

Manchester Jewish Community High School

62 Singleton Road, Salford M7 4LU

Inspection dates

4 February 2021

Overall outcome

The school is likely to meet all the independent school standards when it opens

Main inspection findings

Part 1. Quality of education provided

Paragraph 2(1), 2(1)(a), 2(1)(b), 2(1)(b)(i), 2(1)(b)(ii), 2(2), 2(2)(a), 2(2)(b), 2(2)(c), 2(2)(d), 2(2)(d)(i), 2(2)(d)(ii), 2(2)(e), 2(2)(e)(i), 2(2)(e)(ii), 2(2)(e)(iii), 2(2)(g), 2(2)(h), 2(2)(i), 3, 3(a), 3(b), 3(c), 3(d), 3(e), 3(g), 3(h), 3(i), 3(j) and 4

- The proprietor company has ensured that the extensive building work that has been carried out on the third floor of the community centre has been completed. As a result, learning areas are fit for purpose. Furniture is in place in the school, as are educational resources. Leaders have also invested in technological devices which allow pupils to access high-quality online learning.
- The proprietor company has high expectations of all staff that will be appointed to the school. There are suitable induction programmes planned for any new staff, to ensure that pupils are taught well and make effective academic and social progress.
- Leaders' curriculum policy and the intended schemes of work show that leaders intend to teach an appropriate wide range of subjects in key stage 3.
- The proprietor company places a strong focus on promoting pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development through the curriculum. The curriculum policy for the proposed school promotes fundamental British values. Leaders intend that pupils will be well prepared for life in British society by developing their understanding of equality of opportunity.
- Leaders intend to provide parents and carers with information about pupils' progress each week through student diaries and through annual reports.
- Leaders will provide pupils with advice and guidance about careers and future educational opportunities to enable pupils to make informed choices. Leaders also plan for pupils to have opportunities to gain impartial advice and guidance from links with a wide range of local businesses, further educational providers and employers.
- The proprietor company has ensured that the independent school standards (ISS) in this part are likely to be met.

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

Paragraph 5, 5(a), 5(b), 5(b)(i), 5(b)(ii), 5(b)(iii), 5(b)(iv), 5(b)(v), 5(b)(vi), 5(b)(vii), 5(c), 5(d), 5(d)(i), 5(d)(ii) and 5(d)(iii)

- Leaders have planned a curriculum to develop pupils' personal, social, health and economic education. Alongside this are plans to develop pupils' SMSC awareness and relationships and sex education, and health education.
- Through the curriculum, leaders intend that pupils will acquire a secure understanding of making appropriate choices. For example, leaders plan to develop pupils' understanding of the importance of being law-abiding citizens.
- Leaders have planned a curriculum with the intention of teaching pupils about respecting the views of others. It includes a focus on being mindful of the different cultures and traditions within British society. This will ensure that pupils are tolerant and respectful of each other, whatever their characteristics or background.
- The proprietor company has ensured that the independent school standards in this part are likely to be met.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Paragraph 7, 7(a), 7(b)

- The proposed safeguarding policy is suitable. It references the latest guidance from the government. The systems that leaders will use to report and respond to concerns about pupils are fit for purpose. The headteacher is the designated safeguarding lead and has received appropriate training.

Paragraphs 9, 9(a), 9(b), 9(c), 10

- The proposed behaviour policy is thorough. Leaders also plan to keep records and analyse any incidents of misbehaviour. They will review this information and monitor the policy regularly to improve procedures if necessary. The intended systems for behaviour management are likely to support leaders' high expectation of behaviour.
- There is a suitable policy that explains the proprietor company's proposed approach to managing any forms of bullying.

Paragraphs 11, 12, 13, 16, 16(a), 16(b)

- There are appropriate policies and procedures in place relating to matters such as fire safety, first aid and risk assessments. These are likely to ensure that pupils' welfare, health and safety are promoted in the school. The headteacher has undertaken first-aid training. New staff will also complete first-aid training as part of their induction.

Paragraph 14

- The proprietor company plans for staff to supervise pupils effectively. The proposed ratio of staff to pupils and the intended behaviour policy are suitable.

Paragraph 15

- Leaders have appropriate systems in place which they will use to record pupils' admission details and their attendance. These are likely to contain all the mandatory information.

- The proprietor company has ensured that all the independent school standards in this part are likely to be met when the school opens.

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

Paragraph 17, 18, 18(1), 18(2), 18(2)(a), 18(2)(b), 18(2)(c), 18(2)(c)(i), 18(2)(c)(ii), 18(2)(c)(iii), 18(2)(c)(iv), 18(2)(d), 18(2)(e), 18(3), 19(2), 19(2)(a)(i), 19(2)(a)(i)(aa), 19(2)(a)(i)(bb), 19(2)(a)(i)(cc), 19(2)(a)(ii), 19(2)(b), 19(2)(c), 19(2)(d)(i), 19(2)(d)(ii), 19(3), 19(4) 20(1), 20(2), 20(3), 20(3)(a), 20(3)(a)(i), 20(3)(a)(ii), 20(5), 20(5)(a), 20(5)(a)(i), 20(5)(a)(ii), 20(5)(b), 20(5)(b)(i), 20(5)(b)(ii), 20(5)(b)(iii), 20(6), 20(6)(a), 20(6)(a)(i), 20(6)(b), 20(6)(b)(i), 20(6)(b)(ii), 20(6)(b)(iii), 20(6)(c)

- The proprietor company has procedures in place to ensure that required pre-employment checks on the suitability of staff are completed before they work at the school.
- Some staff have already been appointed in anticipation of the school's opening. Leaders have made all necessary checks on these members of staff and have recorded them on their electronic register.
- All required checks on the suitability of members of the company board have been completed. This includes appropriate suitability checks to ensure directors are not prohibited from holding management responsibilities.
- Leaders have a secure understanding of what checks will be required to be completed prior to any agency worker commencing employment at the school in the future.
- The proprietor company has ensured that all the independent school standards in this part are likely to be met when the school opens.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

Paragraphs 23(1), 23(1)(a), 23(1)(b), 24(1), 24(1)(a), 24(1)(b), 24(2), 25, 26, 27, 27(a), 27(b), 28(1), 28(1)(a), 28(1)(b), 28(1)(c), 28(1)(d), 28(2), 28(2)(a), 28(2)(b), 29(1), 29(1)(a), 29(1)(b)

- The internal refurbishment of the floor the school occupies has been completed to a high standard. Learning areas have been carefully planned and well equipped. Displays relating to planned work, such as the function of cytoplasm, are in place on the walls. There is one large classroom that can be divided in two if needed. There is also a dining room that can also be used for group work.
- The toilets are suitable and will properly ensure pupils' privacy. The medical area is adequate and close to a toilet. Leaders have provided drinking water dispensers for pupils. The hot water taps that pupils will have access to are at a safe temperature.
- The internal lighting has been designed to ensure that light levels will be suitable. External lighting has been installed. There is also external lighting in place at fire exits and the fire assembly point. This lighting will enable safe entrance and exit to the school after dark.

- There are large changing and showering facilities on the premises for the purposes of physical education. These are located in a separate building next to the intended playground.
- The proposed school has an outdoor area for pupils to play. It is large enough for the number of pupils the school is likely to have on roll. There is some play equipment for pupils to use during break times, but leaders plan to order more if the school opens.
- The proprietor company has ensured that all the independent school standards in this part are likely to be met when the school opens.

Part 6. Provision of information

Paragraph 32(1), 32(1)(a), 32(1)(b), 32(1)(c), 32(1)(d), 32(1)(f), 32(1)(h), 32(1)(i), 32(1)(j), Paragraph 32(2), 32(2)(a), 32(2)(b)(i), 32(2)(c), 32(2)(d), 32(3), 32(3)(a), 32(3)(b), 32(3)(c), 32(3)(d), 32(3)(e), 32(3)(f)

- The school does not have a website. However, leaders are in the later stages of completing one. Information is currently available on request and is also sent out to prospective parents. The school's arrangements for admission are fit for purpose. There is also an appropriate policy describing the consequences of any pupil misbehaviour.
- Policies indicate that leaders understand the requirement to detail the funding for any pupil who has an education, health and care plan. This will identify the support that the school provides, matched to pupils' needs.
- Leaders will make information about the intended curriculum available to parents. An assessment policy that details the arrangements for assessing pupils' progress in learning is also available. Leaders intend to provide an annual written report on each pupil's progress to parents.
- The proprietor company has ensured that all the independent school standards in this part are likely to be met when the school opens.

Part 7. Manner in which complaints are handled

Paragraph 33, 33(a), 33(b), 33(c), 33(d), 33(e), 33(f), 33(g), 33(h), 33(i), 33(i)(i), 33(i)(ii), 33(j), 33(j)(i), 33(j)(ii), 33(k)

- The proprietor company will ensure that the school complaints procedures will be available from the school.
- The procedures meet all the requirements of the ISS and should ensure that any complaints are dealt with in an appropriate manner. They include explanations of the stages of any complaint. The procedures also include the timescales by which leaders will respond to any concerns.
- The proprietor company has ensured that all the independent school standards in this part are likely to be met when the school opens.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

Paragraph 34(1), 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b), 34(1)(c)

- Members of the proprietor company demonstrate a secure understanding of the ISS. They have employed a consultant to support them in ensuring all the ISS are likely to be met.
- Leaders have clear aims and ambitions to provide high-quality education for pupils attending the school. The proprietor company will hold leaders to account for the impact of their actions, and in implementing the school's intended curriculum.
- The proprietor company has appointed a suitably qualified and experienced headteacher to lead the school. She has drawn upon her experience of working in similar schools to design the school curriculum and schemes of work.
- The proprietor company demonstrates a strong commitment to promoting the health, safety and well-being of pupils and staff. They plan appropriate training for staff to promote their knowledge of safeguarding and pupil welfare. The proprietor company has ensured that all the health and safety standards are met.
- The standards relating to leadership and management are likely to be met.

Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010

- The school has an appropriate accessibility plan in place. The classroom is located on the third floor and does not have access for any person with a disability. As a result, leaders have an agreement in place to use space on the ground floor as classrooms, if needed, to meet pupils' welfare needs. This space also has suitable toilet and washing facilities.
- The proprietor company has ensured that the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 are likely to be met.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school is likely to meet the requirements of the schedule to the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 ('the independent school standards') and associated requirements.

Proposed school details

Unique reference number	148475
DfE registration number	355/6019
Inspection number	10179434

This inspection was carried out under section 99 of the Education and Skills Act 2008, the purpose of which is to advise the Secretary of State for Education about the school's likely compliance with the independent school standards that are required for registration as an independent school.

Type of school	Jewish faith school
School status	Independent school
Proprietor	Darchei Noam Ltd
Chair	Timothy Dempsey
Headteacher	Hadassa Berger
Annual fees (day pupils)	£5000
Telephone number	07976972983
Website	None
Email address	info@meor.co.uk
Date of previous standard inspection	Not previously inspected

Provider already operating

Number of pupils of compulsory school age	0
Number of pupils of compulsory school age for whom a statement is maintained under section 324, or who is looked after by a local authority	0
Total hours operating as a school per week	0
Total hours of teaching provided per week	0

Pupils

	School's current position	School's proposal	Inspector's recommendation
Age range of pupils	Not applicable	11-13	11-13
Number of pupils on the school roll	0	35	35

Pupils

	School's current position	School's proposal
Gender of pupils	Girls	Girls
Number of full-time pupils of compulsory school age	Not applicable	35
Number of part-time pupils	Not applicable	0
Number of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities	Not applicable	0
Of which, number of pupils with an education, health and care plan	Not applicable	0
Of which, number of pupils paid for by a local authority with an education, health and care plan	Not applicable	0

Staff

	School's current position	School's proposal
Number of full-time equivalent teaching staff	Not applicable	2
Number of part-time teaching staff	Not applicable	10
Number of staff in the welfare provision	Not applicable	1

Information about this proposed school

- The school intends to cater for 35 girls aged 11 to 13 years. Leaders plan to open the school in response to the increasing demand for secondary school places in the Orthodox Jewish communities in the area.
- The school is located in a converted community centre in Salford.
- This is the first pre-registration inspection of the Manchester Jewish Community High School.

Information about this inspection

- This inspection was commissioned by the Department for Education to determine if the school is likely to meet the independent school standards prior to opening as a registered school.
- This was the first pre-registration inspection of the Manchester Jewish Community High School.
- During the inspection, meetings were held with the headteacher, members of the proprietor company and an external consultant.
- The inspector checked documentary evidence relating to the curriculum, including schemes of work and the curriculum policy. Leaders demonstrated the technology in place to aid in the delivery of the curriculum.
- The inspector reviewed the proprietor company's policies in relation to welfare, health and safety. A scrutiny of the safeguarding procedures, including the recruitment processes and checks, was also undertaken.
- The inspector toured the school premises with members of the proprietor company and headteacher.

Inspection team

Simon Hunter, lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

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