

Bradford Council Assessment Framework for potential Academy sponsors and Free School providers

Standards and Progress

1. The sponsor/provider will demonstrate a proven record of sustained school improvement in schools in the same phase of education and serving similar socio-economic circumstances.
2. Through its vision and ethos the sponsor/provider will strongly support the Bradford LA's aspiration for all schools to exceed the national attainment and progress levels at the earliest opportunity, and for all schools to be judged good or better by Ofsted.
3. The sponsor/provider will be able to demonstrate a track record in, and a clear strategy for, narrowing the gaps in achievement between different groups of children and young people.
4. The school will provide an exciting and inspiring broad and balanced curriculum that:
 - meets the needs of all pupils to achieve their full educational potential and make progress in their learning, and
 - promotes their good behaviour and safety and their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
5. The school will enable children with Special Educational Needs and/or disabilities who attend the school to access a broad balanced relevant academic and pastoral curriculum ensuring they make good progress towards their potential.
6. The sponsor/provider will have a proven record in delivering inclusive and non-discriminatory services.

Policies, Protocols and Strategic Planning

7. The sponsor/provider will adopt Bradford's admissions protocol and will not seek to reduce or increase the proposed PAN for any year group without the agreement of Bradford Local Authority.
8. The sponsor/provider will sign Bradford's data sharing protocol to give the Local Authority permission to publish the school's results and data on Bradford Schools Online thus giving all other Bradford schools access to the Academy's data and vice versa.
9. The sponsor/provider will commit to support Bradford's agreements and protocols to ensure the Academy acts to support inclusive educational practice and leadership.
10. The sponsor/provider will have a commitment to integrated working with other local providers of children's services to secure family support around students' learning.
11. The Academy and its sponsor will take a full part in District wide strategic planning and agree to work in collaboration with the Local Authority.

Post 16 Transition

12. In support of the LA's strategy to enable each pupil to transition successfully to the next stage in his/her learning journey, the sponsor /provider will commit to working with the Local Authority and its partners to develop and promote Industrial Centres of Excellence for 14-19 students in the district.
13. The sponsor/provider will commit to partnership working on post-16 matters. If the sponsor/provider is not committing to local partnership-working, it will need to explain why and provide details of the alternative arrangements it will put in place in relation to this agenda.
14. The sponsor/provider will demonstrate how it will work closely with post-16 providers to ensure that its pupils are given the appropriate options to complete their statutory education.

Community Cohesion and Engagement

15. The sponsor/provider will commit, promote and contribute locally, to community cohesion.
16. The sponsor/provider will ensure that the Academy fully engages with the local community and will encourage community use of its facilities.
17. The sponsor/provider will endeavour to provide work experience placement and/or apprenticeships for Bradford students.

Partnerships

18. The sponsor/provider will commit to supporting the school-led improvement strategy in Bradford. This includes joining a School-to-School Partnership (Bradford Primary Improvement Partnership (BPIP), Catholic Schools' Partnership (CSP), District Achievement Partnership (DAP), Bradford Partnership of secondary schools)) and being fully involved in the monitoring procedures of that partnership, including fully engaging with the developmental reviews organised by the partnership.
19. The sponsor/provider will commit to working with local partnership schools, Teaching School Alliances (TSAs) and the Local Authority to ensure that Bradford's school-led improvement strategy is effective.
20. The sponsor/provider will commit to the existing Behaviour and Attendance Collaboratives (BACs) to ensure holistic provision for all children and young people in the local community. If the sponsor/provider is not committing to this specific partnership-working, it will need to explain why and provide details of the alternative arrangements it will put in place particularly in relation to behavioural and attendance concerns.

Staffing and Governance

21. When appointing senior leadership posts, the sponsor/provider will carry out an open and transparent procedure compliant with current employment law practice.
22. The sponsor/provider will honour Bradford's determination not to use the academy status as a way of undermining staff pay and conditions.
23. In nominating members of the Academy's governing body, the sponsor/provider will ensure the governing body fully represent the community of the school.
24. The sponsor/provider will consider inviting a representative of the Local Authority to the Academy's Board of Governors.

Capacity, Commitment and Accountability to deliver the new school project

25. The sponsor/provider will ensure that the school will address the needs identified in the impact assessment without adversely impacting on pupil numbers in surrounding schools within a 3 mile radius.
26. The sponsor/provider will demonstrate that it fully understands its responsibilities to the school and its accountability to DfE for the provision, outcomes and on-going development of the school.
27. The sponsor/provider will demonstrate that it has the adequate infrastructure particularly in terms of leadership and governance structures to support the opening of a new school.
28. The sponsor/provider will evaluate the performance and outcomes of the Academy and report their findings annually to the School-to-School Partnership to which it is a member.