

Advice note for a pre-registration inspection of an academy

School name	Tennyson Road North Primary School
Department for Education (DfE) registration number	821/2249
Unique reference number (URN)	148833
Inspection number	10205499
Inspection dates	13/09/2021
Reporting inspector	Liz Smith

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, headteacher, human resources manager and site manager. The inspector toured the school site.

Information about the registration

The school is seeking registration as a free school for:

Number of day pupils	450
Age range	4 to 11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Type of special educational needs	Various

Context of the school

Tennyson Road Primary School is currently one primary school that operates on two sites, north and south. Due to the expanding provision, trustees would like to de-amalgamate Tennyson Road Primary School to become two individual schools.

It is proposed that Tennyson Road North Primary School registers as a separate school remaining within Tennyson Learning Community Multi-Academy Trust. Both school sites already educate pupils from early years to Year 6. There is no intended change for pupils who attend the north or south sites.

There are currently 443 pupils who are educated at the north site. This site is made up of two buildings. The newest building was built within the last eight years. Leaders claim the other, older building to be the 'oldest school building in Luton'.

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 the relevant independent school standards when it opens, if it addresses the regulations noted in the tables as set out in parts 5 and 8.
------------------------	--

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. Pupils learn about fundamental British values through assemblies and through the curriculum for personal, social and health education. Pupils can participate in leadership roles through committees such as the school council. The school arranges public services such as the fire service and the police to visit and give talks to pupils. The school's policy for spiritual, moral, social and cultural education places appropriate emphasis on pupils developing the qualities of citizenship and understanding of life in modern Britain.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. The safeguarding policy is comprehensive, making due reference to the latest government guidance. The anti-bullying policy and behaviour policy are helpful in their guidance for staff. They include relevant strategies for addressing any issues.

Leaders continue to respond to recommendations from Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service in relation to fire safety improvements to ensure compliance. The most recent fire safety visit took place in November 2020. Leaders are currently improving some fire doors in the old building that were highlighted as a potential area that they may wish to upgrade. At the time of the inspection, one of the four fire doors in the main hall was locked. This has been swiftly rectified. Records of fire drills are well documented.

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 in place for the new school. Leaders follow safer recruitment practices, and this is reflected in the recruitment documents.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part provided that it addresses the regulations set out in the table below.

Leaders have made provision for a medical room. However, it is located too far away from the boys' and disabled users' toilets.

Pupils fill their water bottles and drink water from the sinks in the classrooms. At the time of the on-site inspection, leaders were unsure whether the water available from the sinks in the old building comes from a mains water feed. There were no labels to indicate whether the water was suitable as drinking water. Subsequently, leaders

have provided suitable and relevant information of compliance. The water is suitable to drink and is labelled as such.

In order to meet the requirements in full, the school should:

ensure that suitable accommodation is provided in order to cater for pupils' medical and therapy needs, including these being near to toilet facilities for all pupils.	paragraphs 24(1) and 24(1)(b)
---	-------------------------------

Part 6. Provision of information

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. All the required policies are in place and available to parents. The school's chosen method of contact with parents is through publishing information on its website. The latest safeguarding policy will be uploaded to the school's website once it has been ratified by the governing body. Copies of policies can be made available on request.

Part 7. Manner in which complaints are handled

The school is likely to meet all the relevant requirements in this part. The complaints policy is comprehensive and clearly written. It contains all the necessary steps and the timelines for the efficient handling of any complaints. The policy is available on the school's website. 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, provided that it addresses the regulations set out in the table below.

In order to meet the requirements in full, the school should:

ensure that standards in the preceding parts are likely to be met consistently.	paragraphs 34(1) and 34(1)(b)
---	-------------------------------

Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010

The school is likely to meet all the requirements of Schedule 10. The policy for equalities identifies how the school aims to foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. The policy states clearly how the school will support pupils so that they can access the curriculum and achieve their potential. The buildings contain adaptations such as disabled toilets.

Statutory requirements of the early years foundation stage

All the statutory requirements for the early years are likely to be met. The school currently has three Reception classes. The staff are suitably qualified and experienced. There are many staff in the school who are paediatric first-aid trained. Detailed policies and procedures for the early years foundation stage are on the school's website.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for children looked after, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022