

Ofsted
Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

www.gov.uk/ofsted

Direct T 03000131094
Linda.Marriott@ofsted.gov.uk



07 February 2022

Mrs Emma Edwards-Morgan
The Link Academy
Simms Lane
Netherton
Dudley
West Midlands
DY2 0PB

Dear Mrs Emma Edwards-Morgan

Inspection of The Link Academy on 08 February 2022 to 09 February 2022

Following our telephone call today, I am writing on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to confirm that The Link Academy will be inspected under section 5 of the Education Act 2005 (as amended). This inspection will take place on 08 February 2022 to 09 February 2022.

Your inspection will be led by Nicola Walters, Ofsted Inspector (OI), who will be accompanied during the inspection by three inspectors.

We regularly quality assure a sample of our inspections and for this inspection you may be visited by one of Her Majesty's Inspectors (HMI) for one day, or you may receive a phone call after the inspection from an HMI.

Please read and act on the guidance in the link below immediately:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/inspecting-schools-leaflet-for-schools>.

This guidance will also inform you of the information and documents that inspectors will need to see before and during the inspection. You will need to submit some of this information through the provider portal, which is available [here](#). We will send you your username and password for the portal separately.

We will also use the portal to send you documents relating to your inspection, including the draft inspection report.

I enclose a letter and a leaflet [School inspections - a guide for parents](#) to be sent to all registered parents (and carers) of registered pupils at the school, including those who are currently on sick leave or who have been temporarily excluded. The school is required to take all reasonable steps to distribute these to parents, under section

6 of the Education Act 2005, which includes providing to local authorities with parental responsibility for looked after children. The letter advises parents of the date of the inspection, and invites them to inform Ofsted of their views about the school via Ofsted's online survey site Ofsted Parent View.

I also enclose a letter which we would like you to distribute to those responsible for governance and the proprietor. The letter notifies those responsible for governance and the proprietor of the inspection and informs them how to contribute their views to the inspection.

Seeking the views of staff and pupils

We would like to invite all registered pupils and all staff who work at the school to complete an online questionnaire. These questionnaires are confidential and complement evidence inspectors gather from talking to pupils and staff. Please find below links to the respective questionnaire for pupils and staff, and wording for you to share. There may also be a final question that will not be seen by the inspection team, but that we ask to inform Ofsted's wider research. On the very rare occasion that schools are unable to access the questionnaires, the inspection team will ensure that the views of staff and pupils are gathered as part of the usual inspection activities. Please note that the online pupil and staff questionnaire facility will close on the first day of the inspection at 3pm.

Recommended text to staff

Ofsted is inspecting your school and would welcome your contribution. You can do this by completing an online staff questionnaire at the following link: <https://ofsted.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/staff/10212194>. This link must not be shared to anyone outside of the school.

Your views are important to us, and will help inspectors understand your experiences of the school and how well you support your pupils to ensure the best possible outcomes. The questionnaire will close at 3pm on 08 February 2022, to give the inspector time to look at the results. The questionnaires work in Chrome, Firefox, Safari and Internet Explorer 11 and on mobiles and tablets when you copy and paste the link into the browser.

We do not ask for your name, unless you are raising a child protection concern, and therefore all responses will remain anonymous.

Recommended text to pupils

Ofsted is inspecting your school and would like to hear your views. You can do this by completing an online pupil questionnaire at the following link: <https://ofsted.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Pupil/10212194>. This link must not be shared to anyone outside of the school.

Your views are really important to us and will help inspectors understand your experience of school. The questionnaire will close at 3pm on 08 February 2022, to give the inspector time to look at the results. The questionnaires work in Chrome,

Firefox, Safari and Internet Explorer 11 and on mobiles and tablets when you copy and paste the link into the browser.

We do not ask for your name, so you will not be identified from the responses you make.

Privacy notice

During the inspection, the inspectors will collect information about staff and children at the school by talking to them, looking at school documents, responses to the pupil and staff surveys where appropriate, and observing the everyday life at the school. In most cases, we do not record names. However, some of the information may make it possible to identify a particular individual. Ofsted uses this information to prepare its report and for the purposes set out in its privacy policy. Ofsted will not publish any information that identifies an individual in the report but may name the headteacher and the chair of the appropriate authority.

More information is available in Ofsted privacy notice:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/ofsted-privacy-notice/schools-ofsted-privacy-notice#maintained-schools-and-academies.

The contact details for Ofsted's Data Protection Officer are as follows.

Email:

informationrequest@ofsted.gov.uk

Post:

Information management team

Ofsted

2 Rivergate

Temple Quay

Bristol

BS1 6EH

I hope this letter answers your immediate questions about the inspection but if you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Linda Marriott

Inspection Support Administrator