

Advice note for pre-registration inspections of all types of academies and free schools/studio schools/university technical colleges (UTC)

School name	CET Primary - Tower Hamlets
DfE registration number	N/A
Unique reference number (URN)	1238
Inspection number	403957
Inspection dates	19 July 2012
Reporting inspector	Jane Chesterfield

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Context of the school

CET Primary School Tower Hamlets plans to open on 3 September 2012 as a mixed, non-denominational primary school with provision in its first year for 50 Reception children and 25 Year 1 pupils. It will be situated in temporary premises for up to two years while the intended permanent premises are refurbished. The temporary premises are owned by a charitable trust and currently house the local branch of MENCAP, who will continue to use the premises for two evenings per week and some weekends. The proposed permanent premises were formerly warehouses; they were not available for inspection.

The school is sponsored by the Constable Educational Trust, an educational charity which already operates an independent secondary school in London for pupils with dyslexia and specific learning difficulties. The Trust is opening a sister primary school in Westminster at the same time as the school in Tower Hamlets. Both schools will cater for pupils of all abilities. The Trust's approach is based on 'early identification and early intervention' in respect of pupils' gifts, talents and needs. Its aim for pupils is 'to foster in them a love of learning and a memory of their primary years as a time when they were recognised for who they were and helped to achieve to the best of their ability'. The school intends to offer a topic-based curriculum with a rigorous focus on English and mathematics and an emphasis on independent learning.

Compliance with the regulations

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

Although implementation of this standard could not be seen, provision is likely to meet requirements based on the content of the planned curriculum and the programme for assemblies. Pupils will be encouraged to develop self-awareness and confidence through topics such as 'Wonderful Me' and 'It's My Goal', while work on such topics as the Olympics and the planned 'international fortnight' are intended to give them an insight into wider society. The citizenship element of the curriculum will give pupils a good insight into English institutions and services.

The school's behaviour policy and home-school agreement make clear to pupils and parents and carers the school's expectations of what is right and the sanctions in place if things go wrong. Pupils will be taught that they have both rights and responsibilities as members of the school and the wide community. Assemblies will be broadly Christian in nature, but will celebrate the major festivals of other religions in order to support other aspects of the curriculum which promote tolerance and harmony between different beliefs and cultures.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils

All essential policies and procedures, including safe recruitment, have been prepared and are likely to meet requirements. The safeguarding and child protection policies provide clear guidance to staff on dealing with disclosures and allegations, and training is scheduled for all employees of the school before the beginning of term. The headteacher, as child protection liaison officer, is due to undertake additional training during the summer. In addition, all staff will receive child protection training as they are appointed so that requirements will be met. The behaviour and anti-bullying policies are appropriate to the age of the pupils and define succinctly what constitutes unacceptable behaviour and bullying.

The health and safety policy is comprehensive, and safety procedures for educational visits, including ratios of adults to children, are fully set out. The draft first-aid policy is detailed and indicates when further medical help should be sought. Admission and attendance registers have been prepared and are ready for use. The school meets the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 with a three-year access improvement plan in place. Evacuation procedures have been established and a fire inspection visit has been booked for 24 August 2012, which will confirm escape routes and assembly points. All requirements of this standard are likely to be met, subject to satisfactory implementation.

Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

The proprietors and all staff appointed to date have been appropriately checked in full accordance with requirements. The necessary details are recorded in the school's single central record which is clearly set out and easy to read. The school understands the need to ensure that the required checks are carried out on supply staff if any are employed in the future. All requirements are likely to be met.

Premises of and accommodation at the school

Refurbishment work to the temporary premises has not yet begun, but scrutiny of the plans and schedule of works indicates that the premises are likely to meet the regulations by the time the school opens in September. The school has access to a large downstairs hall which, with partitioning, could house up to four classes, with free-flow access to an enclosed and secure playground with a suitable surface. The hall will be used for the Reception classes in the first year. There is an adequately-sized classroom for Year 1 pupils upstairs. There are currently no disabled pupils enrolled in Year 1. The premises will be adequate for the proposed initial number of 125 on roll. Proposed furniture, fixtures and fittings are likely to meet requirements. Washrooms for pupils are planned on both floors and exceed required ratios. Separate facilities for adults already exist. Office and kitchen facilities will also be available, together with a suitable facility for pupils who may become ill. The proposed permanent premises were not visited and will need to be inspected before the school relocates.

Provision of information

The school prospectus and website provide all the necessary information for parents and carers, including school policies. Written reports to parents and carers on their children's progress are scheduled for the end of the summer term.

The provision is likely to meet all the regulations.

Manner in which complaints are to be handled

The school's policy for handling complaints meets requirements and will be available to all parents and carers on the school website and in hard copy.

The provision is likely to meet all the regulations.

Recommendation to the Department for Education

Registration

Is registration recommended?

- **YES. This school is likely to meet all regulations when it opens and is recommended for registration.**

Recommended number of day pupils: 125 on current site

Recommended age range: 4 to 7 on current site

Recommended gender of pupils: Mixed.