

Advice note for a pre-registration inspection of an academy/free school/studio school/university technical college (UTC)

School name	Fulham Boys School
DfE registration number	N/A
Unique reference number (URN)	1650
Inspection number	446867
Inspection dates	6 June 2014
Reporting inspector	David Scott

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Information about the inspection

This inspection was conducted by Ofsted at the request of the registration authority for independent schools. It was carried out under section 99 of the Education and Skills Act 2008.¹

Context of the school

Fulham Boys School will be temporarily located, for up to two years, on the site currently being used by a special school for children with severe and complex needs, in West Kensington, West London. At the beginning of August, some refurbishment will take place, which is due to be completed by the beginning of September 2014. The school is due to open on 8 September 2014. The school has applied to be registered to admit 840 boys from ages 11 to 18. It will admit boys aged 11 to 12 in its first year. At present there are 90 students registered for enrolment. Currently, there are two students registered for enrolment who have special educational needs, but there are none who are in receipt of a statement of special educational needs. The school's aims 'will be geared towards boys, built on Christian principles and nurturing enterprise – personal, business and social'.

Compliance with the regulations

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

The school is likely to meet all of the regulations, but implementation could not be seen. Through strong pastoral care and the promotion of academic excellence, the school intends to create an ethos where the boys 'look beyond material goals, and (to) learn to distinguish between transient appetites and real fulfilment'. The school intends to embrace the Christian values of 'fairness, justice, hard work, kindness, unselfishness, respect, team work and courtesy'. These values are intended to be at the heart of the school, and will be spearheaded by the chaplain who will provide 'spiritual, moral and ethical guidance'. In addition, the school's vision intends to 'build relationships with representatives from other world faiths', and ensure 'those of other religions, and of none' feel welcome at the school.

The promotion of boys' enterprising skills will be a core thread running through the curriculum. Over time, the school intends to establish a number of community links that will foster the principle of 'giving back to society through voluntary and charity work', in order to widen students' educational experience and provide students with opportunities to become responsible citizens. The personal, social and health education and citizenship courses include activities designed to help students

¹ www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/25/section/99

appreciate and respect the diversity of traditions and cultures globally and in the local community.

The planned assembly and tutorial programme, across all faith and non-faith groups, has been carefully thought through to stimulate students' appreciation of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects in their lives. Citizenship will be delivered through personal, social and health education lessons, timetabled as a distinct subject. In addition the curriculum will develop students' understanding of civil law, public institutions and services in England, as well as promoting the school's Christian values. The staff handbook gives guidance to teachers to ensure that planned lessons and activities will be free from partisan political or religious views and that, where any political issues are discussed, a balanced view is always presented. This is also included in staff contracts.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Documentary evidence indicates that all regulations are likely to be met. Policies for child protection and safeguarding, behaviour, exclusions, and anti-bullying have been prepared in accordance with requirements. The behaviour policy is focused on cultivating the 'highest standards of behaviour, uniform, attendance and punctuality'. School leaders believe that 'boys respond best to firm discipline and clear boundaries', with the most important quality being that of self-discipline. The behaviour policy contains an appropriate range of rewards and sanctions, designed to 'enable boys to learn constructively from their mistakes'. The headmaster and three governors have been trained in safer recruitment and vetting of staff and requirements for child protection. In addition, the school has two members of staff with a first aid qualification. For those members of staff and governors still to be appointed, dates have been identified for their training. A qualified trainer is booked to provide the required training in child protection, first aid and safeguarding procedures for all staff before the school opens. Requirements are likely to be met.

Suitable policies and risk assessments have been completed for all required aspects of health and safety, including fire safety. A visit from the fire officer has already taken place and a satisfactory report obtained. Admission and attendance registers will be maintained electronically and their formats meet requirements. The school's three-year accessibility plan provides a commitment to review and improve access for disabled students.

Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

All the required vetting checks for staff and members of the governing body appointed to date, are collated in a single central record which meets statutory requirements. The school may need to employ supply staff and has appropriate procedures in place to conduct the required checks on agency staff, although their implementation could not be seen.

Premises of and accommodation at the school

A tour of the site was not possible as it is still occupied. The school has secured a two-year lease, and scrutiny of the architect's plans confirm that phase one of the refurbishment programme is likely to meet the regulations in readiness for opening in September 2014. There is a suitable number of washrooms available with safely regulated hot water, all of which are designated for disabled users. Heating and lighting systems are likely to meet requirements. A labelled supply of drinking water will be accessible to students. The disability policy provides arrangements for disabled students to be admitted to the school. A suitable location has been identified for a medical room, complete with hand basin and with washrooms opposite.

For lessons in physical education (PE), the school will use its own on-site showers and changing facilities. The site has sufficient outside space for recreation and 'hard-surface' PE. In addition, the head of sport has secured permission to use the local swimming pool and leisure centre and this has appropriate changing and showering facilities. The school has appropriate risk assessments in place to ensure students will be safely chaperoned when walking to and from the venue.

In August 2015, it is intended that phase two of the refurbishment programme will commence. At this stage, only the architect's rough floor plan was available for scrutiny and this document was not sufficiently detailed to determine the school's intended facilities.

Provision of information

The provision meets all regulations.

Manner in which complaints are to be handled

The provision meets all regulations.

Recommendation to the Department for Education

Registration

- **YES. This school is likely to meet all regulations when it opens and is recommended for registration.**

Recommended number of day pupils: 840

Recommended number of boarders: 0

Recommended age range: 11–18

Recommended gender of pupils: Boys

Recommended type of special educational needs: N/A.