

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

School name	Wapping High School
DfE registration number	N/A
Unique reference number (URN)	1297
Inspection number	404017
Inspection dates	13 July 2012
Reporting inspector	Calvin Pike

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Context of the school

The Wapping High School plans to open as a mixed, non-denominational school for pupils aged 11-16 years with provision in its first year for 80 places in Year 7. There are 44 pupils in Year 7 ready to enrol at present. The school will be located temporarily at St George-in-the-East training college and the community centre at St Paul's Shadwell. In June 2013 the school will move to another building on a permanent site, already acquired. The school aims to provide 420 places in the new building by 2016. Its cultural diversity is expected to reflect the local context. The headteacher has been in post since April 2012. In addition, five full-time teachers have been appointed to start in September.

The school's mission is to enable students 'to move into the world of higher education and work as global citizens, high achievers and self-confident, well-rounded people'. The school aims to offer a 'blend of high-quality, imaginative learning supported by a rich, digital environment' that will 'develop the highest quality skills in reading, writing, numeracy and communication'. It is intended to build strong partnerships with parents and carers with planned links to involve them closely in the work of the school and in their children's success through the school's web-based learning platform and regular review meetings focused on pupils' progress.

Compliance with the regulations

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

The requirements of this standard are likely to be met subject to satisfactory implementation of the planned curriculum. The school's overall ethos emphasises taking personal responsibility. This is mirrored in the personal, social, health and citizenship programme and will be enhanced by aspects of provision which include Ethics and Cultural studies and Learning and Thinking skills. As a school with relatively small classes it is intended to stress the importance of strong relationships between pupils and staff in order to build 'genuine engagement and involvement especially in learning'. One hour a week will be assigned for small group or individual tutorials focused on academic progress and personal development. The school's democratic structures will include an elected student forum, the student chair of which will be part of the stakeholder engagement group of the governing body. Pupils will learn about religious diversity, public institutions in England and gain appreciation of cultures and traditions other than their own through a planned programme of enrichment activities, visits and independent study projects.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils

All policies for pupils' welfare, health and safety are in place. Subject to successful implementation, they comply with current requirements. Experienced staff and

governors have been designated to take responsibility for child protection matters. All staff will be trained appropriately in safeguarding procedures to ensure that requirements are met. The school's ethos stresses the importance of developing 'enquiring minds with a life-long love of learning'. It aspires to be the hub of the community, engaging pupils in developing project work that supports local needs and encourages parents and other community members to contribute to pupils' learning through close home-school relationships and by providing information through the school's website.

Suitable policy documents and related systems are in place to manage health and safety risks around the site on the school buildings. High expectations of staff and pupils are emphasised in policies and intended practices which encourage positive attitudes and behaviours with a focus on rewards and celebration both of achievement and attainment and community contribution. Plans for the permanent site indicate that necessary requirements will be met. Although the temporary premises are undergoing refurbishments, inspection visits to both sites and scrutiny of additional planning documentation show that evacuation procedures, necessary fires checks and site security are being scheduled effectively. Admission arrangements are in place, communicated clearly through the school's website and detailed in available documentation including the school prospectus. Plans to open the temporary sites with the first cohort of Year 7 pupils are suitable as are longer-term arrangements to support a smooth transition to the permanent building.

Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

Staff and governors appointed are appropriately vetted. All documentation is in place to verify the details contained in the school's comprehensive single central register. Procedures for engaging administrative and support staff, including a higher level teaching assistant and a further teaching assistant, are in place. All requirements are likely to be met.

Premises of and accommodation at the school

The permanent site is being refurbished and is not available for inspection, but plans indicate that the school is likely to meet all the requirements for registration. In order to open in September, the school is to be located in two temporary premises which are being refurbished. The first is a further education training site at St George-in-the-East (the school's current administrative offices) and the second is a community centre at St Paul's Shadwell. Work on the refurbishment of the sites is likely to be completed ahead of the proposed opening in September. The department will wish to continue to monitor progress with both temporary and permanent premises directly with the agencies involved. Inspection visits to both temporary sites and scrutiny of additional planning indicate that the accommodation will provide sufficient space and resources for learning and for school assemblies, social gatherings and lunch provision, as well as an appropriate number of washrooms and toilets for staff

and pupils. The permanent building being reconfigured and refurbished will provide suitable accommodation to house the proposed intake of up to 420 pupils.

Provision of information

The provision is likely to meet all the regulations. The school website provides the required information for parents, including the school prospectus, diary and up-to-date news of developments. It also includes areas for debate and consultations.

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
Recommended age range: 11–16 years
Recommended gender of pupils: Mixed
Recommended type of special educational needs: N/A.