

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

School name	Newhall Primary Academy
DfE registration number	2177
Unique reference number (URN)	145880
Inspection number	10053857
Inspection dates	24 May 2018
Reporting inspector	Adrian Lyons



Information about the inspection

This inspection was conducted 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 2008.¹

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.²

Information about the registration

The school is seeking registration as a free school for:

Number of day pupils	460
Age range	2-11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Type of special educational needs	Not applicable

Context of the school

This new provision is a primary school within the REAch2 multi-academy trust (MAT). Newhall Primary Academy will be situated on a new development of residential housing on the edge of Harlow.

Newhall Primary Academy will be a school in its own right, but will work in partnership with other schools within the MAT, and other schools across Harlow.

The school is due to open in September 2018, in new, purpose-built accommodation on a large, attractive site. Leaders have plans to initially admit 43 children in Reception. It is anticipated that, when full, the school will accommodate 420 children and pupils from Reception through to Year 6. It is anticipated that there will be further 40 places in the 2 to 4 age group in the nursery. An application has been made for a further 16 places for 0 to 2 provision.

REAch2 MAT is the largest primary-only academy trust in the country. It is currently supporting 55 primary schools across England.

Advice to the Secretary of State for Education

Overall outcome	The school is likely to meet all the independent school standards when it opens
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www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/25/section/99
www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2014/3283/schedule/made; Part 1 to Schedule 1 is not reported against because it does not apply to academies, free schools, studio schools and UTCs.

Compliance with The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014³

Part 2. Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of students

The school is likely to meet all the standards in this section. The curriculum planning addresses and supports well pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development (SMSC). The personal, social, health and economic (PHSE) and citizenship programmes are focused on relationships, health and well-being and living in the wider world. The headteacher is able to show how elements of SMSC are tracked through the curriculum especially in subjects such as music, art and religious education.

Leaders have taken steps to ensure that British values will be promoted in a variety of ways. Throughout the curriculum, pupils will have the opportunities to take part in activities that will promote their understanding of the rule of law, individual liberty, respect and tolerance. The school website sets out clearly how each will be addressed.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

The school is likely to meet all the relevant standards of this section. Relevant policies that apply to other schools within the MAT are in place, several with appropriate amendments to reflect the individual circumstances of Newhall Primary Academy. Leaders have provided detailed safeguarding information which includes appropriate policies, pro-forma and plans for training. Other inspection evidence, including school and MAT policies, demonstrates that important aspects such as first aid, fire safety, health and safety and risk assessment will be compliant with statutory guidance and relevant regulations. The school's behaviour and anti-bullying policies outline how the leaders will promote good behaviour and positive relationships. They also make plain leaders' clear expectation that bullying will not be tolerated.

Part 4. Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

The school is likely to meet all the relevant standards of this section. Recruitment records reflect the school's policies for safer recruitment. Records are exemplary and policies are in line with the MAT's procedures.

The single central record of checks on adults working at the school is in place and is compliant. Leaders ensure that all appropriate checks including barring and right to work are carried out prior to adults being employed at the school. There are processes in place to ensure volunteers are subject to similar checks.

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2014/3283/contents/made. Part 1 to Schedule 1 is not reported against because it does not apply to academies, free schools, studio schools and UTCs.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

The school is likely to meet all the relevant standards of this section. The school is purpose built and on course to provide an attractive and safe environment that will meet the academic and social requirements of those who work and learn within it well. School leaders have been involved in the internal design to ensure it reflects the school's vision and that pupils will feel safe and secure. The new building is on track to open over the summer and receive children in September 2018. It will comprise 14 classrooms, a separate Nursery/ pre-school block, an art studio, a technology/ cookery room, thus promoting a broad curriculum. The buildings supplied will meet all current requirements, including provision for first aid, toilet and medical facilities. The school has large grounds and outdoor learning spaces for early years and key stage 1. Sports areas are currently under construction. Classrooms are well designed.

Part 6. Provision of information

The school is likely to meet all the standards of this section. A comprehensive list of appropriate policies are available through the school website. The website and social media is used to publicise the school and attract potential pupils. The school will have a schedule of termly interim reports for parents, a final end of year more detailed report and termly parents' evenings. Additionally there is a clear policy on parental contact with staff and leaders.

The complaints policy is comprehensive and in line with the MAT's own processes.

Part 7. Manner in which complaints are handled

The school is likely to meet all the relevant standards of this section. There is a detailed complaints policy. This policy outlines the process and the timelines for handling complaints and already appears on the school's website.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

The school is likely to meet all the relevant standards of this section. The headteacher has experience of leading and improving other schools, for example taking over an underperforming school getting quickly to requires improvement and within two years to good in Ofsted inspections. She has a good understanding of the regulatory requirements. The MAT has already demonstrated clearly how it will monitor provision so that the independent school standards are met consistently.

The headteacher has plans for an appropriate curriculum, supplemented with a range of extra-curricular activities. Leaders have also developed policies which provide well for the well-being, health and safety of pupils.

Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010

The school is likely to meet all the relevant standards of this section. The school's equality policy is appropriate. It provides an overview as to how different groups will be supported. Monitoring arrangements are fit for purpose. Both buildings in the new

school have lifts, toilets and other facilities to improve the physical environment for pupils with disabilities.

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