

# Advice note for a pre-registration inspection of a free school

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School name	Anker Valley Primary Academy
Department for Education (DfE) registration number	860/2042
Unique reference number (URN)	148540
Inspection number	10189015
Inspection date	25/05/2021
Reporting inspector	Christopher Stevens, Her Majesty's Inspector



## Information about the inspection

This inspection was carried out 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](#).

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.<sup>1</sup>

The inspector scrutinised a range of documentation related to the school's likely compliance with the independent school standards and spoke to the executive headteacher, headteacher and a member of the board of trustees. The inspector toured the school site, looked at the school's building plans and scrutinised documentation, including information on the proposed school's website.

## Information about the registration

The school is seeking registration as a free school for:

<b>Number of day pupils</b>	220 (initially 30 in September 2021)
<b>Age range</b>	3 to 11
<b>Gender of pupils</b>	Mixed
<b>Type of special educational needs</b>	Not applicable

## Context of the school

This new provision is a purpose-built primary school within the Fierté Multi-Academy Trust. The school will open in September 2021. In its first year, it will admit Reception children only and offer up to 30 places. With each subsequent year until 2027, the school will open to an additional year group and recruit more staff. An external provider will deliver Nursery provision on the site. This provider runs Nursery provision and wraparound care in the other schools within the Fierté Multi-Academy Trust. This Nursery provider is registered separately with Ofsted.

## Advice to the Secretary of State for Education

<b>Overall outcome</b>	The school is likely to meet all the relevant independent school standards when it opens.
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<sup>1</sup> Part 1 to Schedule 1 is not reported against because it does not apply to academies, free schools, studio schools and university technical colleges.

## **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 the requirements in this part. Leaders plan to help pupils develop their confidence and self-esteem, while developing tolerance and respect for those of other faiths and cultures. In addition, plans show how leaders will actively encourage British values. The school's policies have regard to the Equality Act 2010. Leaders are developing their spiritual, moral, social and cultural and personal, social, health and economic policies to actively teach pupils to develop respect for people with protected characteristics.

### **Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils**

The school is likely to meet all the relevant requirements in this part. Leaders have developed clear plans to safeguard pupils and look after their welfare. They have drawn up a range of comprehensive policies that comply with the published guidance. Policies, such as the health and safety policy, set out appropriate procedures for auditing the arrangements set out within the policies.

### **Part 4. Suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors**

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. The single central record (SCR) is already in place. The SCR includes the required checks on all current staff, governors and trustees. The SCR meets statutory requirements.

### **Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools**

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. The school is currently being built. The building work is well advanced. The standards of design and construction are high. Building plans indicate that the school will meet all current requirements, including provision for first aid, and toilet and medical facilities.

### **Part 6. Provision of information**

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. The school has a website that includes helpful information for parents and carers. Leaders have produced up-to-date policies for remote learning, admissions, and health and safety (including fire safety). They publish these policies on the school's website. In addition, leaders have produced comprehensive safeguarding, first-aid, behaviour and special educational needs and/or disabilities policies. Between now and September 2021, they intend to publish these on the school's website. Copies of these policies can be made available on request.

## **Part 7. Manner in which complaints are handled**

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. The website includes a published complaints policy. Leaders have developed a policy that is easy to read and informed by government guidance. The policy sets out a procedure that consists of three stages: informal, formal and a hearing before a panel that includes an independent member. Copies can be made available if requested.

## **Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools**

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. Leaders have a strong knowledge of the independent school standards and a wealth of experience in leading and managing primary schools. They have developed appropriate policies to ensure that pupils are safe and well looked after. In addition, leaders have planned for pupils to have ample opportunities to grow into well-rounded citizens. Leaders are clear about how they will continue to monitor provision to meet the independent school standards consistently. They have the necessary skills and knowledge to do this.

## **Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010**

The school is likely to meet all the requirements of Schedule 10.

## **Statutory requirements of the early years foundation stage**

All the statutory requirements for early years are likely to be met. The school will initially open as a Reception class. Leaders have appointed suitably qualified and experienced adults to staff this class.

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