

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

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School name	Tyndale Community School
DfE registration number	n/a
Unique reference number (URN)	1491
Inspection number	422401
Inspection dates	5 July 2013
Reporting inspector	Roy Blatchford

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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.<sup>1</sup>

## Context of the school

Tyndale Community School is located on the site of a former sports and social club in Oxford and is currently undergoing refurbishment. The school is sponsored by the Chapel Street Community Schools 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 four to 11. It will admit children aged four to five years in its first year. At present there are 32 children registered for enrolment. It is not yet known how many children have special educational needs or whether any will have a statement of special educational needs. For September 2013, part of the building will open for children in two Reception classes, with the rest of the site due to be completed by September 2014. The school's mission is to provide 'excellence in education and personal development for children, in order that they and their families can invest in their community'.

## 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 Christian ethos 'will seek to identify and develop every child's special gifts, talents, skills and experiences' and 'will recognise individual differences and work with children and their families to agree personal goals'. The planned programme for personal, social and health education (PSHE) is rooted in the Developmental Assets framework developed by the Search institute to help children realise what they have to offer and to recognise the importance of their families and community.

Traditional subjects are to be learned through four strands which reflect contemporary life: communication and expression; exploration and problem-solving; innovation and creativity; and personal development. Through its various partnerships, the school will encourage pupils to have an active understanding of responsible citizenship and making a contribution to the community, diverse traditions and cultures, and a sustainable environment. Pupils will be given an insight into the workings of civil law and the functions of English public services. The school's key local partner, Oxfordshire Community Churches, will make a particular contribution to curriculum enrichment for pupils.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/25/section/99](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/25/section/99)

The school will model a family-style lunch break with eating arrangements that 'foster a sense of collaboration and social responsibility'. The school will provide every child with a staff member to coach them throughout their time at the school, with a focus on building children's confidence, motivation and achievement in and out of the classroom. The school's teaching and learning policy provides guidance to ensure that lessons will be free from partisan political views and that, where any political issues are discussed, a balanced view is presented to pupils.

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

Documentary evidence indicates that all but one of the requirements are likely to be met. The school has appropriate procedures for health and safety, evacuation, complaints and planning for educational visits. The premises and fire safety risk assessments have been completed, and a report from the fire officer is planned for the week prior to the school's scheduled opening.

The school has a comprehensive set of policies in place, checked and signed by the chair of the local governing body, the company secretary and the Principal. Policies for safeguarding, safer recruitment and first aid are included. Most staff and governors appointed to date have been trained in safer recruitment, safeguarding and child protection, and plans are firmly in place to complete this training for all before pupils are admitted.

The behaviour policy sets out clear expectations through the Classroom Covenant, intending to foster a culture of high expectations concerning academic attainment and the development of personal qualities such as integrity, humility, service and self-discipline. Appropriate electronic admission and attendance registers are ready to be put in place. The school is compiling a three-year accessibility plan to review and improve equality of access for disabled pupils, but this is not complete.

In order to meet the regulations in full, the school should:

- complete its three-year accessibility improvement plan in order to meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

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

The school's procedures are likely to meet all requirements. To date, all appointed staff and members of the governing body have been suitably vetted, including the right of staff to work in the United Kingdom, and these checks are stored in an appropriate single central record. The school has further support staff appointments to make and agreed protocols are in place to meet the regulations.

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

The premises are likely to meet all requirements. The building was formerly a sports and social club. The refurbishment of the building is at the stage where the allocated spaces and fixtures can clearly be seen. A tour of the building, study of the architect's plans, and discussions with the Principal confirm that the premises are likely to meet the regulations in respect of the planned initial admissions into Reception, for opening in September 2013. Plans indicate that the finished building will be suitable for the proposed final number on roll.

The classrooms for Reception pupils to be admitted in September are fit for purpose. Suitable toilet and washing facilities for the sole use of pupils are available, as is the provision of labelled drinking water supplies, suitable internal and external lighting, and a safe outdoor play space. Heating and ventilation are planned appropriately. Orders for educational resources, furniture, fixtures and fittings have been placed to provide a learning environment appropriate for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage. The school is creating suitable accommodation for the medical examination and treatment of pupils and for pupils who may be sick.

## **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**

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

- complete the three-year accessibility improvement plan in order to meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

Recommended number of day pupils: 420

Recommended age range: 4–11 years

Recommended gender of pupils: Mixed

Recommended type of special educational needs: not applicable.