

Advice note for a pre-registration inspection of a 16–19 free school

School name	New College Bradford
DfE registration number	4047
Unique reference number (URN)	143689
Inspection number	10103198
Inspection dates	20 June 2019
Reporting inspector	Tracey Mace-Akroyd HMI



Information about the inspection

This inspection was conducted by Ofsted at the request of the Secretary of State for Education. It was carried out under section 99(1) of the Education and Skills Act 2008.¹

In carrying out this type of inspection, inspectors assess the extent to which the school is likely to meet 'The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014' when it opens.²

Information about the registration

The school is seeking registration as a 16–19 free school for:

Number of day pupils	600
Age range	16 to 19
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Type of special educational needs	Not applicable

Context of the school

This new provision is a 16 to 19 free school within the New Collaborative Learning Trust (NCLT).

New College Bradford will open in September 2019, on a new permanent site with 600 pupils. Plans provide phase 2 expansion for completion in December 2019. Leaders have plans to reach the full capacity of 1200 pupils in September 2020.

NCLT has already designed and delivered two successful 16 to 19 free schools, which are located in Pontefract and Doncaster. As part of the trust, the new school will have access to a range of high-quality facilities and services.

Advice to the Secretary of State for Education

Overall outcome	The school is likely to meet all the relevant independent school standards when it opens.
------------------------	---

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

² www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2014/3283/schedule/made. Part 1 to Schedule 1 is not reported against because it does not apply to academies, free schools, studio schools and UTCs.

Compliance with The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014

Part 2. Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of students

The school is likely to meet all of the relevant regulations. Leaders demonstrate, through discussion and in documentary evidence and policies, a clear intention to provide strong opportunities for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Very clear policies promote British values, equality and diversity, personal and social skills, work-related skills and health and citizenship. A well-designed programme will provide many opportunities for pupils to consider their responsibilities and develop respect for the rule of law, individual liberty and respect for those with diverse beliefs and faiths. A scheme of work will ensure that teachers include interesting everyday topics in lessons that relate to learners' lives and promote pupils' sense of tolerance and celebration of differences. Provision in this aspect is strong.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

The school is likely to meet all of the relevant regulations. The safeguarding policies and other planned procedures, including those for fire safety, first aid, evacuation and risk assessment, show that pupils' safety is prioritised. There are robust plans to monitor visitors to ensure pupils' safety. Senior leaders have been trained in safe recruitment.

The school's policies for behaviour and anti-bullying are detailed and thorough. They include guidance to staff about different forms of bullying, including prejudice-based bullying, and clear procedures to follow. Discussions and documentary evidence indicate that all required policies and procedures are in place.

Part 4. Suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors

The school is likely to meet all of the relevant regulations. The relevant enhanced checks have been completed for staff, proprietors and members of the board, including their suitability to work with children, and appropriate procedures are in place for future recruitment. All checks are recorded appropriately on the single central register.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

The school is likely to meet all of the relevant regulations. The building work is well on the way and slightly above schedule, with phase 1 due to open as planned. Plans show details of high-quality provision in all areas including outside spaces. The buildings supplied will meet all current requirements including, for example, provision for first aid, toileting, water temperature, medical facilities, lighting and acoustics. The plans show that the buildings are well planned to ensure pupils' health, welfare

and safety. This includes suitable access, hygiene and adaptable classroom facilities for pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Part 6. Provision of information

The school is likely to meet all of the relevant regulations. All the required policies are in place and available to parents and carers on the school's website. The website is easy to navigate and is being updated with new policies and information. Copies can be made available on request. Leaders have plans in place to offer training opportunities to help parents, carers and guardians to be fully involved in college life and support their child to be successful. Leaders ensure that they meet the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation.

Part 7. Manner in which complaints are handled

The school is likely to meet all of the relevant regulations. The complaints policy is comprehensive and written so that timescales and independent review stages are clear. The steps that pupils, parents and carers should take if they wish to complain are clearly set out. The complaints policy is available on the school's website and copies can be made available on request.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

The school is likely to meet all of the relevant regulations. The trust already has experience of opening and running a 16 to 19 free school. Leaders and managers have a good understanding of their responsibilities and of the regulatory requirements, having already fulfilled them successfully. New leaders benefit from the sharing of good practice and experience with a range of leaders across the trust. Leaders are clear about how they will continue to monitor provision, so that the independent school standards are consistently met, and they have the necessary skills and knowledge to do this. The senior leadership team has a good understanding of the local context. They collaborate well with local employers and stakeholders and their plans to promote the well-being and life skills of pupils are strong.

Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010

The school is likely to meet all of the relevant regulations. The policy for equalities identifies groups and is clear about how to support each group of pupils and monitor impact. Plans for the new building show accessibility features, such as multi-faith rooms, lifts, a hygiene room and classroom adaptations.

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 and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, 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 reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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

© Crown copyright 2019