

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

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School name	Launceston Primary School
Department for Education (DfE) registration number	908/2049
Unique reference number (URN)	148580
Inspection number	10189045
Inspection dates	14/06/2021
Reporting inspector	Mark Burgess

## 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 chief executive officer of the Launceston College multi-academy trust and the headteacher designate. The inspector toured the school site with the project manager and estate manager from the trust. The inspector also met with the trust's human resources manager.

## Information about the registration

The school is seeking registration as a free school for:

<b>Number of day pupils</b>	420
<b>Age range</b>	4 to 11
<b>Gender of pupils</b>	Mixed
<b>Type of special educational needs</b>	Not applicable

## Context of the school

Launceston Primary School will be a newly built school in Launceston, Cornwall. The academy will be part of the Launceston College multi-academy trust. The trust comprises two other primary schools and three secondary schools.

The new school is adjacent to a new housing estate on the outskirts of the town. The building is not yet complete. Completing the building work is on track for August 2021. The proposed school is due to open to children in Reception in September 2021. The final capacity of the school will be 420 pupils.

## Advice to the Secretary of State for Education

<b>Overall outcome</b>	The school is likely to meet all the 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. The new school has values based on curiosity, the well-being of pupils, creativity, adventure and creating a school family. These values place the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of pupils at the heart of the school's work.

Examples of planning show the school will offer a curriculum that will promote pupils' SMSC development effectively. These, together with the policies for equal opportunities, inclusion, behaviour and anti-bullying, present a cohesive picture of how leaders plan to support pupils' personal development and understanding of the fundamental British values.

Leaders are aware of the need to challenge cultural stereotypes. They have thought carefully about the books used in the school. The books selected challenge stereotypes and celebrate the diversity of modern Britain.

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

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. Policies are already in place, and leaders have considered risks associated with fire, first aid, health and safety in detail. There are detailed anti-bullying and behaviour policies in place. There are risk assessments in place, and leaders are aware of the need to amend these when the building opens.

### **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 maintained by the multi-academy trust and is already in place. This shows that appropriate checks will be carried out on adults who work in the school and will include those responsible for governance. Checks have been carried out on staff already employed by the school.

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

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. At the time of the site visit, the building was incomplete. However, construction is well underway, and contractors are confident that the school will be ready for occupation in September 2021. Trust staff are working closely with the construction company to ensure that the building meets requirements. Evidence indicates that the building is likely to meet standards when completed.

The completed building will include provision for well-lit, spacious classrooms with adjoining toilets on both floors. There is provision for drinking water across the

school and a medical room with the necessary access to a sink and toilet. A large indoor hall will be equipped for physical education. Pupils will have access to ample outdoor space on grass and a hard surface. Plans are in place to develop an on-site forest school area.

The building includes a lift for the use of those with physical disabilities to access the first floor. Indoor facilities will be of high specification and include a dance studio, food technology rooms and science laboratories.

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

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. The school's website contains helpful information for parents, including access to the policies that are required to be available. There are links to the trust website for additional information. The website includes the admission arrangements for next year's intake.

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

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. The trust has a well-established policy for handling complaints, which the school will use. There is a suitable complaints policy that sets out the procedures for complainants. This includes a complainant's right to a formal resolution if the complaint cannot be resolved informally. It also provides the right for complainants to invoke a formal hearing by a panel of three people.

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

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. The school is part of a trust with experience of running successful schools in the local area. The new headteacher and Reception teacher are experienced practitioners.

Leaders have a strong vision and set of values for the new school, building on their existing experience. Leaders' planning has the promotion of pupils' well-being at its centre.

School leaders will benefit from the support, experience and secure line management structures within the trust.

Systems are in place to ensure that over time the school will consistently meet the standards.

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

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. The trust has systems in place to review and monitor the impact of the school's equality policy. The school is committed to inclusion. The school's accessibility plan meets requirements and is available on the school's website. The building is designed to be accessible.

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

The school is likely to meet the statutory requirements of the early years foundation stage. A comprehensive policy document is in place, and the trust has already appointed an experienced teacher and support staff for the Reception class.

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Piccadilly Gate  
Store Street  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/ofsted)

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