

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

School name	William Perkin CoE High School
DfE registration number	NA
Unique reference number (URN)	139725
Inspection number	422375
Inspection dates	7 June 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

William Perkin Church of England High School is a free school which will be located on a new site in the north of the borough of Ealing. The school is sponsored by the local Diocesan Education Board and is due to open on 2 September 2013. The school has applied to be registered to admit 1,400 boys and girls from ages 11 to 18. It will admit students in Year 7 in its first year. At present there are 180 students registered for enrolment. Currently there are 13 students who have disabilities or have special educational needs and three students have a statement of educational needs. For September 2013, only part of the ground floor will be used by the school, while the rest of the building work is completed. The school is due to be open and be fully operational by April 2014. The school's mission, based on Christian values, 'will be to create an intellectually vigorous community in which all students give of their best at all times and work purposefully and joyfully towards their goals'.

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 be 'characterised by high academic standards and a disciplined approach to study, but also a place where curiosity and creativity are central to every child's experience', and this ethos is at the heart of its planned provision for personal, social and health education. There is a planned broad spectrum of opportunities for students to 'explore their personal journeys of faith'. The planned assembly programme, across all faith and non-faith groups, is intended to provide all students, whatever their faith background, with the opportunity to appreciate and respect the diversity of various traditions and cultures in the local community. The citizenship programme provides suitable opportunities for students to become involved in the local community. An extensive programme of trips and visits is planned to broaden cultural horizons so that all students can develop an understanding of civil law, public institutions and services in England.

The programme of assemblies and schemes of work for many subjects are planned so as to ensure that students are afforded the opportunity to appreciate and respect traditions and cultures other than their own. Social development will be further promoted by allowing learners to take on posts of responsibility whereby they will be

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

able to hone their leadership skills by assisting in the smooth running of the school and by mentoring younger students. The staff handbook gives details designed to ensure that planned lessons 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 prepared all the required policy documents, including those for safeguarding, safer recruitment, behaviour management, anti-bullying and first aid. Senior staff and governors have been trained in safe recruitment, safeguarding and child protection. All staff appointed to date have been trained in child protection and safeguarding. For those staff still to be appointed, providers and dates have been identified for them to complete their safeguarding and child protection training. Suitable policies have been prepared for all required aspects of health and safety, including fire safety risk assessments and a planned report from the fire authority. Admission and attendance registers will be maintained electronically and their formats meet requirements. The school's three year equality plan provides details to review and improve equality of access for disabled students.

Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

The school has completed all the required checks on staff and governors appointed to date and all regulations are likely to be met. Checks have been captured on a single central register which will be updated as new staff are appointed. The school does not intend to employ supply staff but is fully aware of the requirements concerning the employment of agency supply staff.

Premises of and accommodation at the school

An extensive tour of the site and scrutiny of the architect's plans and schedule of works confirm that the premises are likely to meet the regulations in readiness for opening in September. The installation of washrooms is satisfactory, including disabled toilets, with one located on each floor. For lessons in physical education, the school has appropriate provision for changing facilities and showers. Orders for furniture, fixtures and fittings have been placed (orders seen) to provide a learning environment rich in technology resources to promote independent learning. The planned building will have full access for disabled students via a ramped entrance and a lift to all floors. The access policy details arrangements for disabled students to be admitted to the school. A medical room is planned and will be centrally located with washrooms nearby, all suitably equipped. The school has access to extensive outside areas, including playing fields.

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. The school can be registered and allowed to open on receipt by DfE of evidence of improvement in relation to the following matters:

Recommended number of day pupils: 1,400

Recommended age range: 11–18 years

Recommended gender of pupils: mixed

Recommended type of special educational needs: not applicable.