

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

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School name	Meridian Angel Primary School
Unique Reference Number (URN)	1736
Inspection number	446990
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Reporting inspector	Jane Chesterfield

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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.<sup>1</sup>

## Context of the school

Meridian Angel Primary School is a free school due to open on 8 September 2014 in temporary premises in Edmonton, North London. It will provide up to 150 places initially for pupils from Reception to Year 6, and will cater for boys and girls of all abilities, including those with special educational needs. It will replace provision currently offered by St Matthew's Primary School Annex, which closes in July 2014, and will occupy the same school premises. The school is scheduled to move to new, purpose-built premises nearby in September 2015.

The school is part of the London Community Learning Trust which has an Anglican foundation and aims to provide education for the local community from pre-school to age 19 plus. Meridian Angel Primary will be the first of its schools to open. The current headteacher of St Matthew's Primary School Annex will be the headteacher of Meridian Angel, and all the current pupils and most of the staff will transfer to the new school. There will be a focus on English and mathematics and an intention of helping pupils learn to be citizens of the world.

## Compliance with the regulations

### Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

Although the implementation of this standard could not be seen, provision is likely to meet requirements, based on the school's policies for the curriculum, for personal, social, health and citizenship, for religious education and for sex and relationships education. Pupils will learn to appreciate what it means to be positive members of a diverse multicultural society and active members of a democratic society. They will be taught that they have a responsibility towards society and the environment. The school will follow the religious education curriculum used in Church of England schools in the London diocese, covering six major religions and enabling pupils to learn about and from religion, and develop tolerance for the cultures and beliefs of others.

The school's behaviour policy sets out to pupils, parents and carers the school's expectations for right and wrong, and for maintaining an orderly school community. Pupils will be encouraged to support local charities; visits out of school and visits into school from organisations such as the police and local services will help them

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<sup>1</sup> [www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/25/section/99](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/25/section/99)

understand the workings of the law and public institutions. The school undertakes to ensure that politics will be presented in a balanced way with no partisan views dominant.

## **Welfare, health and safety of pupils**

Implementation of this standard could not be seen, but the school is likely to meet most of the regulations. The school has prepared suitable policies, including safe recruitment, which are likely to meet requirements. All required checks on staff have been carried out. The safeguarding policy was prepared before the publication of the recent guidance, 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' 2014 and so does not have regard to this. Child protection training for staff who are currently employed by St Matthew's School Annex is up to date, and training for new staff is booked for the beginning of September, before the school opens to pupils, so that this requirement is likely to be met. The school's behaviour policy provides for appropriate rewards and sanctions, and gives clear guidelines on handling bullying, including cyber bullying.

The health and safety and first-aid policies give suitable guidance to staff, and there is an adequate number of qualified first aiders, including several with paediatric training. The school has produced a suitable fire risk policy and has had a fire risk assessment carried out by an independent consultancy. It is addressing the recommendations from this report and awaiting its inspection from the local fire and rescue services. Appropriate computerised admission and attendance registers have been selected, but have not yet been purchased and set up ready for use. The school has a three-year accessibility improvement plan and is likely to meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

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

- review its safeguarding policy to reflect the guidance in 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (paragraph 7)
- purchase and set up the proposed admission and attendance registers (paragraph 17).

## **Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors**

The school is likely to meet most of the requirements. The single central record contains all the required headings and covers all those who may have unsupervised contact with pupils. All the required checks on staff are carried out, but the dates of checks on identity, proof of address and right to work in the United Kingdom are not included for staff or governors. The school has systems in place ready to check any supply staff employed.

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

- ensure that the dates of checks of identity, proof of address and right to work in the United Kingdom are included for all those entered on the single central register (paragraphs 22(3) and 22(6)).

## Premises of and accommodation at the school

Most of the requirements for the premises are likely to be met. The accommodation in which the school will open in September is currently used as a local authority school, having been converted from a community centre several years ago. Several new temporary classrooms have been added in the playground. Plans for the new build have not yet been completed. The temporary premises are secure with appropriate lighting indoors and outside, and an adequate number of washrooms for the proposed maximum number of pupils on roll. Water temperatures are appropriate. There are separate washroom facilities for staff and for disabled users. An accessible supply of drinking water is available, though not all taps are labelled yet. Playground space and ratios of staff to pupils are appropriate. Adequate arrangements exist for the treatment of pupils who may be ill or injured as there is a washbasin to hand in the room and a washroom nearby.

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

- ensure that all supplies of drinking water are clearly marked as such (paragraph 23F(1)(c)).

## Provision of information

The school must meet the regulations identified in the check sheet.

## Manner in which complaints are to be handled

The provision is likely to meet all the regulations.

## Recommendation to the Department for Education

### Registration

- **YES. The school can be registered and allowed to open on receipt by DfE of evidence of improvement in relation to the following matters:**
- review its safeguarding policy to reflect the guidance in 'Keeping Children Safe in Education 2014' (paragraph 7)
- purchase and set up the proposed admission and attendance registers (paragraph 17)

- ensure that the dates of checks of identity, proof of address and right to work in the United Kingdom are included for all those entered on the single central register (paragraph 22(3) and 22(6))
- ensure that all supplies of drinking water are clearly marked as such (paragraph 23F(1)(c))
- ensure that the name and address for correspondence of the Chair of the Governing Body is included on the school's website and in the prospectus (paragraph 24(1)(a))
- provide access to the school's admission and attendance registers (paragraph 24(1)(g)).

Recommended number of day pupils: 150 on this site

Recommended number of boarders: 0

Recommended age range: 4–11

Recommended gender of pupils: Mixed

Recommended type of special educational needs: N/A.