

# TILT Education

The Bungalow, Cardway Business Park, Linley Lane, Alsager, Stoke-on-Trent ST7 2UX

**Inspection date**

29 May 2025

**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

*Paragraphs 2(1) to 2(1)(b)(ii), 2(2) to 2(2)(b)*

- There is a clear curriculum policy in place. The proprietors intend that pupils will gain experience in linguistic, technological, human, social, aesthetic and creative subjects. The proposed school intends pupils to learn a broad range of subjects, including English, mathematics, information technology and science. A range of resources are in place to support the teaching of phonics through an established reading programme.
- The schemes of work show the knowledge and skills that the school intends to teach for the proposed age range of pupils. The proposed school intends to personalise the curriculum. It plans to match approaches and topics to the individual interests, aptitudes and abilities of each pupil, who may all have an education, health and care (EHC) plan.
- The curriculum and scheme of work is mapped out for each subject across key stages 3 and 4.
- The proposed school intends that fundamental British values will be taught through timetabled personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education lessons, assemblies and during form time. The schemes of work set out a wide range of topics that will be covered. The curriculum does not undermine fundamental British values. Respect for others, including those with different faiths and from other cultures, will be taught through the curriculum.
- The proposed school plans to organise a range of activities, including trips and visits, to improve pupils' confidence and independence.

*Paragraphs 2(2)(d) to 2(2)(e)(iii), 2(2)2(h) to 2(2)(i)*

- The proposed school intends to offer pupils courses linked to employability. It intends to arrange visits to local colleges and organisations. There is a clear careers and information guidance programme which includes impartial careers advice for older pupils. The school has considered how it will prepare pupils for adulthood.

*Paragraphs 2A(1), 2A(1)(b), 2A(1)(d) to 2A(2)*

- The proprietors have a suitable policy in place for relationships and sex education (RSE). The school plans to consult with parents and carers about the policy and the RSE curriculum should the proposed school open. The school has ensured that the RSE policy is placed on the school's website.

*Paragraphs 3, 3(a) to 3(j)*

- The proprietors have suitable recruitment procedures in place. They intend to appoint further staff with the necessary teaching skills and experience. The planning already in place reflects sound pedagogical practice. It is likely to meet the needs of the pupils that the proposed school intends to admit.
- The classrooms are well equipped. The proprietors have purchased a number of resources to support pupils' learning, including new computing facilities.

*Paragraph 4*

- The proprietors have written a suitable assessment policy. The proposed assessment arrangements will enable pupils and staff to identify pupils' strengths and areas for development.
- The proposed school has arrangements for pupils to be assessed upon their arrival at the school. Teachers will check that pupils' starting points are used to inform their teaching and curriculum delivery.
- All of the independent school standards (the standards) in this part are likely to be met if the proposed school opens.

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

*Paragraphs 5, 5(a) to 5(d)(iii)*

- The proprietors have developed an appropriate policy for promoting pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. The proposed school's policies and schemes of work aim to enable pupils to understand the importance of mutual respect and tolerance. The proposed school's policies also include references to the teaching of all the protected characteristics as set out in the Equality Act 2010. It is intended that pupils will take part in discussions covering a range of topics, such as health and welfare.
- The proposed school's policies demonstrate the proprietors' commitment to a non-partisan approach to the teaching of political views.
- The standards in this part are likely to be met if the proposed school opens.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

*Paragraphs 7, 7(a), 7(b)*

- The proprietors have completed safer recruitment training. The head of centre will be the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and the headteacher will be the deputy DSL. Both have up-to-date safeguarding training for the role. The proprietors have ensured that all staff are suitably trained in safeguarding.

- The proprietors have a suitable safeguarding policy in place. It meets all current statutory requirements.

*Paragraphs 9, 9(a) to 9(c), 10*

- The proprietors have ensured that the proposed school's behaviour policy is supported by a well-developed anti-bullying policy and exclusion policy. These policies set out the proposed school's approach to the rewards and sanctions that will be used to support pupils' behaviour. It is intended that any incidents of poor behaviour will be recorded appropriately.

*Paragraphs 11, 12*

- The proprietors have ensured that suitable policies have been prepared for all the required aspects of health and safety including for fire safety. Gas and electrical safety checks on equipment in the building have been carried out. Fire extinguishers are regularly serviced to ensure that they are suitable. Classrooms and other parts of the school building have appropriate signage to ensure that clear fire escape routes are arranged for pupils and staff.
- The school has an e-safety policy and procedures in place to ensure that the school's computer network has appropriate monitoring and filtering arrangements in place.

*Paragraph 13*

- The proprietors have put a suitable first-aid policy in place and have ensured that all staff are suitably qualified to administer first aid. Suitable first-aid resources are easily accessible.

*Paragraph 14*

- The proprietors have set out an intended staffing structure that will enable a suitable level of supervision for pupils. The proprietors intend that there will be no more than five pupils in each class. Pupils are likely to be supervised effectively throughout the school day and during any visits and trips outside of school.

*Paragraph 15*

- The proprietors have ensured that appropriate registers for recording admissions and attendance are in place. They intend that these will be maintained in accordance with the relevant statutory regulations. The proposed school intends that any pupil absences will be followed up.

*Paragraphs 16, 16(a), 16(b)*

- The proprietors have risk assessments for potential incidents in the school building. These identify the risks and the potential actions needed to mitigate any hazards when taking pupils on trips, including visits to the local sports centre.
- The standards in this part are likely to be met if the proposed school opens.

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

*Paragraphs 17, 18(2), 18(2)(a) to 18(2)(e), 18(3), 19(2), 19(3), 20(6), 20(6)(a) to 20(6)(c), 21(1) to 21(3)(b), 21(6)*

- The single central record is in place and meets the requirements for the information it must contain. Leaders understand that the required checks on the suitability of staff must be completed before staff take up their appointment. These checks include establishing the medical fitness of employees and obtaining satisfactory professional references prior to employment.
- All of the required checks for the proprietors and staff at the proposed school have been completed. The proprietors' plans for the recruitment of additional staff are under way. There is a clear plan for staff to complete safeguarding training following their appointment.
- The standards in this part are likely to be met if the proposed school opens.

## Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

### *Paragraphs 23(1) to 23(1)(c), 28(1) to 28(2)(b)*

- The proposed school is located in a former nursery building. There are four classrooms as well as a sensory room, medical room, break room, well-being garden, eating area, an office and a kitchen. The accommodation is likely to be suitable for the education of the proposed age range and number of pupils.
- There are suitable toilet and washing facilities for pupils. There are individual toilet cubicles for pupils which are lockable from the inside. There is an adequate supply of cold and hot water for handwashing. The temperature of the hot water is unlikely to pose a scalding risk to pupils.
- Pupils will have access to drinking-water at all times from clearly marked taps.

### *Paragraphs 24(1), 24(1)(a), 24(1)(b) and 24(2)*

- A medical room has been set aside with suitable washing facilities in the room. There is easy access to a toilet. A foldable bed, a lockable medicine cupboard and first-aid kit were in the medical room at the time of the inspection.

### *Paragraphs 25, 26, 27, 27(a), 27(b)*

- The premises are safe, secure and well maintained. The acoustic features and sound insulation, together with internal and external lighting, are suitable throughout the building.

### *Paragraphs 29(1), 29(1)(a), 29(1)(b)*

- The proposed school has a small outside playing field for pupils to play. The space is suitable for the proposed number of pupils and their age range.
- The proposed school intends to use the playing field for some of the physical education (PE) activities. However, pupils will receive the majority of their PE lessons at a local leisure centre. The proposed school has risk assessments in place to ensure pupils' safety when travelling to and from this facility and when using this site.
- The standards in this part are likely to be met if the proposed school opens.

## Part 6. Provision of information

### *Paragraphs 32(1) to 32(3)(g)*

- Leaders have set up a website which includes the school's contact details and gives prospective parents access to its policies, including those relating to the safeguarding of pupils. The proposed school has also put all required information into the prospectus which is on its website. This includes the school's name and address; the headteacher's name and contact details; policies and procedures, including those relating to admissions, curriculum and behaviour.
- The proposed school intends to provide termly and annual reports on pupils' progress and attainment to parents.
- The standards in this part are likely to be met if the proposed school opens.

## Part 7. Manner in which complaints are handled

### *Paragraphs 33 to 33(k)*

- The complaints policy is comprehensive. The policy sets out all the necessary steps as well as timelines for the handling of complaints. The proposed school has ensured that copies of any findings and recommendations will be shared as required.
- This policy is published on the school's website and includes all the relevant information.
- The standards in this part are likely to be met if the proposed school opens.

## Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

### *Paragraphs 34(1) to 34(1)(c)*

- The proprietors have demonstrated the knowledge and skills needed to ensure that the standards are met. They have ensured that the standards related to the welfare, health and safety of pupils are likely to be met. For example, the school's DSLs are appropriately qualified. In addition, suitable risk assessments for the hazards around the proposed school's site have been completed.
- The standards in this part are likely to be met if the proposed school opens.

## Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010

- The proposed school's accessibility plan fully reflects the statutory requirements.

## **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	151616
DfE registration number	895/6040
Inspection number	10395480

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	Independent special school
School status	Independent special school
Proprietors	Ryan Goodwin and Debbie Goode
Headteacher	Debbie Goode
Annual fees (day pupils)	£57, 525
Telephone number	01782 528 624
Website	<a href="http://www.tilt-education.co.uk">www.tilt-education.co.uk</a>
Email address	<a href="mailto:ryan.goodwin@tilt-education.co.uk">ryan.goodwin@tilt-education.co.uk</a>

## Pupils

	<b>School's current position</b>	<b>School's proposal</b>	<b>Inspector's recommendation</b>
Age range of pupils	Not applicable	11 to 16	11 to 16
Number of pupils on the school roll	Not applicable	12	12

## Pupils

	<b>School's current position</b>	<b>School's proposal</b>
Gender of pupils	Not applicable	Mixed
Number of full-time pupils of compulsory school age	Not applicable	12
Number of part-time pupils	Not applicable	0

Number of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities	Not applicable	12
Of which, number of pupils with an education, health and care plan	Not applicable	12
Of which, number of pupils paid for by a local authority with an education, health and care plan	Not applicable	12

## Staff

	School's current position	School's proposal
Number of full-time equivalent teaching staff	Not applicable	6
Number of part-time teaching staff	Not applicable	2

## Information about this proposed school

- The proposed school is located in a former day nursery at The Bungalow, Cardway Business Park, Linley Lane, Alsager, Cheshire ST7 2UX.
- It is intended that the proposed school will cater for pupils in key stage 3 and key stage 4 who have been excluded from, or are at risk of exclusion from, mainstream schools.
- Pupils who attend this proposed school will have special educational needs and/or disabilities, including social, emotional and mental health needs. Some pupils will have an EHC plan.
- The proprietors do not intend to use alternative providers.



## Information about this inspection

- This inspection was commissioned by the Department for Education (DfE) to determine if the school is likely to meet the independent school standards if the DfE decides to approve the request to register this school.
- This is the proposed school's second pre-registration inspection.
- The inspector held discussions with the joint proprietors and the headteacher.
- The inspector completed a tour of the school to check the suitability of the proposed premises against the relevant standards. The inspector also looked at a wide range of documents and policies, including those related to the curriculum, behaviour, and health and safety. The inspector checked documents related to safeguarding.

## Inspection team

Amina Modan, lead inspector

His Majesty's Inspector

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