

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

School name	Bradford Girls Grammar School
DfE registration number	380/
Unique reference number (URN)	1417
Inspection number	422308
Inspection dates	18 July 2013
Reporting inspector	Mohammad Ismail

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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

Bradford Girls' Grammar School is an independent day school for pupils aged 4-18 years. At present, there are 570 pupils. One pupil has statement of special educational needs and there are two pupils who are provided with additional English language support. The school is based on a 17 acre green site. It is located in the Great Horton area of Bradford. The school was founded in 1875 and in 1975 it became an independent school. The school now intends to become a free school to meet the demands of the local community. The school has plans in place to increase the numbers to 960. The school is a Christian school with an open admission policy, ready to enrol pupils of all faiths and no faith. The school aims to 'be accessible to all and will promote a culture of aspiration and achievement. Ambitious targets will be set at all key stages. Pupil progress will be closely monitored against potential 'to achieve and maintain academic and extra-curricular excellence, focusing on individual achievement, and pupils' development of character, confidence and independence.' The school is planned to be open for pupils from 4 September 2013.

Compliance with the regulations

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

The school is likely to meet all of the regulations, but implementation could not be seen. The school's behaviour, pastoral care and anti-bullying policies set out a framework with clear aims of creating an environment which will be based on respect for all. The school has adopted an appropriate personal, social and health education programme to meet its pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural needs. There are planned programmes in place which have the aim of raising pupils' awareness of right and wrong and understanding the consequences of their decisions. The school's plans for the personal development of its pupils aim to ensure that all the pupils will become valued and responsible citizens in society. There are appropriate plans to raise their self-confidence and self-esteem through various activities such as teamwork, a leadership programme, a diversity course, cultural awareness courses and a school council. The school places an emphasis on the development of independence, co-operation, innovation and motivation. Planned provision includes courses of study which encourage pupils to respect others' opinions and to respect cultural diversity, developing tolerance and harmony. The school has planned an extensive programme of working in the community. Schemes

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

which include inviting visitors into the school are aimed at developing pupils' understanding of the multicultural community and developing their respect for civil and criminal law. Pupils will be visiting the local magistrates' court and a 'community engagement' police officer will regularly talk to pupils. The school has linked up with a global school programme with the aim of being twinned with other schools in developing countries. A wide range of faith, community and cultural festivals will be celebrated. The school has plans in place to work closely with different local community organisations. Pupils will be encouraged to raise funds for local and national charities. The school's plans include material aimed at developing pupils' understanding of English public institutions and services. The proprietors have ensured that the planned curriculum, including provision for pupils' personal development, is free from partisan political or religious views and that a balanced view of any political issues is always presented. The school provides clear instructions on these matters which have been included in the staff handbook and in the school's policies.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Documentary evidence indicates that all of the regulations are likely to be met, but 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. Three designated child protection officers have been trained at the required level by the local safeguarding children board. All staff are trained in safeguarding children. Eight members of staff are identified and appropriately trained to take responsibility for first aid. Suitable policies have been prepared for all required aspects of health and safety and premises and fire safety risk assessments are in place. Admission and attendance registers will be maintained electronically and their formats meet requirements. The school has an access improvement plan which meets the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

The school's completion of the 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 the staff already appointed. These are recorded on a single central register which meets requirements. Checks are completed and entries on the register are updated as new staff are appointed. The school does not intend to employ supply staff but is aware of the requirements should such staff be appointed in the future.

Premises of and accommodation at the school

The school is likely to meet all the regulations. The school is situated within 17 acres of land, in large purpose-built buildings which have been recently renovated and refurbished. There are three sections, primary, senior and sixth-form. There are three indoor sport halls and a swimming pool. There are three different-sized outdoor football pitches and a tennis court. In addition there is a large indoor sport and fitness complex which is equipped with many different facilities for physical education. There are four science laboratories. All three sections of the school are equipped with computers and suitable furniture for the age groups which will occupy them. There are sufficient classrooms, lecture rooms and common rooms in each section for the planned increased intake. There are sufficient washrooms and showers for the new numbers planned and there are two suitable rooms for medical examinations and for pupils who may be ill. Water supplies meet requirements, including labelled sources of drinking water and a temperature-regulated supply of hot water. There are appropriate facilities for the preparation and serving of food. There are changing and shower facilities. There is sufficient safe outside space for play and recreation, including playing fields. The buildings and access points to the grounds are fully secure.

Provision of information

The provision meets all the regulations.

Manner in which complaints are to be handled

The provision meets all the regulations.

Recommendation to the Department for Education

Registration

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

If registration is recommended, please state:

Recommended number of day pupils: 960

Recommended number of boarders: N/A

Recommended age range: 4-18 years

Recommended gender of pupils: 4-11 mixed; 12-18 girls only

Recommended type of special educational needs: N/A.