

Advice note for a pre-registration inspection of an academy

School name	Christ Church, Church of England Secondary Academy
Department for Education (DfE) registration number	330/4042
Unique reference number (URN)	148589
Inspection number	10189060
Inspection dates	20/05/2021
Reporting inspector	Martin Pye, 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.¹

The inspector scrutinised a range of documentation related to the school's likely compliance with the independent school standards and spoke to the lead proposer from the trust and the headteacher designate. The inspector toured the school site and discussed plans for the proposed school.

Information about the registration

The school is seeking registration as an academy school for:

Number of day pupils	1,150 (initially 180 in September 2021)
Age range	11 to 18
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Type of special educational needs	Not applicable

Context of the school

This new provision is a purpose-built secondary school within Birmingham Diocesan Multi-Academy Trust. The school will open in September 2021. In its first year, it will admit Year 7 pupils only and intends to offer 180 places. The school will open to an additional year group and recruit more staff in each subsequent year until 2026. The final capacity of the school will be 1,150 pupils.

Advice to the Secretary of State for Education

Overall outcome	The school is likely to meet all the independent school standards when it opens.
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¹ 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 have clear plans for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Ethos and values statements on the school's website and within the personal, social and health education policy promote fundamental British values. In what they say and in what they have written, the school's leaders set out their aims to support pupils to become constructive and responsible members of society. The school's policies have regard to the Equality Act 2010 and refer to the protected characteristics.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. The school has a comprehensive safeguarding policy that is informed by the government's most recent guidance. Behaviour and anti-bullying policies are fit for purpose and set out the rewards and sanctions to be used. Leaders confirm that, in line with the policies, they intend to keep a record of sanctions imposed in response to serious misbehaviour.

The school's health and safety policy covers an appropriate range of risks and makes helpful links to other policies, including those for first aid, risk assessments and fire safety. Leaders have plans to engage a professional contractor to oversee the maintenance and testing of fire safety equipment. Leaders intend to provide staff with appropriate first-aid training. They have given careful thought to supervision arrangements, both during formal teaching time and at breaks and lunchtimes.

There are systems in place to record admissions and attendance. These arrangements, if implemented effectively, are likely to comply with the Education (Pupil Registration) Regulations 2006.

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 is already in place. It records all the required employment checks made on staff and those responsible for governance.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. This is a purpose-built secondary school and the standards of design and construction are high. Classrooms and specialist teaching spaces are well designed and equipped. Changing, showering, washing and toilet facilities are already installed and fit for purpose. Indoor and outdoor lighting is in place and there is plenty of outdoor space for physical

education and recreation. The school has employed a site manager to oversee maintenance and site-related matters.

Part 6. Provision of information

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. Leaders have produced up-to-date safeguarding, behaviour, complaints and anti-bullying policies. Between now and September 2021, they intend to publish these documents on the school's website. Currently, the website includes information about admissions, recruitment, news updates about building progress, and plans for opening in September 2021.

Part 7. Manner in which complaints are handled

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. The school's complaints policy is informed by government guidance and is easy to read. It sets out appropriate timescales and includes information about what to do if a complainant remains dissatisfied with the school's response.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. The trust already has experience of opening and running other schools. Leaders are informed about regulatory requirements and were able to provide all the required information quickly and easily. Their plans, policies and actions so far indicate that they are mindful of pupils' well-being and ambitious for their educational opportunities.

Leaders have clear ideas about the future development of the school. They demonstrate an informed awareness of the importance of ensuring that the independent school standards continue to be met over time.

Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010

The school is likely to meet all the requirements of Schedule 10. The equalities policy is informed by the Equality Act 2010 and identifies specific groups. The building includes a range of adaptations and access arrangements. These include lifts, wide doorways, ramps and adjustable height sinks and worktops.

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