

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

School name
DfE registration number
Unique reference number (URN)
Inspection number
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Reporting inspector

Dixons Music Primary 380/2008 1248 403967 11 July 2012 Zahid Aziz The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

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Context of the school

Dixons Music Primary Academy is a part of the Dixons City Academy Charitable Trust, who also sponsors other academies across Bradford. The academy will be based in what was previously a NHS nursing training school. It will move to a state-of-the art purpose-built accommodation on the same site in September 2013. The academy serves local and a wider area of Bradford. It has an age range of 4-11 years and will ultimately have an intake of 420 pupils. To date, 30 children are registered for Early Years Foundation Stage for September 2012 when the academy is due to open. The academy intends to specialise in music and its aims are based on Dixon City Academy ethos which include: 'a centre of educational excellence serving the whole community of Bradford. Our students meet and work together in a well-ordered and harmonious and happy community drawn from all cultures and backgrounds across the city'. There are at least two children registered who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. The academy has no particular religious affiliation.

Compliance with the regulations

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

The regulations are likely to be met although the implementation cannot be checked until the academy opens. The curriculum reflects four strands of development with equal emphasis. There are opportunities to identify, reflect on and explore experiences and distinguish between right and wrong and discuss moral issues in class and assembly. That also includes the importance of talking and developing pupils own attitude and values linked with own decisions, social responsibilities and citizenship. This is very much reflected in the positive behaviour policy and code of conduct with focus on participation, respect, follow instruction, demonstration and enjoyment (PRIDE). Through Social & Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL), pupils will have better understanding of getting on, making friends and conflict resolution. There will be occasions to develop self resilience and how to achieve goals. As a result, it will raise pupils self confidence and self esteem. The documents also indicate that the pupils will have opportunities to develop a broad knowledge of public institutions and services such as elections and parliamentary democracy. There is a clear commitment in planning to develop respect and tolerance for diversity through focus on the local issues and other cultures connected to celebrating diverse rich nature of communities' within and outside of Bradford.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Documentary evidence indicates that all regulations are likely to be met but implementation could not be seen. The academy has produced appropriate policies for safeguarding and child protection. These include suitable staff recruitment arrangements with detailed check list, with procedures for all required checks on staff suitability such as employment references. One staff has attended safer recruitment training and another has been trained to the required level as a designated person for child protection. Further update training is planned as part of



the induction arrangements for all staff prior to the academy opening. Appropriate policies have been prepared for behaviour management, sanctions and rewards, and anti-bullying, together with appropriate arrangements for recording of incidents and accidents.

The health and safety policy includes first aid and medical treatment procedures. First aiders also include paediatric trained staff to support the needs of the younger children in the Early Years Foundation Stage. The health and safety policy also identifies staff roles and responsibilities including fire safety arrangements for emergency evacuation of the premises. The requirement for appropriate risk assessments and approval for outside visits are detailed in the educational visits policy. A fire risk assessment is in place for the existing premises and will be updated once refurbishment work has been completed. Arrangements are currently being contracted for servicing and maintenance of fire safety equipment, including alarms, emergency lighting and fire extinguishers. A management information system has been purchased and is ready for the completion of the admission and attendance registers which will be maintained electronically. The academy has planned well to increase accessibility, as required by the Equality Act 2010, and will be extending its existing plan to review the possibility of further increasing access as the refurbishment proceeds.

Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

The school's planning for the completion of all required checks on the suitability of staff and its implementation of the checks to date indicate that all regulations are likely to be met. The academy has implemented the requirements of its recruitment policy for all appointments including staff employment references. Details of all checks on the suitability of staff and proprietors have been entered on an appropriate single central register. The academy does not employ supply staff.

Premises of and accommodation at the school

The academy is likely to meet all the requirements for registration. The academy is to be located in modern premises that were previously a NHS nursing training school. The building is spacious and has three floors and a basement. The academy will share part of the ground floor as a Reception class with its sister academy and then it will move to a purpose built academy adjacent to the current building in the second year. It is planned that the accommodation will be reconfigured and partially refurbished to provide suitable accommodation to house 30 children for the coming academic year. Refurbishment work is at an early stage and is being overseen by the department's delivery agent, the Education Funding Agency. Work on the refurbishment of the premises is likely to be completed ahead of the proposed opening date in September. The department will wish to continue to monitor the progress directly with the agency.



The academy has undertaken to ensure that the building and grounds will meet all of the regulations relating to premises by the time the building comes into use.

Provision of information

The provision is likely to meet all the regulations.

Manner in which complaints are to be handled

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: 420 (30 in the first year) Recommended age range: 4-11 years Recommended gender of pupils: mixed Recommended type of special educational needs: N/A