

<b>Committee(s)</b>	<b>Dated:</b>
Board of Governors of the City of London Freeman's School	07/02/2019
<b>Subject:</b> Outreach and Partnerships Report	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Headmaster, City of London Freeman's School	<b>For Decision</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Kerri Martin, Outreach & Partnerships Officer.	

### Summary

This paper outlines:

- a) Current/on-going outreach activities;
- b) Charitable work engaged in by members of the school community;
- c) Ways in which the school has engaged with the local community;
- d) Other Outreach successes and developments;
- e) Potential for future collaborations/events currently being planned.

The full extent of the School's engagement with its local community and the needs of others both near and far goes beyond what has been described here; inevitably, this document cannot be exhaustive. For many, the principles of community responsibility established in school also lead to practical out-workings in personal time. This account aims to give a true sense of the breadth and sincerity of charitable and community engagement across the School.

### Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- 1. note the contents of this report;
- 2. give approval to send the summary report (**Appendix 1**) to The Education Board.

### Background

In 2008-9, the Board of Governors requested that the Headmaster provide an annual account of its charitable and outreach activities that could be considered as advancing 'public benefit'. Although the City of London Freeman's School is not a charity itself, and is therefore not bound by the 'public benefit' tests that apply to fee-paying schools which are, the Governors have rightly expressed a clear desire to monitor the School's public benefit, partnership and outreach activities, given the charitable origins and founding ethos of the School.

Freemen's continues to engage in worthwhile outreach opportunities and feels that it is important to encourage young people to be aware of their social responsibilities. The Headmaster continues to explore ways of engaging more fully with the City's

Education Strategy in the years ahead, not least in its relations with other City Schools and Academies.

Given the political climate both internally at Guildhall, locally and nationally, it is important for the Education Board to have full sight of the work that Freeman's – as an independent school – does to support both maintained schools and the local community, hence the necessarily comprehensive nature of this report.

An Outreach and Partnerships Officer has been in post (since June 2016) to formalise existing arrangements and initiate and sustain, where appropriate, new partnerships.

The school has a strong tradition of encouraging pupils in their service of others and of nurturing a sense of social responsibility duly reflecting the essence of the school's foundation to care for the orphans of Freeman of the City. Today, our charitable and community work is encouraged and inspired by our links with the livery companies and guilds, which themselves have many charitable concerns. The school is also very aware of its position and social responsibility within the village of Ashted, in Mole Valley, Leatherhead and Epsom, and engages with local schools and other partners to this end. As of September 2018, this engagement is being embedded and formalised within the Counterpoint (please see 48.) programme.

The Headmaster continues to be keen to support and maintain current activities, which complement the City's Education Strategy, but is also eager to develop new opportunities and links that might provide more opportunities for outreach and partnerships. In June 2016, the school, aided by the City HR Business Partner, appointed an Outreach and Partnerships Officer.

## **Main Report**

### **A. Current/on-going outreach activity**

1. Head of Boarding and Co-Curricular continues to work with support from the Outreach and Partnerships Officer to look at improving the established Enrichment programme in school and to develop the young leaders in our care.
2. For one afternoon each week (Thursday in Key Stage 2, Friday for all other Key Stages), pupils are engaged in complementary activities designed to enhance the social, physical and personal development of each individual pupil. A core component of this programme, which is particularly pertinent to outreach, is a range of activities under the banner of 'For Others'; Head of Boarding and Co-Curricular continues to use the school's mission 'To Learn, Lead and Make a difference' as our touchstone against which to shape the offering going forward.
3. The provision during the academic year 2017-18 included:

#### *Sixth Form:*

- Volunteering to support teaching staff in two local primary schools as classroom assistants;
- Helping at a local school for children with profound learning difficulties;
- Helping members of the Ashted Learning Difficulties Action Group (ALDAG) at their social events;

- Visiting residents at Griffin Court sheltered housing in Ashted.

*Senior School:*

- Hosting tea parties for local elderly residents;
- Preparing meals for the 'The Meeting Room' charity that provides meals for homeless people in the Ashted area;
- Planting out some of the saplings we have grown for the Woodland Trust at Langley Vale Wood;
- Collecting goods at Harvest for the Epsom and Ewell Food Bank;
- Helping the FSA prepare for the Christmas Fair.

*Junior School:*

- Visiting the residents at two local residential and nursing homes – The Red House and Walton Heath Manor;
- Making and writing Christmas cards for residents of Lime Tree Court Sheltered Housing;
- Planting out some of the saplings we have grown for the Woodland Trust at Langley Vale Wood (planted out about 600 saplings in total).

- Many pupils take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme, and are supported by members of staff who lead the children through the various requirements for the Awards. During the academic year 2017-18, 98 pupils completed their DofE awards: 64 Bronze; 29 Silver; 5 Gold. The requirements of the Award are divided into sections, one of which is Volunteering, described as being 'all about making a difference to other people's lives.' Pupils participated in all manner of projects in areas as diverse as conservation, fundraising and caring for animals, all within the local community.
- Head of Boarding and Co-Curricular and the Outreach and Partnerships Officer have set up a community leadership activity for students to encourage them to devise their own volunteering programme. It has resulted in twelve L6 students engaging with the elderly members of St George's Church, attending and hosting tables at their Evergreen tea parties in Autumn 2018. Going forward, in 2019 we are expecting the students to plan and run an event of their own with adult support.
- CCF:  
Yet another strong year for the contingent; initially recruiting 54 new cadets from both Freeman's (43) and Glyn (11). For the second year running we have retained all bar one (from Glyn) of the new recruits at the end of the first term. The previous cohort of new recruits, stayed the whole academic year, retaining 25 of them (19 Freeman's, 6 Glyn). The current strength of the unit is at 112 (82 Freeman's, 30 Glyn). Recruitment and retention of Glyn pupils is our greatest challenge - perhaps due to the fact that the CCF is not operating onsite at Glyn, so less visible to younger potential recruits. Equally, this can be applied to the CCF staff recruitment from Glyn. Our staff is still seeking a solution to this issue. Going forward, the contingent has plenty of exciting activities planned for the rest of the year, which will aid in promoting the unit in both schools.
- Drama:  
City Schools Concert: January 2018, the drama department has collaborated with the City to provide drama students to compere at this years City Schools Concert.

Two Upper 6 Pupils volunteered to present at this event which they enjoyed very much, attending the dress rehearsal and performance.

8. Carshalton Boys Partnership: The Director of Drama and another member of the department visited the school in working partnership to improve quality of work delivered and grades obtained at A level Drama. Both members of staff worked with a class of Year 13 Drama pupils, workshopping their scripted work and aiding the development of characterisation and overall understanding of the chosen text.
9. Our last GCSE Drama cohort was asked to perform and record their devised performance of 'What makes a terrorist?' to be used as training material for the Surrey Police Department, which was an excellent opportunity for pupils to promote and celebrate the successes of their work and experience involvement in an opportunity beyond Freeman's with a different – and very tangible - kind of partnership.
10. Leatherhead Festival: In May 2018 a group of 10 Upper 4 Drama pupils competed and performed at the Leatherhead festival. Pupils performed a devised version of *Persephone* in a stylistic, contemporary style which earned them first prize for the 'Best Junior Group (Sir Michael Caine Drama Award)' and our staff was awarded the 'Directors Award for Junior Production'
11. Shakespeare Schools Festival 2018: Alex Powell directed a cast of 21 Year 8 Drama pupils who performed their modern interpretation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. This year pupils performed at G Live, a larger venue than previously. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience and appreciated the opportunity to perform on a professional stage to a variety of staff, pupils and members of the public. The performance was a huge success.
12. Fourth Monkey Acting Company (workshop): Lower 6 and Upper 6 A Level Drama pupils from Freeman's and Rosebury School (cf Counterpoint, 48.) worked together for an intense three hour practical workshop exploring a range of physical theatre techniques and ensemble based work. This workshop was an excellent opportunity for pupils to transfer skills and knowledge and shape new work working with new people. Staff alike was also given the opportunity to discuss class work and share experiences in relation to the material approached in the workshop. Rosebury intends to organise a workshop this academic year and will collaborate with Freeman's at this event.
13. Art:  
Coping well for most of last academic year with an acting Head of Department, Freeman's Art teachers have continued to liaise with CoLA Southwark staff as the original 6th form groups develop their ideas and finalise their final coursework projects. An exhibition is being planned for the summer term at a City of London location to share good practice and celebrate our first joint schools collaboration.
14. Guildhall art exhibition for The Society of Heads' schools was set up and run by Outreach and Partnerships Officer and our Art department working alongside a fellow Society school in January 2018. Students' work from Years 12 and 13 was exhibited in the magnificent surroundings of Guildhall. A wide range of skills and techniques was included in the selection. Freeman's students were awarded first and second prizes for their textile entries.

15. When our Japanese sister school visited us, 23-28 March, the Art Department ran a screen-printing workshop for their students. The group watched a demonstration and then created their own prints using images of Main House and the school site. Our art teachers considered this to be a delightful opportunity to share good practice.
16. Science:

Biology: We have run (annual event) practice interview activities for potential medics from Reed's, St Andrew's, Freeman's and Therfield hosting 17 students in total to be interviewed by a range of industry professionals and our specialist staff. Our medical and vet applications advisor interviews on the panel for UCL – benefiting all students (including those from other schools – see above) to learn more about the medic interview process. Head of Biology retains contact with local HoDs from St John's, Wimbledon High, Ardingly, to share good practice in A level Biology teaching; she is an accredited trainer for Cambridge International Examinations benefiting teachers and students at schools both at home and abroad, especially useful for overseas schools who have limited access to training through The British Consulate. Science teachers have attended TeachMeets at Therfield sharing good practice.
17. Music:

March 2018 - Junior Chamber Music - performed at St Christopher's Music Festival  
Dec 2018 - Senior Brass performed at CHASE Hospice - community event
18. Modern Foreign Languages:

The links for GCE (not GCSE) orals stands as per last year. Our partner schools are Trinity in Croydon for German and Guildford High for French and Spanish. These relationships allow us to ensure that our pupils have an external rather than an internal assessor. We are confident that this is an advantage for them and certainly our results in the French A level oral (4 A\* grades) proved the evidence for this.
19. Last summer, the department forged a link with Manor House School which does not have a Sixth Form, with an admissions related view to enhancing our language numbers at A-level. In June last summer two assistants (French and Spanish) visited Manor House for the day to give the girls a taster of the "assistant experience" - fun and interactive sessions including some one-to-one time with each pupil too. At the end of the visit, Head of MFL was given the opportunity to make a presentation to the whole of their year 10 students about the Freeman's experience and to advertise our Open Evening in September. A similar event is planned for this forthcoming summer.
20. In addition to this engagement, our Spanish assistant visits Rosebery School (cf Counterpoint, 48.) once a week as a native speaker for one on one spoken Spanish practice – an experience that their girls do not ordinarily have.
21. Religion, Philosophy and Ethics:

Every - or every other - year we host a GCSE Philosophy Conference (with Dr Peter Vardy as Key note speaker) and invite in local schools. There was not a conference in 2017-8 but one is planned for March 2019. Professor AC Grayling was invited by our Outreach and Partnership Officer to speak at our Free Minds graduation where he engaged pupils (and staff) with a talk on the liberal arts; he also held a smaller symposium for our A level Philosophy students.

22. Sport:

Master i/c Rugby, ran a Rugby Sevens event with the Harlequins development staff for a variety of local state schools - Hinchley Wood; St Andrews; Therfield; Ashcombe; Blenheim - to train alongside our own students and receive not only some top class coaching but also enjoy a mini tournament on site at Freeman's.

23. Mathematics:

Ongoing work with Glyn and new work with Rosebery (please see 36.b.)

24. Food Technology:

Our Food Technology teacher is now a skills trainer on the pilot being run by Food a Fact of Life (part of the Nutrition Foundation). This is a major provider of courses, conferences and resources for food as a subject. She is also part of a team who will train teachers in higher-level practical skills in order to try and raise attainment across the board in GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition. The commitment is for two teaching days between April and July 2019; hopefully the pilot will then roll out nationally thereafter.

25. Model United Nations:

We held our first Model United Nations Conference at Freeman's in June working with Glyn to teach 25 of their Years 7 and 8s with 25 of our pupils about how MUN works.

26. Junior school:

All Year 2 pupils (usually 30 to 36 pupils) from St Giles' Infant School visit Freeman's three times a year for an hour's session during which the pupils are taught by Freeman's staff and, over the course of their three visits, carry out three different activities.

**B. Charitable work engaged in by members of the school community**

27. In addition to the charity work undertaken as part of the Enrichment programme, staff and pupils across the school continued to work hard to raise awareness of, and funds for, various charitable organisations. The Junior School pupils chose two charities to support: Group B Strep Support and The Humanimal Trust, and raised a total of just over £7,069, which was shared between these charities.

28. The Upper School raised just over £2,200 for Teddy20, supporting children with cancer.

29. The Sixth Form planned and led the annual whole school RAG (Raise Awareness and Give) week, which contributed to all of the school's chosen charities. The week saw a huge variety of activities including themed mufti days, and sales of various edible treats. In addition, the Sixth Form held a McMillan coffee morning (raising just over £140).

30. The whole school supported the national initiatives for Jeans for Genes and Children in Need, raising more than £1,550 between the two. Altogether, the charitable efforts of pupils and staff raised a significant sum of £10970.90 during the 2017-18 school year. It is worth noting that this total includes only the money

which is given via the school, and many members of the school community are involved with other charitable work, both locally and further afield.

31. Throughout the year there are many events, both locally and on a national or international scale, which offer further opportunities for pupils and staff to build an awareness of the needs of others and respond to those needs. As examples, the PE department organised a tennis tournament raising money for Save the Children, and the Freeman's School Association raised money for charities at their annual Christmas Fair and at their regular Friday afternoon "Teahouse". The whole school made a harvest collection of food and household items on behalf of the Epsom and Ewell Foodbank, and one member of staff participated in the City of London team at the London Marathon raising funds for The Lord Mayor's Appeal.

### **C. Ways in which the school has engaged with the local community**

32. We have been continuing to work with Leatherhead Youth Project (LYP supporting vulnerable children in North Leatherhead, one of the most socially deprived pockets of Surrey). We are now in a strong position of mutual trust here, and have been delighted to welcome one of their girls (with real need and strong academic ability, proven against personal adversity) into our sixth form from September 2018.
33. The Music Schools were used by St Christopher's pre-prep for a parents' event bringing in five local state primary schools.
34. The Burrows Nursery School continues to hold their Christmas nativity Concert in the Ferndale each December borne out of our Sixth Formers volunteering with them.
35. St. Martin's School Epsom and St Giles' Ashted use our new pool for junior swimming lessons (affording us the opportunity to help them to deliver a compulsory component of the national curriculum).
36. Members of staff also give of their time to the wider education community, with some holding positions on committees of organisations such as the Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS) and the Headmasters' & Headmistresses' Conference (HMC).
  - a) A number of staff hold governorships at other schools, and the Headmaster serves as a school inspector with the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI). The Headmaster has this year stepped down as Chair of the Society of Heads' Futures group in order to give career development opportunity to others, but continues to serve as a Committee Member of The Society of Heads; he also serves on the ISC Political Working Group and is a member of the ASCL Council on behalf of the SOH.
  - b) Ongoing work with Glyn (State school) helping five students to prepare for Maths entrance exams for top universities. Support at Rosebery School in line with Counterpoint (48.) aims – two maths teachers at Rosebery left suddenly owing to ill health and death, so Freeman's sent over two maths teachers in their free time to support year 11 pupils.
  - c) Sports' staff: one teacher helps out at a local state infant and junior school in a coaching role through a company called 'Girls' Attack' who offer netball and

team based activities for local state schools and holiday camps; another is lead coach for Surrey Rugby U16.

37. Every year, the City of London Freeman's School runs a Careers, Education and Gap Convention (CEG), giving pupils from the School and the local area the opportunity to discuss their future. The convention provides pupils and parents with a chance to talk to a wide range of professionals and representatives from educational establishments and from the workplace and discuss their future educational and career paths. Each year, the event proves highly successful and useful for pupils, parents, advisers and representatives. This year we invited 34 local schools both independent and state. From those who signed in, the following numbers from these schools attended:

Hinchley Wood School 6  
Howard of Effingham 22  
Rosebery School 5  
St Andrew's Catholic School 50  
St Bede's 2

38. Head of Sixth Form Careers has supported local state school pupils (Howard of Effingham) in offering mock Oxbridge interviews and has offered to roll this out across other local schools too. This is really valuable, and highly appreciated relevant outreach work that gives students access to our staff's particular expertise in this area where they otherwise might not receive such preparation.
39. We continue to review applications for private candidates to sit their public examinations at Freeman's as we have done for the last 10 years to develop relations (preferably in the community as most students are local). This year we only have 1 student (an ex-resident), a state primary school teacher wishing to gain a higher education to assist her work as a SEN LSA.
40. The school continues to enjoy close links with the local parish, making an annual financial contribution. In return, the school has continued to enjoy the use of St. Giles' Church building for weekly junior assemblies and occasional school services. There are mutually beneficial parking arrangements which benefit the school, especially since the loss of some parking with the new building programme, and benefit the church primarily for their Sunday services. The school grounds were made available to the parish for their annual church picnic, which saw several hundred people of all ages enjoy the sunshine on the field below Main House.
41. Students from Auriol School and Epsom Primary were brought to Freeman's for a visiting author event for KS2 students.

#### **D. Other Outreach successes and developments:**

42. The Royal National Springboard Children's Foundation full boarding, full bursary students are well embedded now. We have four Springboarders on our roll as of January 2019 and are looking to replace one year 13 student with two incoming year 12 students come September 2019 growing our number from four to five worthy students from disadvantaged backgrounds who will be benefiting from a Freeman's education.



43. We have continued our provision for a variety of bursary recipients within the school, in that they meet with the Outreach and Partnerships Officer in the first half of the Michaelmas Term and secondly with the Headmaster before or after Christmas. Their sponsors are then invited to meet with them in the Lent or Summer term.
44. Three additional students from City of London state schools have come to us on full bursaries this year – all in the boarding community and all benefiting from the experience greatly. The boy in year 9 actually came out with the highest score in our MIDYiS testing demonstrating just how apt a student he is for Freeman's.
45. We continue to work on strengthening our relationships with livery companies who donate to bursary funding. Previously they have been given little opportunity to engage with recipients, but, following loosely the model at Christ's hospital, we have begun to give the students and donor more ownership of a relationship which seems to be enjoyed by the liveries in particular.
46. Our graduate assistant programme continues to introduce young graduates to teaching; the Outreach and Partnerships Office makes sure that they also have opportunities to see state education in operation as part of their time with us.
47. We successfully welcomed our first student visitors from Miyagi in Japan in March 2018. Ten students not only learned much about our culture but also delivered sessions on Japanese culture to our KS3 students making this a genuine cultural exchange.
48. Counterpoint:  
One of the biggest changes in our approach to and strategy in Outreach and Partnerships has been to start up the Counterpoint Programme with Achievement for All. Not only does the programme give gravitas to partnerships with local state schools, it also enhances our offering for our own students. We are looking to track a cohort of year 9 children as we work on their resilience, grit, and awareness of their place and privilege in the world beyond Freeman's. To date, Rosebery School and Epsom Primary are officially working with us; Walton on the Hill primary is coming on board as this paper is presented; Therfield School is looking to join in September 2019 and we have a germ of interest from the Glyn Schools Foundation. As Freeman's is really the flagship independent school for this programme, we are directing time and commitment to this project and encouraging our staff to engage meaningfully with our new and existing partners for the good of our collective communities. Specific projects are being considered at SLT level alongside existing relationships with the schools involved.

#### **E. Potential for future collaborations/events - some currently being planned**

49. The Music department is planning to take the lead from the MFL Love Languages programme and run a choral day at Freeman's in Autumn 2019. Six or seven state schools will come in to join our students for individual choir performances with plans for a mass choir of up to 100 children as a finale. Counterpoint primary schools will be invited.
50. Plans are underway for Freeman's staff to run a return trip to Japan in the next couple of years – a new business and economics teacher has been identified as a possible trip leader as he has experience of Japan and is keen to engage.

51. The new Director of Sport is keen to engage with the wider community bringing students in from local primaries for some specialist sports events and connecting with Counterpoint partners for longer-term programmes to encourage girls' football at Freeman's and hockey at Rosebery.
52. In Enrichment we plan to reconnect with Lime Tree Court Sheltered Housing in 2019. This will be part of the KS2 Enrichment on Thursday afternoons. We also hope to be able to invite some local primary schools in to watch some KS2 drama productions.
53. Boarding:  
We are weighing up ways in which to work with LYP in some of their evening activities, inviting them in to student led homework clubs or sending staff to help them onsite from time to time.

## **Appendices**

**Appendix 1:** Summary Report of Outreach Activity from Headmaster to be sent if approved to The Education Committee.

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