

APPENDIX A

As a way of strengthening the ties between the Academy and the City of London, Sir David Wootton, on behalf of the Freedom Application Committee, would like to extend the Freedom of the City to 4 of your senior students.

The Freedom is an ancient custom dating back to the thirteenth century which the City of London is very proud of and we are keen to maintain it as a living tradition. Despite it being largely symbolic today it still represents a unique slice of London history. It is a vibrant institution which may be an Honorary Freeman like Professor Stephen Hawking or a member of one of the 110 Livery Companies of the City of London or someone who lives or works in the City.

The Freedom for your students would be a special affair as they are to be *invited* to receive the Freedom rather than applying for it. The Chamberlain of London would conduct the ceremony in person and the pupils selected can invite family or friends to attend. Sadly it is no longer a privilege to take sheep over London Bridge but the experience will be a memorable one and away of marking their achievements at the Academy. At a later date we plan to hold a reception for all the recipients from our various Schools and Academies.

As to how you select the candidates this is up to you. It might be that the Head Boy or Head Girl be put forward; it may be the pupils who achieved the highest grades in their A-levels; or a pupil who has contributed to the life in another way through sporting endeavour or charitable work or you might hold an essay writing competition with the Freedom being the prize for the pupil who writes the best essay. The choice is yours.

The only proviso is that the candidates must be 18 and above and of good character.

Murray Craig, the Clerk of the Chamberlain's Court (murray.craig@cityoflondon.gov.uk or 020 7332 3055) will guide you regarding the process and answer any questions you may subsequently have.