

Appendix 2: City of London Freeman's School – Outreach and Partnerships Report

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 significantly beyond what can be outlined in a two-page report; inevitably, this document cannot be exhaustive.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

1. note the contents of this report.

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.

An Outreach and Partnerships Officer (in post since June 2016) works 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 8.) programme.

Main Report

A. Current/on-going outreach activity

1. 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 Ashtead Learning Difficulties Action Group (ALDAG) at their social events
- Visiting residents at Griffin Court sheltered housing in Ashtead

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 Ashtead 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).

2. Furthermore, many pupils take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme; the School has set up a community leadership activity for students to encourage them to devise their own volunteering programme; 11 students from Glyn Academy are in the CCF; the drama department has collaborated to support the City Schools' Concert, has supported Carshalton Boys' School teachers, has provided training materials for Surrey Police Department and has performed at the Shakespeare Schools' Festival; Lower 6 and Upper 6 A Level Drama pupils from Freeman's and Rosebury School (cf Counterpoint, 10.) worked together in an intense three hour practical workshop; 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 art exhibition in Guildhall 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; 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; science teachers have attended TeachMeets at Therfield sharing good practice; Junior Chamber musicians performed at St Christopher's Music Festival and Senior Brass performed at CHASE hospice; the Modern Foreign Languages Department has supported Manor House School and Rosebery School (through Counterpoint) with initiatives involving our language assistants; Jon Moore, 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; the Mathematics department has supported teaching in Glyn Academy and Rosebery (Counterpoint); we held our first Model United Nations Conference

at Freeman's in June working with Glyn Academy - 25 Years 7 and 8s from each school learning how MUN works; 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 being taught by Freeman's staff.

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

3. 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. 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.

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

4. 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); the Music Schools were used by St Christopher's pre-prep for a parents' event bringing in five local state primary schools; 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; 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); the Maths department continues to work with Glyn Academy helping students to prepare for Maths entrance exams for top universities (resulting in one confirmed Oxford place) and has begun to support Rosebery School - in line with Counterpoint aims – providing maths teachers in their free time to support year 11 pupils when Rosebery suddenly lost two teachers owing to ill health and death; one games teacher helps out at a local state infant and junior school in a coaching role through 'Girls' Attack' a provider of netball and team based activities and holiday camps for local state schools, and another is lead coach for Surrey Rugby U16.
5. 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 access our visiting exhibitors. This year we invited 34 local schools both independent and state and over 80 state school pupils attended; the careers department has supported local state school pupils in offering mock Oxbridge interviews.
6. 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.

D. Other Outreach successes and developments:

7. 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 our outgoing year 13 student with two incoming year 12 students come September 2019; three additional students from

City of London state schools have come to us on full bursaries this year; we continue to work on strengthening our relationships with livery companies who donate to bursary funding; our graduate assistant programme continues to introduce young graduates to teaching; we successfully welcomed our first student visitors from Miyagi, Japan in March 2018.

8. 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.

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

9. The Music department is planning to take the lead from the MFL Love Languages programme and run a choral day at Freemen's in Autumn 2019; plans are underway for Freemen's staff to run a return trip to Japan in the next couple of years; 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 sharing coaches and facilities; in Enrichment we plan to reconnect with Lime Tree Court Sheltered Housing in 2019; in 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: None

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