

Advice note for a pre-registration inspection of an academy

School name	Locking Parklands
DfE registration number	2006
Unique reference number (URN)	144754
Inspection number	10053920
Inspection dates	21 June 2018
Reporting inspector	Lorna Brackstone HMI



Information about the inspection

This inspection was conducted by Ofsted at the request of the Secretary of State for Education. It was carried out under section 99(1) of the Education and Skills Act 2008.¹

In carrying out this type of inspection, inspectors assess the extent to which the school is likely to meet 'The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014' when it opens.²

The inspector met with the headteacher of the proposed school, the executive headteacher for Educate Together Academy Trust UK and the trust's development officer. Accompanied by all three staff, she visited the temporary building to evaluate the degree to which the proposed premises comply with the regulations. The inspector evaluated documentation both before and during the inspection.

Information about the registration

The school is seeking registration as an academy for:

Number of day pupils	420
Age range	3-11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Type of special educational needs	NA

Context of the school

Locking Parklands Educate Together Primary Academy proposes to open in September 2018. The school is being built to cater for children on the new housing development in the Locking area of Weston-super-Mare. In its first year, the school will be housed temporarily in purpose-built mobile accommodation. The new school is planned for completion in Autumn 2019. Only pre-school and Reception aged children will be admitted during the school's first year in operation. The school will then build up one year at a time until finally accommodating pupils in Year 6

Advice to the Secretary of State for Education

Overall outcome	The school is likely to meet all the independent school standards when it opens
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¹ www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/25/section/99

² www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2014/3283/schedule/made; Part 1 to Schedule 1 is not reported against because it does not apply to academies, free schools, studio schools and UTCs.

Compliance with The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014³

Part 2. Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of students

The school is likely to meet all of the standards in this part.

Leaders have a clear vision and ethos for the school which is based on the multi-academy trust's motto of 'Learn Together to Live Together'. The four key principles of equality, co-education, child-centred and democracy are threaded through the planned curriculum and underpins the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Topics and activities planned aim to foster pupils' knowledge and understanding of different beliefs. These topics also prepare them to become caring and respectful members of a multicultural society and make reasoned and informed judgements. It is intended that issues of morality will be addressed and pupils will be encouraged to develop their ethical awareness of rights, equality and citizenship.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

The school is likely to meet all of the standards in this part.

Policies and procedures have been well informed by those currently used in the other trust schools and adapted, where appropriate, to meet the local circumstances of Parklands. The safeguarding policy follows the latest guidance from the Secretary of State. It informs staff of the procedures to follow and the designated staff to speak to should they have concerns about a child.

The behaviour policy highlights the code of conduct that is expected for all pupils who attend the school. It has a positive emphasis on rewards. Respect for every child is at the heart of the policy. Balanced with these values are the range of sanctions with clear consequences for major incidents of poor behaviour.

The health and safety policy outlines in detail the school's responsibilities for keeping pupils safe. Risk assessments have been carried out in line with Health and Safety Executive guidance.

The plans for the temporary building have been approved by the local authority's building regulations department. It is intended that further checks will be made by specialists during the construction and completion of the new premises.

Part 4. Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

The school is likely to meet all of the standards in this part.

Leaders have recruited a headteacher and a Reception class teacher to take up post in September 2018. A single central record is in place. Those currently appointed, including the trustees, have had all the required checks, in line with the guidance

³ www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2014/3283/contents/made. Part 1 to Schedule 1 is not reported against because it does not apply to academies, free schools, studio schools and UTCs.

issued by the Secretary of State, to establish identity, qualifications, the right to work in the United Kingdom and suitability for teaching and leadership roles in school.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

The school is likely to meet all of the standards in this part.

The temporary building contains two large teaching spaces, two kitchen areas, an administrative office and a meeting room. It has appropriate, separate toilets and wash basins for pupils and staff. Disabled access is in place through the provision of an external ramp, wide doors and separate toileting facilities which are suitably fitted. There is an area for medical supplies to be safely and hygienically stored and an area for pupils to rest if they are unwell. The temporary playground is safe and secure. It provides a suitable space for children to learn and play. The use of a hall in the nearby community centre will provide appropriate temporary facility for indoor physical activity.

It is intended that the school will occupy purpose-built premises from September 2019. Architectural plans show that all of the required facilities, including those for medical needs, first-aid and toileting. These have been designed to be appropriate to the needs of the children and pupils aged 3 to 11 and are compliant with the appropriate regulations.

Part 6. Provision of information

The school is likely to meet all of the standards in this part.

The school's website meets requirements for the publication of statutory information and contains the required policies. It contains the school's contact details and provides dates of key events. It also keeps parents informed of developments at the school. The website is available in hard copy if parents prefer. There are links to the Educate Together multi-academy trust website and information on governance. Details of the curriculum which will be taught at the school are also available on the website.

Part 7. Manner in which complaints are handled

The school is likely to meet all of the requirements in this part.

The complaints policy is written in a way that is easy to read and understand. It is fully compliant with the regulations and has all the necessary steps and timelines for the efficient handling of any complaints.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

The standard in this part is likely to be met.

Leaders and trustees of the multi-academy trust are experienced and knowledgeable professionals. They have a very clear vision for the school and have built a curriculum around inclusivity, equality and democracy. The executive headteacher and the headteacher have demonstrated a high level of skill and expertise in their communication with parents, the local authority and the wide range of specialists involved in the planning of this new school.

A shadow academy development council has been recruited and there are clear plans for its future development.

Leaders fully understand the requirements of the independent school standards and have the necessary skills and knowledge to ensure that they are maintained. They have established high-quality policies which provide well for the welfare, health and safety of pupils.

Leadership is clear about how it will continue to monitor provision as the new premises are built and pupil numbers grow.

Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010

The school is likely to meet all of the requirements.

Initially the school will occupy a single-storey building which has appropriate facilities and access for physically disabled people. The proposed new building is designed to comply fully with current legislation. It will have two floors which will be accessible either by lift or stairs. Policies and other documents demonstrate the trust's record of teaching children to value differences and celebrate diversity, paying particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equalities Act 2010.

Statutory requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage

Leaders have taken all reasonable steps to ensure that children in the Reception year will be safe. Staff have been recruited who are suitably experienced and qualified, including in the use of paediatric first aid.

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