

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

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School name	Marylebone Boys' School <small>C:\D\DDDDDD\K\NR\H\Doc\Doc1161616616</small>
DfE registration number	213/4000
Unique reference number (URN)	1735
Inspection number	446984
Inspection dates	7 July 2014
Reporting inspector	David Scott

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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

Marylebone Boys' School is to be a free school; it will be located for up to two years in a five-storey building, currently used by a college of further education, in Kilburn, North London. At the beginning of August, some minor refurbishment will take place, which is due to be completed by the beginning of September 2014. The school is due to open on 3 September 2014. The school has applied to be registered to admit 880 boys from ages 11 to 16, and boys and girls from ages 16 to 18. It will admit boys aged 11 to 12 in its first year. At present there are 125 pupils registered for enrolment. Currently there is one student registered for enrolment who has special educational needs without a statement and nine others who are in receipt of a statement of special educational needs. The school aims to create a school that 'offers traditional subjects, good discipline, and high academic standards'.

## 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. Through strong pastoral care, based on a house system and the promotion of academic excellence, the school intends to create an ethos to meet parental demand 'for a high quality academic school, specifically aimed at the needs of boys'. It intends to be non-denominational, serving boys from every part of the very diverse local community. The school intends to help 'students to value everyone as a unique human being'. It also intends to provide opportunities for 'students to encounter all the positive aspects of human experience', so that they are able to express 'compassion, understanding and forgiveness' of others without becoming 'defensive, aggressive and cynical'. In addition, the school's vision intends to enable pupils to reflect on organised religion, but also to understand and tolerate the 'faith of many people and those who have different belief structures not based on any religion'.

The school aims to be a creative school and intends to provide a rich programme of enrichment activities which will enable pupils 'to break out of the timetable and curriculum'. Such activities as 'subject enhancement', where students might explore a topic in-depth, working in the community as a volunteer and engaging with the world through work placements, are designed to widen students' educational

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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)

experience and provide them with opportunities to become responsible citizens by giving something back to society.

The planned assembly and tutorial programme, across all faith and non-faith groups, has been carefully thought through to stimulate pupils' appreciation of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of their lives. Citizenship will be delivered through personal, social and health education lessons timetabled as a distinct subject area, with intentions including developing students' understanding of civil law, public institutions and services in England. The school's spiritual, moral, social and cultural policy gives guidance to teachers 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. Policies for safeguarding, child protection, safer recruitment, behaviour for learning, and anti-bullying have been prepared in accordance with requirements. The behaviour for learning policy aims 'to develop character, self-reliance, resilience and discipline'. The emphasis of the school's rules will be on courtesy and caring for others. School leaders believe that their task is to 'encourage constructive and positive behaviour and to recognise and correct unacceptable behaviour'. The behaviour for learning policy contains an appropriate range of rewards and sanctions designed to 'create a positive learning culture predominantly through rewarding hard work, achievement and contributions made to the community'. It goes on to say, 'we expect students to behave, be punctual and respect others'. The headteacher has been trained in safer recruitment and child protection. In addition, the school has one member of staff with a first-aid qualification. For those members of staff and governors still to be appointed, dates have been identified and a specialist qualified trainer has been booked to provide the required training in child protection, first aid and safeguarding procedures for all adults before the school opens, so that requirements are likely to be met.

Suitable policies and risk assessments have been completed appropriately for all required aspects of health and safety, including fire safety. A visit from the fire officer has been booked for the end of August so that all the requirements for fire safety are likely to be met. Admission and attendance registers will be maintained electronically and their formats were checked to ensure that they meet requirements. The school's three-year accessibility improvement plan provides a commitment to review and improve access for disabled students.

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

All the required vetting checks on all appointed staff and members of the governing body are captured in a single central record which was scrutinised; this meets all requirements. The school may need to employ supply staff and has put the

appropriate procedures in place to conduct the required checks on agency staff, although their implementation could not be seen.

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

A tour of the site was not possible. The school has secured a two-year lease and scrutiny of the architect's plans confirms that the refurbishment programme is likely to meet the regulations in readiness for opening in September. There is suitable teaching accommodation for the intended number of students to be admitted. There are a suitable number of washrooms available with safely regulated hot water, five of which are designated for disabled users. Flooring, decoration and heating and lighting systems are likely to meet requirements. A labelled supply of drinking water will be accessible to students. The disability policy details arrangements for disabled students to be admitted to the school, and there are two lifts. A suitable location has been identified for a 'medical and welfare' room, complete with hand basin, with washrooms next door, located on the third floor, to enable easy access from all floors.

The school site has sufficient outside space for recreation and some hard-surface games. For lessons in physical education (PE), school leaders have secured permission to use Paddington Recreation Ground and a local leisure centre which both have appropriate changing and showering facilities. The school has appropriate risk assessments in place to ensure students will be safely chaperoned when walking to and from the venue.

A permanent site has been found, but publication of its details is currently embargoed.

## **Provision of information**

The provision meets all regulations.

## **Manner in which complaints are to be handled**

The provision meets all regulations.

## **Recommendation to the Department for Education**

### **Registration**

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

Recommended number of day pupils: 880

Recommended number of boarders: 0

Recommended age range: 11–18

Recommended gender of pupils: Boys 11–16; mixed 16–18  
Recommended type of special educational needs: N/A.