

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

School name	Queen Elizabeth's Primary School
Department for Education (DfE) registration number	6001
Unique reference number (URN)	148834
Inspection number	10205695
Inspection dates	8/09/2021
Reporting inspector	Ahmed Marikar

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. He spoke with the headteacher of Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, the headteacher of the primary school and the director for school operations. The inspector toured the school site, reviewed the plans for the accommodation, scrutinised information available on the school's website and reviewed a range of policies and procedures. He also visited a nearby sports facility that is owned by the Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School Blackburn Academy Trust. He was able to make an assessment of all the standards.

Information about the registration

The school is seeking registration as a free school for:

Number of day pupils	397
Age range	4 to 11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Type of special educational needs	Not applicable

Context of the school

Currently, the primary school is part of Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School. Leaders applied to de-amalgamate the primary school from the secondary school and this pre-registration inspection forms part of that formal process. Leaders and governors intend for the primary school to open as a separate school. The primary and the secondary schools will remain part of Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School Blackburn Academy Trust. The primary school will occupy its current site. It has its own entrance and exit. The school has its own playgrounds. It will share the swimming pool, assembly hall, dining hall and a nearby sports centre with the secondary school. The two schools still intend to work closely together to share expertise, resources and good practice.

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.
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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. There is a strong emphasis on promoting pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development from the Reception Year onwards. The personal, health, social and economic (PHSE) education programme includes relationships, health and well-being. British values, such as respect and tolerance, will be taught through PHSE lessons and supported through assemblies and enrichment activities.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

The school is likely to meet all the relevant requirements in this part. A comprehensive range of policies are in place, including for behaviour, health, safety (including fire safety) and first aid. The anti-bullying policy is detailed and includes relevant strategies for addressing any issues of bullying and/or harassment. The school has an appropriate safeguarding policy, which is up to date with the latest statutory guidance. Leaders have clear supervision procedures for when pupils use the assembly hall, dining hall and swimming pool. These are shared with the secondary school.

Part 4. Suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. There is a single central record in place, which records the required checks on appointed staff and governors. All appointments to date have followed safer recruitment practices. The current designated safeguarding officers are senior leaders in the secondary phase of the current all-through school. They have received recent and relevant training. The headteacher and deputy headteacher of the primary school will be the designated safeguarding officers and have their training booked for early September 2021.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

The school is likely to meet all the requirements in this part. The school buildings will meet all current requirements, including, for example, provision for toileting, a sensory room and outdoor recreational areas. The school currently uses the first-aid and medical facilities in the secondary school. Leaders have clear plans in place to provide appropriate medical facilities in the primary school once it becomes a new school. Pupils have access to a spacious outdoor environment.

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 and carers, including an up-to-date safeguarding policy. The website is in the process of being updated with the most

recent policies and information. Copies of these 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. It appears 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. Leaders have a clear vision for the school and high aspirations for all pupils. Leaders possess the requisite knowledge and expertise to lead and manage the school successfully. They have established a comprehensive suite of policies that provide for the welfare, health and safety of pupils. Leaders are also clear about how they will continue to monitor provision so that the independent school standards are met consistently.

Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010

The school is likely to meet the requirements of Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010. The equalities policy recognises and outlines support for a range of groups. The school has an accessibility plan, which is reviewed regularly. Equality of opportunity is at the heart of the school's values.

Statutory requirements of the early years foundation stage

All the statutory requirements for the early years are likely to be met. Leaders have established a staffing structure to ensure that staff-to-children ratios are as they should be. Staff have been recruited who are suitably experienced and qualified, including in the use of paediatric first aid. The premises include indoor and outdoor accommodation that is suited to the education of early years children. Whole-school policies and procedures, including those for safeguarding, consider the needs of early years children and meet requirements.

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