

Advice note for pre-registration inspections of studio schools

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

Tendering Enterprise Studio School 999/1287 1287 404007 9 July 2012 David Young 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

The Tendring Enterprise Studio School will be located on the site of the previous Bishop's Park School in Clacton-on-Sea. It is sponsored by the Academies Enterprise Trust (AET). The premises, consisting of three wings, were built as a PFI scheme in 2004. One wing is occupied by the sixth form of Clacton Coastal Academy, also sponsored by AET, and a second is occupied by Tendring Skills Centre.

The studio school will admit up to 300 male and female students in the age range 14 to 19 years. It is planned to open on 5 September 2012 with an initial intake of 150 students in Years 10 and 12. The school has an inclusive intake policy and anticipates that students with special educational needs will be admitted within the intake. The school aims to 'support the transition between school and work and to prepare students to be 'work-ready''. The school aims to 'provide excellent standards of academic and employment focused education and a high quality personalised learning experience'.

Compliance with the regulations

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

Documentary evidence indicates that all regulations are likely to be met but implementation could not be seen. The CREATE framework, which underpins the studio school curriculum structure, includes an emphasis on skills in: relating to others; enterprise; thinking skills; and emotional intelligence. This is part of the planned structure for all projects in the curriculum. The school will undertake a significant amount of social enterprise activity, working with a national company which runs a social enterprise project with schools. This enables students to consider how they fit into and can help their local community, and how they may be enterprising in the local community. The behaviour policy is based on behaviour for learning with an emphasis on recording and rewarding positive behaviours; it sets out clear expectations that students will take on responsibility for managing their own behaviour. Attendance, appearance, punctuality, responsibility and conduct are embraced in the 'Employability for Life' scheme which is accredited. Good links with the local police service, fire officer and community health have been established to enable students to tap into various community programmes. Termly drop-down days (collapsed timetable) will include, for example, themes on the law, government, democracy, money, taxation, other religions and cultures. The school will invite contributions from representatives of other faiths and cultures to support the development of respect and tolerance for cultural diversity, as the local area is an almost exclusively White British community.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Documentary evidence indicates that all regulations are likely to be met but implementation could not be seen. Suitable policies have been prepared for



safeguarding, behaviour management, anti-bullying, first aid and health and safety on off-site visits. Roles and responsibilities are defined, including those for parents, carers and governors where relevant. The procedures provide suitable guidance for staff to ensure consistency of approach to all aspects of students' welfare, including application of agreed rewards and sanctions. The safeguarding policy includes procedures to ensure safe recruitment, including medical checks; to manage a disclosure; to manage an allegation against a member of staff; and relationships with the local authority children's safeguarding board. The policies identify named senior members of staff in required positions of responsibilities or include spaces for names where an appointment has not yet been made. A senior member of staff has been trained to the required level in child protection and all currently appointed members of staff have been trained. Initial and update training, including awareness raising regarding the school's written policy and procedures, is planned as part of staff induction.

The health and safety policy includes: appropriate arrangements for fire safety; staff training, routine checks on safety equipment; and the requirements for fire evacuation and fire drills. All aspects of health and safety and fire safety on the premises are managed, under contract, through the on-site facilities company. As a result, there is a full fire risk assessment in place and monitored. All aspects of fire safety, including regular checks on fire safety equipment, are included in the contract. The school has plans to ensure appropriate fire safety training for all staff, including fire evacuation arrangements, in its pre-opening staff induction arrangements. Admission and attendance registers are to be maintained on a commercial database, together with records of sanctions. The school meets the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

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 to date, indicate that all regulations are likely to be met. All staff appointments are managed by the human resources department of the sponsoring trust. Suitable procedures are in place to ensure that all required checks are completed and recorded on an appropriate single central register. Checks have been completed, or are underway, for all staff appointed to date; these are being entered on the register as they are obtained. All adults working in other parts of the building have enhanced CRB checks as they work with students from other establishments.

Premises of and accommodation at the school

The school is likely to meet all the requirements for registration. The premises consist of one wing of a modern secondary school building constructed in 2004. The studio will have self-contained accommodation separated by key fob controlled doors from other users of the site. The school will occupy teaching spaces, offices and administrative facilities on two floors of the building. The accommodation includes specialist provision for teaching science and food technology. There are no plans for



structural refurbishment. New information technology infrastructure is to be installed during the summer break throughout the school accommodation. The building is already suitable for use as a school. There are extensive grounds, including playing fields, an artificial grass pitch and tarmac play areas, together with external paved and block-tiled circulation and recreation spaces. The site is fully secure, although some external circulation areas will be shared with other school users, under staff supervision. The facilities include sufficient toilets, including disabled facilities for boys, girls and staff. There is a medical room, supervised by a qualified first-aider who is part of the shared administration team on the site. All aspects of site maintenance are managed through a contract with an on-site commercial facilities company. The premises are in a good state of repair and decoration.

Provision of information

The provision is likely to meet all the regulations.

Manner in which complaints are to be handled

The provision meets all 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: 300 Recommended number of boarders or residential pupils: n/a Recommended age range: 11–19 years Recommended gender of pupils: Mixed Recommended type of special educational needs: n/a