

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

School name	Hewens Primary School
DfE registration number	312/2021
Unique reference number (URN)	139909
Inspection number	422389
Inspection dates	15 July 2013
Reporting inspector	David Scott

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

Hewens Primary School is a free school which will be located on the same site as Hewens College, an 11–18 secondary academy. Hewens Primary School will occupy buildings which are currently being refurbished and due to be completed by the beginning of August. The school is sponsored by Rosedale Hewens Academy Trust and is due to open on 4 September 2013. The school has applied to be registered to admit 420 boys and girls from ages 4 to 11. It will admit children aged four to five in its first year. At present there are 37 children registered for enrolment. It is not yet known how many children have special educational needs or a statement of special educational needs. The school's mission statement to be 'a listening school, run by the community, for the community' underpins its core value of providing a 'place where every child is known, happy, supported and challenged to achieve their full potential through a genuine passion for learning'.

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 intended ethos will focus on creating a culture which values, respects and nurtures the ambition and potential of every child by enabling them to take responsibility for their own learning. The school intends to create 'a self-sustaining community' whereby the skills and talents of adults will be deployed to have a positive effect on the children. The planned personal, social and health education (PSHE) curriculum will be delivered via the six attributes of 'being ready, responsible, reflective, resourceful and resilient, and the ability to reason'. The school aspires to help children to develop into 'independent, confident and capable *third millennium*' learners'. It intends to help children to appreciate the value of being part of the local and global community, in order to become responsible citizens by developing an understanding of civil law, public institutions and services in England. The school and sponsor are committed to investing in the local community and they intend to establish a 'parent zone' which will be integrated with the library and computer facilities in order to provide high-quality support for families and the wider

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

community while at the same time making a strong contribution 'to the social capital of the local community'. The intended assembly programme, based on festivals and celebrations, for children of all faith and non-faith groups, will focus on promoting high standards of attendance, attitude and achievement to enable children 'to make sense of the world around them', by valuing others, irrespective of their faith or religion, and celebrate diversity. The equality plan, together with staff contracts for all those employed by the academy Trust, gives details to ensure that planned lessons and activities will be free from partisan political or religious views and that, where any political issues are discussed, a balanced view is always presented.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Documentary evidence indicates that all regulations are likely to be met. The school has suitable procedures for health and safety and for assessing risk on educational trips, policies for fire safety and an emergency plan. The premises and fire safety risk assessments have been completed and a visit from the local authority's fire officer has been arranged. The school's policy for promoting good behaviour is focused on instilling 'positive attitudes in the children and amongst all stakeholders'. A suitable range of rewards and sanctions is proposed, designed to motivate children to adopt the highest standards of behaviour and courtesy at all times. Appropriate electronic attendance and admission registers are ready for use. The school has in place a three-year accessibility plan to review and improve equality of access for disabled students.

The school has policies in place for child protection, safeguarding, safer recruitment and first aid. All staff and governors appointed to date have been trained in safer recruitment, safeguarding and child protection. For those staff still to be appointed, dates have been identified for them to complete their safeguarding and child protection training to be delivered by a senior leader from the Trust before the school opens, so that requirements are met.

Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

All the required vetting checks on all appointed staff and members of the governing body have been completed and are captured in a single central record. The school does not intend to employ supply staff, but if the need arises, appropriate procedures are in place to conduct the checks on such staff.

Premises of and accommodation at the school

Scrutiny of the architect's plans and a tour of the site confirm that the refurbishment of the building is likely to meet the regulations in readiness for opening in September. Heating and lighting systems are likely to meet requirements. Orders for furniture, fixtures and fittings have been placed, and seen, to provide appropriate and stimulating learning resources for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage. The access policy details arrangements for disabled children to be admitted to the school. The number of washrooms exceeds the number required for the proposed

number of children on roll, and includes two disabled toilets. A labelled supply of drinking water will be accessible to children. The planned medical room, with a sink, will be located on the ground floor, adjacent to the two Reception classes with toilets located nearby. Plans are in place to install a highly imaginative outside learning area for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage. It will include an adventure play area, with a range of stimulating landscapes, including a multi-purpose unit which can be transformed into a pirate's ship, castle or a shop as required, in order to support the development of physical skills. A canopied area will also be provided to ensure a safe and secure environment for effective learning. In addition, children will have access to a woodland area, located on the school site. In September 2013, phase two of the refurbishment programme will commence, with classrooms and facilities for Key Stage 2 pupils being ready by May 2014. Plans indicate that this accommodation will meet all the requirements for the increased number of pupils.

Provision of information

The provision is likely to meet all the regulations.

Manner in which complaints are to be handled

The school 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: 4–11

Recommended gender of pupils: Mixed

Recommended type of special educational needs: N/A

Note: The Department should obtain confirmation from the school before it opens that the planned building works have been completed.