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

School name: City Gateway 14–19 Provision
DfE registration number: TBC
Unique reference number (URN): 138196
Inspection number: 403960
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Reporting inspector: David Scott
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Context of the school

City Gateway 14–19 Provision plans to open as a mixed, non-denominational day school for students aged from 14 to 19 years of age with up to 260 places available in its first year. There are 167 students already on roll. For the academic year 2012/13, the provision will open in a former commercial office building. In the long term, the school aims to provide a total of 486 places. The Principal, together with three full-time and 37 part-time staff, has already been appointed.

The aim of the provision is to ensure that the most disengaged learners in East London are offered ‘a chance to progress in their education and secure a better future for themselves and their families’. The vocational curriculum will offer courses in sports fitness, information and communication technology (ICT), customer service, health and beauty, childcare, media, youth work and hospitality and catering. In addition, there will be a strong focus on the acquisition of basic skills so that learners are equipped with the appropriate life skills to enable them to proceed into apprenticeships, training and employment. Engagement with parents and carers will be given a high priority, with planned home visits together with a programme of invitations into the provision designed to give parents and carers the necessary skills to support their children.

Compliance with the regulations

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

The requirements of this standard are likely to be met, subject to the satisfactory implementation of the planned curriculum. The provision’s core values of inclusion and respect for the individual are an integral part of its planned provision for personal, social and health education. For example, the Young Leaders Programme is designed to model and encourage good relationships across different ethnic groups.

Each student will receive a daily session of one-to-one mentoring from a personal tutor to promote and develop self-confidence and self-esteem. In addition, students with additional needs will receive support and guidance in dealing with sexual health and with gang and drug-related issues. Working in partnership with civic and other corporate organisations, the planned Employability sessions will give learners practical advice in how to secure employment and to develop an understanding of public institutions and services in England.

The planned themed programmes for breakfast clubs and youth-led sessions across all faith and non-faith groups are intended to provide students with the opportunity to appreciate and respect the various traditions and cultures in the local community. The provision’s intended ethos, based on ‘ambition, innovation and excellence’, is focused on maintaining appropriate standards of behaviour and respect to enable students to successfully move on to employment or training. Student-led responsibility projects, such as volunteering for reception duties in the gym or
running the hub café facilities, will enable learners to develop their leadership and social skills.

**Welfare, health and safety of pupils**

All policies relating to welfare, health, safety and safeguarding are in place and are compliant with current requirements. Subject to implementation, this standard is likely to be met. Three senior members of staff have been trained at the required level as the school’s designated child protection officers. All staff will receive training in safeguarding procedures prior to the provision opening in September 2012 so that requirements are likely to be met. In addition, three members of staff have already received first-aid training. Three senior members of staff have been trained in safer recruitment and have applied these principles to the appointment of all staff. City Gateway 14–19 Provision has provided confirmation that all required training will be completed before it opens, and will send the appropriate evidence to the Department for Education (DfE).

The provision has in place detailed policies and procedures to assess and manage health and safety risks around the site. These include the behaviour policy which sets out expectations for the promotion of positive behaviour together with sanctions for poor behaviour. Registers for attendance and admission are ready for use. The refurbishment of the site is due to be completed by early September 2012 and evacuation procedures, together with the necessary fire checks, are in place or planned. Suitable plans are in place to ensure the school meets the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

**Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors**

All appointed staff are suitably vetted and these checks are contained in a single central record which includes all members of the provision. The provision does not intend to employ supply staff. All requirements are likely to be met.

**Premises of and accommodation at the school**

Scrutiny of the schedule of works and a tour of the site confirmed that the premises are likely to meet the regulations in readiness for opening in September 2012. The installation of washrooms, including three disabled toilets, ensures that the provision meets requirements. Orders for furniture, fixtures and fittings have been placed to provide a stimulating work-related learning environment. These are likely to meet requirements. The building has full access for those with disabilities to all floors via a lift. The access policy details arrangements for disabled students to be admitted to the provision. A medical room is planned and will be located on the second floor, and will be suitably equipped. All requirements are likely to be met.
Provision of information

The website provides all the required information, including the prospectus. All policies are available online and hard copies of all documentation will be provided for parents and carers upon request. Three formal opportunities per year are planned for parents and carers to discuss students’ progress. The provision is likely to meet all the regulations.

Manner in which complaints are to be handled

The provision meets all of 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: 486 pupils in the present premises
Recommended age range: 14 to 19 years
Recommended gender of pupils: Mixed.