Advice note for a pre-registration inspection of an academy/free school/studio school/university technical college (UTC)

School name: Goole Create Studio School
DfE registration number: 380/
Unique reference number (URN): 1418
Inspection number: 422309
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Reporting inspector: Sheila Boyle
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Information about the inspection

This inspection was conducted by Ofsted at the request of the registration authority for independent schools. It was carried out under section 99 of the Education and Skills Act 2008.¹

Context of the school

Goole Create Studio School plans to operate initially from a ground floor block within Goole High School which is part of the multi-academy trust. The studio school is sponsored by Goole High School and Selby College. The school has applied to be registered, to open in September 2013. It plans to admit 80 boys and girls in the age range 14 to 19 rising to a maximum of 300 in 2014, when a new extension to the provision at the high school is complete. The school will work in partnership with the high school and local employers, particularly those with links to the power industry, including green energy, ports and logistics, and business and enterprise. The school will be non-selective and it intends to admit some students with special educational needs. The school aims to give students good academic and vocational qualifications including those relevant to key local industries and prepare them with the skills they will need to flourish in their future life and in work.

Compliance with the regulations

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

The regulations are likely to be met by the planning, although implementation cannot be checked until the school opens. The planning shows how the school intends to offer its students project-based learning, with a particular focus on engineering and business enterprise. The curriculum provision includes personal, social and health education programmes which cover issues such as communication, personal safety, drugs awareness, law and order, and local and global citizenship. Students will be expected to take responsibility for their own behaviour and engage in activities aimed at gaining an understanding of how to make a contribution to the school and to the local and wider communities. Social development will be promoted through group activities within the complex, work experience, visitors and visits off the site. The behaviour and anti-bullying policies aim to promote good relationships that allow everyone to work together in an effective and considerate way. Policies relating to equality of opportunity and citizenship confirm the school’s intention to help its students to develop an understanding of public institutions and services in England, and to have an insight into different religions and cultures as well as democracy and the rule of civil law. There is no evidence that political views will be presented in anything other than a balanced way. The trust’s strong links with local employers

and higher education establishments will be used to encourage and assist students to pursue both academic and vocational courses.

**Welfare, health and safety of pupils**

The school’s policies and procedures indicate that the regulations are likely to be met although implementation could not be seen. All the required policy documents have been produced, including comprehensive policies for safeguarding, safer recruitment, behaviour management, anti-bullying and first aid. Senior staff have been trained in safe recruitment and the principles have been applied effectively to the recruitment process to date. Staff appointed have had relevant training in child protection and the designated child protection officer has had the required training. A suitable first aid policy is in place and several members of staff have completed first aid training. Guidance is available on the location of first aid equipment and recording of all accidents. An appropriate educational visits policy includes requirements for risk assessments to be completed for visits out of school. The school has a copy of the building regulations compliance certificate for the whole of the site’s premises, which includes compliance with fire safety regulations and a report from the fire authority. Fire evacuation procedures have been documented and fire safety notices are displayed throughout the premises. The health and safety representative for the whole site has identified dates prior to opening for risk assessments, including the fire risk assessment which requires the regular inspection and maintenance of fire safety equipment. The headteacher is aware of his responsibility to provide appropriate training in fire evacuation once the school opens. A sanctions book and attendance and admission registers are in place. Goole High School has planned well for accessibility and there is an access improvement plan, so that the studio 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 implementation to date indicates that all regulations are likely to be met. All required checks have been completed for the proprietors and for staff appointed to date. Evidence that all the required checks have taken place is maintained on a suitable single central register. Checks are completed and entries on the register updated as new staff are appointed. The school does not intend to employ supply staff but is aware of its responsibilities relating to any future use of supply staff and also of its duty to refer any person who is deemed unsuitable for working with children to the Disclosure and Barring Service.

**Premises and accommodation at the school**

The school is likely to meet all the regulations. The accommodation set aside by the trust for the school to use in its first year is located on the ground floor of a block at Goole High School. It has its own entrance and several classrooms including special facilities for science, information and communication technology. All classrooms are suitably furnished and well ventilated. Students will have their own common room.
and staff will have a separate administration suite. There are adequate washrooms for the number of staff and students. There is a labelled supply of drinking water for students’ use and the temperature of the hot water supply is suitably regulated. There is a safe outdoor play area. The school will have access to the high school’s medical room and many of its other facilities including, sports halls, showering and changing facilities and outdoor playing fields. The students will also have supervised access to the canteen which is open from early morning to late evening. Plans seen for the new extension block indicate that it the school will finally accommodate up to 300 students.

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

- YES. This school is likely to meet all regulations for registration.

Recommended number of day pupils: 80 on opening, rising to 300.
Recommended number of boarders: N/A
Recommended age range: 14-19 years
Recommended gender of pupils: Mixed
Recommended type of special educational needs: N/A.

Note: The Department should obtain confirmation from the school before it admits the planned full cohort of 300 students that the planned building works have been completed.