

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

School name	Trinity Academy Leeds
Department for Education (DfE) registration number	383/4080
Unique reference number (URN)	148560
Inspection number	10189020
Inspection dates	17/05/2021
Reporting inspector	Steve Shaw HMI

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, the principal designate and several senior leaders from the multi-academy trust. The inspector toured the school site with representatives of the building contractor and Leeds City Council, and discussed plans for the proposed school's site.

Information about the registration

The school is seeking registration as a free school for:

Number of day pupils	1,200. Initially 240 in September 2021
Age range	11 to 16
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Type of special educational needs	Not applicable

Context of the school

This new provision is a secondary school within the Trinity Multi-Academy Trust (MAT). It is being set up in partnership with Leeds City Council. Trinity Academy Leeds is a new-build project, situated in the east of Leeds.

The school will open in September 2021, initially to 240 Year 7 pupils. The school will open fully in December 2021. It is planned to open a resourced unit for 30 pupils with autism spectrum disorder in September 2022.

Trinity MAT has already designed and delivered Trinity Academy Halifax and Trinity Sixth Form Academy free schools.

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.

Advice to the Secretary of State for Education

Overall outcome	The school is likely to meet all of the relevant independent school standards when it opens.
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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. Evidence in the school's policies and plans emphasises the core values that are central to the school's ethos: empathy, understanding, respect, tolerance and honesty. Threaded through the policies and plans are opportunities for pupils to learn about fundamental British values, particularly through the planned partnership work with the school's local community.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. The school's policies for health and safety, behaviour, anti-bullying, risk assessment, first aid and safeguarding are already in operation across the MAT. These are detailed policies, which refer where necessary to related legislation and government guidance. Fire safety policies and procedures are bespoke to the new building. Leaders have identified and assessed specific potential risks that could occur in this school, in addition to the MAT's various risk assessments already in place.

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 will mirror the single central record practice already in place across the MAT. The single central record and related processes for checking the suitability of staff will be managed by the MAT's central human resources team. Leaders have a secure understanding of the checks that must be made.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. The new buildings are currently under construction. The progress of the works is kept under constant review by the local authority, the contractor and the MAT. A detailed plan is in place for the phased opening of the school. All parties are confident that the building will be ready in time. The premises will meet all current requirements, including outside space, toilets and changing, first-aid and medical facilities. Appropriate flooring, lighting and sound-proofing materials for classrooms and teaching spaces will be fitted.

Part 6. Provision of information

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. All of the required information is ready and in place. The safeguarding policy will be published on the school's website. All required information will be available to parents on request.

Part 7. Manner in which complaints are handled

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. The policy is already in use across the MAT. It is clear and detailed, including helpful flowcharts of the process to be followed at different stages. The policy will be available to parents and published on the school's website.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. Trust leaders are already experienced in opening and managing new schools. Leaders have a secure understanding of the regulatory requirements. High-quality policies in each of the regulatory areas, especially for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and for their welfare, provide strong foundations. Through their policies, and in discussion, it is clear that leaders have the necessary skills and knowledge to meet the independent school standards consistently.

Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010

The school is likely to meet all the requirements of Schedule 10. Policies identify groups, including the protected characteristics, and how pupils will be taught about them. Leaders have ensured that equalities are woven into related policies, such as the anti-bullying policy, so that any early signs of prejudiced behaviour towards any groups can be spotted and addressed. The new buildings are to be equipped for accessibility, including the provision of lifts.

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