

Advice note for a pre-registration inspection of free school

School name	Charlton Wood Primary Academy
DfE registration number	803/2016
Unique reference number (URN)	147069
Inspection number	10103151
Inspection dates	20 May 2019
Reporting inspector	Kathy Maddocks



Information about the inspection

This inspection was conducted by Ofsted at the request of the Secretary of State for Education. It was carried out under section 99 of the Education and Skills Act 2008.¹

In carrying out this type of inspection, inspectors assess the extent to which the school is likely to meet 'The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014' when it opens.²

The inspector met with the chief executive officer of the multi-academy trust (MAT), the business manager of the new primary school and the headteacher of the primary school. She undertook a tour of the school site, reviewed architects' plans, scrutinised information available on the school's website and reviewed a range of policies, including those relating to safeguarding and the single central record (SCR) of the school.

Information about the registration

The school is seeking registration as a free school for:

Number of day pupils	420
Age range	4–11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Type of special educational needs	N/A

Context of the school

This is a newly built primary school in Patchway, South Gloucestershire. It is part of the Endeavour MAT which has three other primary schools in the locality.

The building of the school is not yet complete. The school will open to pupils in September 2019. Initially, there will be places for 90 pupils: 60 children in Reception in two classes and 30 pupils in Year 1.

Advice to the Secretary of State for Education

Overall outcome	The school is likely to meet all the independent school standards when it opens.
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Recommended number of day pupils	420
Recommended age range	4–11

¹ www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/25/section/99.

² www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2014/3283/schedule/made. Part 1 to Schedule 1 is not reported against because it does not apply to academies, free schools, studio schools and UTCs.

Recommended gender of pupils	Mixed
Recommended type of special educational needs	N/A

Compliance with The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014

Part 2. Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of students

The school is likely to meet all the relevant independent school standards when it opens. Plans showing the curriculum content for pupils in the Reception and Year 1 classes indicate that they will study a range of religions, make visits to places of worship and learn about a variety of religious celebrations including Eid, Diwali and Easter. The school's policy for spiritual, moral, social and cultural education (SMSC) places appropriate emphasis on pupils developing self-esteem and self-confidence.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

The school is likely to meet all the relevant independent school standards when it opens. The child protection policy is comprehensive and up to date. It includes references to the changes in 'Keeping children safe in education 2018'. There are clear guidelines for staff with regard to timely notification of any concerns. There is a suitable policy for assessing risks in school and when pupils are taken out on trips. The behaviour policy is balanced and includes both rewards and sanctions with an appropriate escalation.

Part 4. Suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors

The school is likely to meet all the relevant independent school standards when it opens. The SCR currently records checks relating to the suitability of the headteacher and the recently appointed teachers. Details of checks on the trustees' details are available on the SCR, too. No governors have been appointed yet but there are plans to carry out appropriate checks on them when timely.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

The school is likely to meet all the relevant independent school standards when it opens. The inspector saw plans showing the proposed layouts of the ground floor spaces. The inspector visited the shell of the building and was able to see the layout of the classrooms and the toilet and wash facilities for pupils. There are suitable rooms for medical purposes, a canteen and a large hall. Leaders explained how a combination of hard surfaces with strategically placed safety surfacing and grassed areas is planned for pupils' use outdoors, including an open-air amphitheatre.

Part 6. Provision of information

The school is likely to meet all the relevant independent school standards when it opens. The school's website contains helpful information for parents, including access to the policies that are required to be available. There are admission arrangements for this year and next. There are no details about the governing body yet as members have not been appointed.

Part 7. Manner in which complaints are handled

The school is likely to meet all the relevant independent school standards when it opens. The complaints policy covers all specified requirements and is on the website.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

The school is likely to meet all the relevant independent school standards when it opens. The headteacher was appointed two years ago. He has been able to oversee the building of the school and ensure that it meets all necessary requirements. The MAT has successful inspection outcomes in its other three schools: one was rated outstanding in 2016 and the other two are good. The headteacher was the deputy headteacher in a school that went from special measures to good (2019) in two years so has a strong track record.

Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010

The school is likely to meet all the relevant independent school standards when it opens. The equalities statement is comprehensive and makes reference to protected characteristics. The building shows that suitable adaptations are included.

Statutory requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage

The school is likely to meet all the relevant independent school standards when it opens. The headteacher has taught the Reception class in the school where he was deputy headteacher purposefully so that he has a clear understanding of the early years curriculum and other statutory requirements.

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