition from the College. Kaplan has recently extended its partnership with the University for a further 15 years, and is currently developing a new building adjacent to the University campus, with a planned opening in 2019. Following discussion with the University, LIC developed a progression route into Architecture via the Foundation Certificate in Business, Law and Social Sciences, approved by Kaplan for enrolment to the university in September 2018. LIC has worked with the University since 2007, and the recent signing of the new partnership agreement confirms the strong relationship.

3 Findings from the monitoring visit

3 This monitoring visit follows the 2016 Higher Education Review (Embedded Colleges). This review made no recommendations but noted six areas of good practice: the close working relationship with its university partner, especially regarding programme development monitoring and review; the personalised approach to staff induction and development; the high quality academic and pastoral support for students; the proactive approach to identifying student needs; the systematic approach to students' personalised learning; and the proactive and inclusive approach to the engagement of students in quality assurance and enhancement. The review team found that LIC has continued to make progress and enhance its operations in each of these areas.

4 LIC has developed, maintained, reviewed and enhanced a detailed College action plan which incorporates the points from the 2016 review and includes summary progress information on other actions initiated either by LIC or by Kaplan centrally. The action plan is reviewed at the monthly meetings of LIC's senior management team (SMT) and submitted on a quarterly basis.

The Action Plan is reviewed and fed into the LIC Executive Management Board (EMB) for consideration and submitted to the Kaplan Director of Colleges. LIC's action plan is based around seven key themes which reflect its ongoing and new priorities: the personalising of programmes to meet a student's needs; the student voice; externality; technology enhanced learning; support for staff; feedback on students' work; and learning analytics. Each of these is divided into a range of specific actions, indicating whether the action is 'complete', 'ongoing' or 'yet to start', with a targeted completion date and an evaluation of the expected impact of the outcome. Included in the Action Plan is the review of all LIC programmes in partnership with the University, as part of the overarching Kaplan product review, under the direction of the College Academic Director and CLIQ.

5 In relation to the actions identified by LIC

