

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

School name	Chestnut Park Primary School
Department for Education (DfE) registration number	802/2014
Unique reference number (URN)	148637
Inspection number	10189059
Inspection date	23/06/2021
Reporting inspector	Catherine Leahy

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 with the chief executive officer of the Clevedon Learning Trust together with the headteacher designate and the trust's director of primary school improvement. The inspector toured the school site and scrutinised information on the school's website.

Information about the registration

The school is seeking registration as a free school for:

Number of day pupils	210
Age range	3 to 11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Type of special educational needs	Not applicable

Context of the school

The new provision is a primary school within the Clevedon Learning Trust. The school will open in September 2021 in a purpose-built building to cater for pupils in the town of Yatton, which is currently expanding.

The school will open with approximately 17 children in the Reception class. The school is planning to accommodate 210 pupils, with the capacity for 420 as the school population increases. The school intends to open pre-school provision during the next academic year.

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.
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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 detailed and clear policies and schemes of work in place to promote core values such as showing respect for each other, kindness, friendship and inclusion of all. The school's approach provides opportunities for pupils to build understanding and tolerance of those with other beliefs and traditions. The school has drawn up a clear policy to promote British values. Provision in this aspect is likely to be strong.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

The school is likely to meet all the relevant requirements in this part. Detailed policies and procedures are in place and show that the school will comply with the regulations with respect to fire safety, health and safety, supervision arrangements for all year groups, first aid and behaviour management. Evidence indicates that all potential risks have been considered. The safeguarding policy is comprehensive and makes due reference to the latest guidance from the Secretary of State. The school's anti-bullying policy includes strategies to tackle any concerns that are identified. Procedures to monitor and review the school's procedures are included within these policies.

Leaders have completed a detailed risk assessment to ensure close supervision of Reception children at the front of the school. The school's plans indicate how they intend parents to use the pedestrian gate when dropping off their children to the school.

Part 4. Suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. The school has recruited staff ready for the opening in September 2021, following the school's recruitment policy. The required checks have been carried out. The single central record is already in place, recording these checks on staff and by whom and when they were carried out.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. The local authority has ownership of the building and site currently. A date of 14 July 2021 has been set for the local authority to hand over the premises to the trust in readiness for opening in September 2021.

The building works are almost complete. The accommodation is of a high quality. The buildings meet requirements for first-aid provision, medical facilities and toileting facilities, and are appropriate for pre-school and primary-age pupils.

The local authority continues to work with the school to finalise the building and outdoor space. The school has plans in progress to ensure that the distribution box in the link corridor between the two early years classes is enclosed in an aluminium cupboard.

The outdoor space is extensive and includes designated space for the early years children. Plans are in place to secure the site further by erecting a higher fence and gate between the school and the boundary at the back of the school site.

The local authority is in discussion with the school to move the school's site boundary back to the red line set out in the lease agreement. The perimeter fencing at the back of the school field is located incorrectly according to the school's plans and should be moved.

The local authority is carrying out works to finalise the completion of the extensive outdoor areas. The school field is not suitable to be used currently. It is full of weeds, the surface is uneven, and it is littered with stones. The school has appropriate plans to ensure that the field is levelled, weeded, stones removed, and topsoil added. The school does not intend to use this field until the improvements have been made. The school has adequate outdoor space that can be used if required.

Part 6. Provision of information

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. Leaders have ensured that all the required policies are in place, supported by detailed procedures. Policies will be made available to parents on the school's newly constructed website. Copies of these policies, including the safeguarding policy, 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 complaints policy is detailed and clear. It contains all the necessary information together with the timescales for handling a complaint if one is received. This policy is available on the trust's website and will be placed on the school's website shortly. Copies can be made available if required.

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 a nearby primary school and has a detailed knowledge and understanding of regulatory requirements. Leaders have drawn up the required policies which demonstrate their understanding of how to provide effectively for the welfare, health and safety of pupils. Leaders set out in their policies and procedures how they intend to monitor and review these policies to be able to meet the independent school standards consistently. Leadership demonstrates that they have the 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. Leaders have considered and included adaptations to the building, including a designated disabled toileting facility, so that access is available to all. Policies and the school's information, including a detailed accessibility plan, are in place to support staff to consider arrangements that may be required to support pupils or groups of pupils with identified needs.

Statutory requirements of the early years foundation stage

All the statutory requirements for the early years are likely to be met. The school will open in September 2021 with a Reception class. Suitably qualified and experienced staff have been appointed. The detailed early years policies meet current requirements and link closely with whole-school policies. These policies will be made available to parents on the school's website or by request.

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