

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

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School name	Cramlington Village Primary School
DfE registration number	380/2000
Unique reference number (URN)	1245
Inspection number	403964
Inspection dates	24 July 2012
Reporting inspector	Zahid Aziz

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## Context of the school

Cramlington Village Primary School is a free school situated just outside the city centre of Newcastle. It has been set up by local parents, teachers and volunteers who live, work or use childcare in the town. The school will be based in a building that was previously a primary school. The building is spacious and its single-storey construction makes access straightforward. The school will serve a 10-mile radius around Cramlington. It will have an age range of four to 11 years and will eventually have an intake of 210 pupils. To date, 25 children are registered to enrol for the Reception and the Year 1 classes for 3 September 2012 when the school is due to open. The school's philosophy is based on the intention: 'to help children realise and achieve their fullest potential through individualised planning which is based on their interests and prior achievements. We believe that every child can be 'successful' and we enable them to learn through first-hand and predominantly practical experiences'. The school has an inclusive admissions policy and anticipates that pupils with statements of special educational needs and English as an additional language will be admitted within the intake. One pupil with a statement of special educational needs has registered for enrolment so far. The school has no particular religious affiliation.

## Compliance with the regulations

### Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

The regulations are likely to be met although implementation cannot be checked until the school opens. The pupils will have many opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development through cross-curricular links between the 'Social & Emotional Aspects of Learning' (SEAL) course and other subjects. This provision will be tracked through software that will ensure a balance of topics. The school will ensure that pupils will acquire self-confidence, self-esteem and self-knowledge, for example through participating in assemblies and celebrating festivals. The school has already made contact with people and organisations such as the local community police officer and the fire service as part of their plan to ensure that pupils will gain an insight into English institutions and services. The pupils will have the chance to learn to appreciate the local environment through a wide range of interesting activities such as visiting the local park and the museum. It is planned that they will experience a school ethos which promotes a diverse and inclusive curriculum regardless of their gender, ability or cultural background. The positive behaviour policy ensures that pupils should have a clear understanding of between right and wrong as well as encouraging them to respect the law. There will be occasions when the school will link up with charities so that pupils will be able to undertake fund-raising for those who need help. They will support each other, for example, helping younger pupils. Through the school's contact with the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education and partnerships with other diverse organisations, pupils will acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures through activities such as meeting guest speakers visiting from different communities, cultures and backgrounds.

## **Welfare, health and safety of pupils**

The documents examined during the visit indicate that all regulations are likely to be met but implementation could not be seen. The school has formulated suitable policies for safeguarding and child protection. These include suitable staff recruitment arrangements, including procedures for all the required checks to be made on staff suitability. The designated Principal is the senior designated person for child protection. This member of staff has an appropriate level of training and has attended safer recruitment training with two other school governors. Further training in child protection is planned as part of the induction arrangements for all staff prior to the school opening so that requirements will be met. Suitable policies have been prepared for behaviour management, sanctions and rewards and anti-bullying.

The health and safety policy includes suitable first aid and medical treatment procedures such as informing parents about all head injuries. Sufficient first aiders are trained, including paediatric-trained staff to support the needs of the younger children in the Early Years Foundation Stage. The health and safety policy identifies staff roles and responsibilities for fire safety arrangements and for emergency evacuation of the premises. The requirement for appropriate risk assessments and approval for outside visits is met in the educational visits policy. A fire risk assessment is in place for the existing premises and will be updated once refurbishment work has been completed. Arrangements are currently being made with contractors for the servicing and maintenance of fire safety equipment, including alarms, emergency lighting and fire extinguishers, so that requirements will be met. A management information system has been purchased and is ready for the completion of the admission, attendance registers and rewards and sanctions which will be maintained electronically. The school has already planned well to increase accessibility, as required by the Equality Act 2010, and will review the possibility of further increasing access as the refurbishment proceeds.

## **Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors**

The school's planning for the completion of all required checks on the suitability of staff, and its implementation of the checks to date, indicate that all regulations are likely to be met. The school has implemented its recruitment policy with respect to all appointments including taking up appropriate employment references. Recently appointed staff and governors have had their CRB checks completed. Details of all checks on the suitability of staff and proprietors have been entered on an appropriate single central register. The school does not employ supply staff.

## **Premises of and accommodation at the school**

The school is likely to meet all the requirements for registration. The school is to be located in a modern building that was previously a primary school. The building is spacious and has one floor, so that it is readily accessible. At present, the building is being refurbished. In the first phase, it is planned that the accommodation will be reconfigured to provide two large suitable rooms to house 60 children for Reception and Year 1 for the coming academic year. There is an appropriate area allocated for those pupils who are ill. There are sufficient toilet facilities for the needs of boys and

girls and staff. In the second phase, the rest of the school building will be refurbished; this will be completed by October 2012. Refurbishment work is at an early stage and is being overseen by the department's delivery agent, the Education Funding Agency. Work on the refurbishment of the premises is likely to be completed ahead of the proposed opening date in September. The Department may wish to continue to monitor the progress directly with the agency.

### **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 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: 210 (60 in the first year)

Recommended age range: 4–11 years

Recommended gender of pupils: Mixed

Recommended type of special educational needs: N/A.