

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

School name	Mosaic Jewish Primary School
DfE registration number	Not yet assigned
Unique reference number (URN)	1502
Inspection number	422417
Inspection dates	25 July 2013
Reporting inspector	Sandra Teacher

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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

Mosiac Jewish Primary School plans to open in September 2013, with its first Reception class, as a mixed, inclusive, free primary school sponsored by the South London Jewish Primary School Trust. It will be a one-form entry school with an inclusive Jewish ethos that accepts children from across the spectrum of Jewish belief and of other beliefs on an equal basis. The school is sited in the well-established community building of Wimbledon District Synagogue in a residential area in the London Borough of Wandsworth and will provide for pupils from surrounding neighbourhoods and beyond. These premises are being refurbished to accommodate 60 Reception and Year 1 boys and girls. The headteacher, an administrator, a school business manager, a class teacher and one teaching assistant have already been appointed to start in September, and 27 children have already registered for enrolment. In discussion with the headteacher, the inspector advised that, when the permanent premises are ready, the school may need to apply for a material change visit. The school has already designated a suitable site nearby. The vision and values of the school are summed up in the ancient Jewish hope: 'May our children be our builders', and are based on three aspirations: inspiration, respect and excellence.

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, through the planned curriculum. The intended ethos of this school emphasises the pupils' personal development, particularly through the enriched, integrated curriculum. This focuses on building a learning community, which emphasises '21st Century learning skills', enabling children to be confident, capable and independent in a safe nurturing environment, along with acquiring Jewish knowledge and understanding. The planned provision clearly emphasises the development of the pupils' confidence, identity and their understanding of taking responsibility for their behaviour and actions. Children will be encouraged to be involved in decision making in the school, and have already given their views on the choice of the new uniform. Although the emphasis is on the Jewish faith, because the children come from all faith backgrounds, an annual cycle of celebrations across faith groups is built into the calendar for the new school year, so that the children can grow in their awareness of, and respect for, traditions and cultures other than

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

their own. Children of different backgrounds and beliefs will learn from diversity and difference and value one another. Visitors and group visits appropriate to the age range are also planned so that pupils can develop an understanding of the civil law and of public institutions and services in England. The school intends to enable children to engage with wider British and world communities and cultures through trips and connections to other schools, and partnership organisations. The governors have ensured that the planned curriculum, including provision for the children's personal development, is free from partisan political views, and that, when political issues are discussed, a balanced view is always presented. Detailed guidance on these matters is included in the policy documents.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils

The school is likely to meet all the regulations. The implementation of policies and procedures could not be seen as the school is not operating. All essential policies and procedures have been prepared and these comply with current guidance, including that on behaviour and anti-bullying. The safeguarding policy meets requirements and provides clear guidance to staff. All the necessary checks as regards suitability of staff are being made prior to appointments and a satisfactory safer recruitment policy and training for senior managers are in place. The headteacher, who is the designated person for child protection, has attended the appropriate safeguarding training with the local safeguarding board. Safeguarding training for all staff and adults on the site is part of the induction process prior to the school opening date, so that requirements will be met. The newly appointed staff team will include a number of qualified paediatric first aiders. The systems are in place for volunteers and other groups to be checked for their suitability to work with children in time for the opening of the school and for the outcomes to be recorded on the single central record.

The school has devised detailed and suitable procedures to assess and manage safety risks around the school site. There are written policies to promote good behaviour, with clear codes of conduct and an appropriate set of sanctions and rewards. The health and safety policy is in line with requirements and has been drawn up with the welfare of the children at its heart. Currently, the admission and attendance registers are blank but are likely to meet requirements. Arrangements are firmly in hand for the necessary fire safety checks and risk assessment and, upon completion of building works, the local authority has taken responsibility to include the school premises on the fire service's schedules of work for a visit and a report before the school opens, so that requirements are likely to be met. Evacuation procedures in the case of fire have been carefully considered. The school meets the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and a three-year plan to improve access has been prepared.

Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

The school's policies and procedures are likely to meet all requirements. Recruitment procedures meet the current guidance. All appointed staff are appropriately vetted and there is a single central record that contains all the required checks on the

headteacher and staff. Members of the governing body already have the necessary checks. The school does not intend to employ supply staff, but is aware of its responsibilities should supply staff be appointed in the future and has systems in place for making the checks. The school is carrying out, and recording, the required checks for security staff employed under contractual arrangements, so that its systems for checks on outside staff could be seen in implementation.

Premises of and accommodation at the school

The school is renting premises which previously were designated as an educational facility. These are likely to meet all of the regulations including those for heating, lighting, ventilation, decoration and floor covering. The classrooms are of a good size as are other shared areas. All the new furniture and resources, suitable for the proposed age range, are in place for the indoor classroom and are on order (orders seen) for the outside classroom, to be delivered ready for the opening of the school in September. Washrooms meet requirements, with a regulated hot water supply, and a labelled source of drinking water is available. Outside play areas have been carefully considered and surfaces matched to the needs of young children, both for free and guided play. Access is already in place for those with disabilities. A medical room is fitted out appropriately. The building and access points to the grounds are fully secure and a full-time security guard is being recruited, with the support of the Community Security Trust. No food will be prepared on the premises.

Provision of information

The provision is likely to meet all the regulations.

Manner in which complaints are to be handled

The provision is likely to meet all regulations.

Recommendation to the Department for Education

Registration

- **YES. This school is likely to meet all regulations when it opens and is recommended for registration.**

Recommended number of day pupils: 60

Recommended age range: 4 to 6 years

Recommended gender of pupils: Mixed

Recommended type of special educational needs: N/A.