

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

School name	Khalsa Science Academy
DfE registration number	383/
Unique reference number (URN)	1424
Inspection number	422319
Inspection dates	13 August 2013
Reporting inspector	Sheila Boyle

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

No. 090080

© Crown copyright 2013



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

This is the second pre-registration visit to the school to check on the progress being made on compliance with regulations relating to welfare health and safety and the accommodation which were not being met at the time of the first visit. Khalsa Science Academy plans to operate from the sports centre at the Sikh Temple site on Chapeltown Road in Leeds, a temporary arrangement until a permanent site can be secured. The academy is sponsored by the Khalsa Education Trust and plans to open its first phase on 2 September 2013. The academy has applied to be registered to admit, in its first year, up to 30 boys and girls in the age range four to 6 years, rising to a maximum of 210 in the age range four to 11 years over a seven-year period. The academy will be non-selective and it intends to admit some children with special educational needs. The academy aims to help children develop a life-long love of learning which will support them throughout their academic careers and beyond.

Compliance with the regulations

Welfare, health and safety of pupils

At the time of the first visit, documentary evidence and discussion with the head teacher indicated that a number of these regulations were unlikely to be met. The designated person for child protection had not been trained to the required level and his training was booked for a date after the date of opening. Since then the designated person has completed appropriate training at the beginning of August 2013 and training for all staff and governors is scheduled for the end of August, so that the regulations are now likely to be met. At the time of the last inspection suitable policies had been prepared for all required aspects of health and safety and for fire safety but premises and fire safety risk assessments had not been undertaken as the refurbishment of the centre had not begun. The work on refurbishing the area of the temple set aside for the academy to use is now well under way and the head teacher has undertaken a suitable premises risk assessment of those areas that are ready for use; a full assessment will be completed when the contractors complete the work. Similarly, a preliminary fire risk assessment has been undertaken and a full independent report is due to be completed when the contractors hand over the building for use. Their reports will be sent to the Department together with the

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

building regulations compliance certificate confirming that the accommodation is fit for purpose, so that requirements are likely to be met.

The academy's 'Equalities Plan' formerly made a general commitment to provide equality of access for disabled persons but the required three-year plan to increase accessibility had not been completed. Since the first visit, the head teacher and governors have drawn up a suitable three-year plan to show how they will make this temporary accommodation more accessible for those with disabilities. As a result, this requirement is now met.

Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

All requirements in this standard continue to be likely to be met.

Premises and accommodation at the school

At the time of the first visit, the premises did not meet many of the regulations. The accommodation seen together with plans for its refurbishment showed the academy's intention to convert part of the centre's sports hall on the ground floor into two classrooms suitable for up to 30 children aged four to six years. Existing washrooms by the main entrance were to be refurbished for use by the children. These and the related hot water supplies were not in place. The plans indicated that there would be an administration office, a staff room and staff washrooms on the first floor. There was no evidence at that stage that acoustic conditions and internal lighting would be effective in practice. There was no evidence for the provision of drinking water. There was no plan to provide facilities for the medical examination and short-term care of sick pupils. The accommodation had a secure space at the front of the building for pupils to play and sufficient space indoors for physical education and games. There was suitable external lighting at the centre to ensure that people could safely enter and leave the premises. These latter arrangements were judged to be likely to meet requirements.

Since the first inspection, the academy has successfully completed the refurbishment of a block of washrooms with facilities suitable for young children. All have a suitable supply of hot and cold water. In addition to a labelled supply of mains drinking water, bottled water will be provided for children in classrooms. Plans and a report seen from the contractor, together with a scrutiny of the accommodation, indicate that the acoustic conditions and sound insulation of each area are suitable. Suitable lighting has also been installed in all areas of the academy. The academy has now created a medical room with all the required facilities for the medical examination and short-term care of sick pupils. It has also created a washroom for disabled persons on the ground floor. All of the regulations relating to the premises and accommodation are now likely to be met.

Provision of information

All requirements in this standard continue to be likely to be met.

Manner in which complaints are to be handled

All requirements in this standard continue to be likely to be met.

Recommendation to the Department for Education

Registration

YES. The academy can be registered and allowed to open on receipt by DfE of satisfactory risk assessment reports for the premises and fire safety.

Recommended number of day pupils: 30 in the present accommodation (maximum of 210 in 2020)

Recommended number of boarders: N/A

Recommended age range: 4-6 years

Recommended gender of pupils: Mixed

Recommended type of special educational needs: N/A.