

Advice note for a pre-registration inspection of a free school

School name	Rainbow Primary
DfE registration number	999/1113
Unique reference number (URN)	1113
Inspection number	384784
Inspection dates	22 August 2011
Reporting inspector	David Young

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Context of the school

Rainbow Primary is a new non-denominational free school proposed by ATL Yorkshire. It is planned to open on 8 September for up to 50 boys and girls in the age range four to seven years. At present, 27 pupils are registered for enrolment. It is proposed to provide ultimately for up to 525 pupils in the age range four to 11 years. The school will have no particular specialism. The school will be based in Grade 2 listed premises, formerly an independent school, in the Manningham District of Bradford. The site is shared with Kings Science Academy (Year 7 only), initially for a twelve month period. The school is planning to relocate to alternative premises once a suitable site has been identified.

The school's published mission 'is to provide all of our students with the academic and character skills they need to achieve excellent results, to succeed in a competitive world and to serve as the next generation of leaders for our communities'.

Compliance with the regulations

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

Documentary evidence indicates that all regulations in this standard are met by the planning but implementation could not be checked. The five pillars on which the school's ethos is based include 'partnership and commitment' and 'emphasis on achievement'. It states the intention that, having made a choice to be at the school, everyone must make and uphold a commitment to the school and each other. The school's stated culture includes a number of 'sayings' to be introduced in differing forms for all children from Reception onwards. These include statements related to integrity, self-discipline and social intelligence. The timetabled curriculum for personal, social and health education is derived from Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) and 'Pulling it Together' (PIT) materials which encompass a range of themes related to personal and social development. These are to be integrated with assemblies which emphasise the school's commitment to developing self-awareness and moral understanding. The religious education (RE) scheme includes multi-faith themes on festivals, founders and leaders and religious communities based on the National Curriculum attainment targets for RE. The citizenship curriculum will provide pupils with an insight into the workings of local and national institutions.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils

The school's planning meets all regulatory requirements in this standard although implementation could not be seen. Appropriate policies have been produced for anti-bullying; behaviour, rewards and sanctions; child protection; educational visits (including risk assessment and other proforma); first aid (including template for recording training updates); and health and safety. The designated person for child

protection has been trained to the appropriate level, certificate dated July 2011. Training for all staff is built into the induction plan. There is a suitable process to implement safer recruitment policy and procedures. All required checks are built into the procedure and have been implemented effectively to date. Trained first aiders are in place, with up-to-date training. A commercial database is ready to be used for admissions, attendance and records of sanctions. Suitable arrangements are in place for the vetting and employment of supply staff, if required in the future. Rewards and sanctions are well documented and explained for parents, carers and pupils.

An external contractor has been engaged to ensure that building works comply with the requirements of the Regulatory Reform Fire Safety Order 2005. A full report is to be provided on completion of the current refurbishment works, together with staff training and arrangements for maintenance of all fire safety systems and future routine fire safety procedures. The school and contractor have undertaken to attend promptly and in full to any issues raised so that regulations will be met. A five year plan for accessibility has been prepared, to be developed further as decisions are made about future accommodation. This meets the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

The planning for safe recruitment and implementation indicates that all regulations are likely to be met. Appropriate arrangements are in place for the safe recruitment of staff and set out in the school's recruitment policy and procedures. All required checks are completed for current staff and for governors. A small number of CRB checks are awaited, having been recently applied for on behalf of recently appointed governors. There is no indication that these will not be received in time for the school's opening, so that requirements will be met. A single central register of checks on the suitability of staff and proprietors has been compiled, recording all the required checks.

Premises of and accommodation at the school

The premises and accommodation are likely to meet requirements. Refurbishment of the premises is taking place at present. The rooms identified for teaching are of appropriate size and will ensure a safe environment for learning. Appropriate numbers of toilets for pupils and staff are in the process of refurbishment. An appropriate area for safe outside play is available and is also undergoing refurbishment to ensure all health and safety requirements are met, and to provide adequate separation of play spaces for the Rainbow School pupils and for secondary pupils in Year 7 of the Kings Science Academy. Dining hall arrangements are satisfactory and will provide for lunches to be delivered from an external contractor. The accommodation is likely to be completed to a standard which ensures safety and security of pupils in advance of the planned opening date. Suitable contingency arrangements are in place to ensure safety on the site should aspects of the refurbishment not be completed before the school opens. Continuous feedback on

the progress with the refurbishment will be provided by the Department's delivery agent, 'Partnership for Schools'.

Provision of information

The provision meets all 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

For number of day pupils: 50 in currently refurbished accommodation and 525 when suitable new accommodation is acquired

For number of boarders: n/a

For age range: 4–7 years in current accommodation and 4-11 when new accommodation is acquired

For gender of pupils: Mixed.