

Appendix 3: City of London School – Outreach and Partnerships Report

Summary

City of London School (CLS) sees its partnerships with other educational institutions as central to its values and ethos. Through effective partnership, the School can broaden its perspective and learn from excellent practice elsewhere; it can play its part within the broader Corporation, city and society of which it is part; and it can enrich both the educational experience of the pupils, and the professional experience of staff.

This report provides a brief summary and flavour of the partnership and outreach work that has been undertaken (or facilitated) by the School over the last academic year. It should be noted that, in addition to the work that is referenced in this report, very many CLS pupils are engaged in further community-based work within their local communities. Since the continued development of this work is at the heart of the School's Strategic Plan for the coming years, the final section of the report provides a brief summary of the areas for further development over the coming year.

Recommendation(s)

Governors are asked to note the report.

Main Report

Partnership and Outreach Work involving CLS Pupils

In much of CLS's partnership work, CLS pupils benefit from the opportunity to work with other young people and institutions.

- The pupils' annual Charity Appeal continues to be at the very heart of School life. The pupils vote for the charity that they wish to support, and the entire community then works together, through a very wide range of activities and initiatives, to raise funds for that charity over the academic year. In September 2018, the School presented a cheque for over £84,000 to **AmRef Health Africa** (<https://amref.org>): these funds had been raised through the 2017-18 academic year, and the total was a record for the School. Later in the Autumn Term, the pupils elected to support **Tiny Tickers** (www.tinytickers.org) for 2018-19, a small charity that seeks to improve the early detection and care of babies with serious heart conditions. Charitable endeavours through the current year have included the Spring Soiree, the Sponsored Walk and the Sponsored Row, alongside an ongoing programme of mufti days, cake sales, busking and much more besides. The Head is undertaking a sponsored sky-dive in June 2019 as part of the appeal!
- The School continues its engagement with **IntoUniversity** (<https://intouniversity.org>), an organisation that seeks to prepare young people from disadvantaged backgrounds for progression to tertiary education. Boys have, over the course of this year, volunteered for over 150 hours, and this is further enhanced by staff support. Over the Easter holiday, five staff

volunteered to provide targeted academic support in preparation for upcoming public examinations.

- The School continues its engagement with **Project Rousseau** (www.projectrousseau.org), an organisation that seeks to prepare young people from disadvantaged backgrounds in the USA for progression to tertiary education. CLS pupils once again hosted Project Rousseau pupils during their visit to London in January 2019, with the Annual Dinner hosted at CLS on 17th January 2019. CLS pupils will be travelling to the USA in October 2019, to support the organisation's work in New York.
- The School is developing a new and exciting link with the **City of London Corporation's Virtual School**, which provides an education for young people who have arrived in the City of London, seeking asylum from unstable conditions in their home country. The School has developed a ten-week programme of activities for pupils in the Virtual School, which will include opportunities in Art, Drama, Science, DT, Sport and reading. CLS pupils in Year 12 will support this programme, which will be overseen on a voluntary basis by CLS staff. The programme is running for the first time through the Summer Term 2019, though it is hoped that it can be repeated for new cohorts of Virtual School pupils through the 2019-20 academic year.
- The **Salmon Centre** is an institution in South London that provides both the young and the elderly in the community with facilities, contacts and events that help to enrich their lives. The School has a long-standing relationship with the Centre, and the current Chairman is the parent of a CLS pupil. Pupils from CLS help with events at the Salmon Centre on a weekly basis, including football, music recitals and even historical re-enactments!
- On a weekly basis, a group of pupils undertakes voluntary work at the **Maggie Cancer Care Centre** at St. Bart's. Primarily, this involves the co-ordination of activities with a musical focus.
- The **Medical Society** organised and hosted a Medical Conference for over 100 Year 12 pupils from across London (primarily aimed at supporting subsequent applications to university), with free places provided to pupils from City of London Corporation academies. Newham Collegiate was particularly well represented at the Conference itself.
- The work of the **Community Service Organisation** continues to make a significant impact on the local community. 35 pupils in Year 10 devote 60 hours each over the year, setting up their own community projects, which include working with local places of worship, giving chess lessons at a local centre for the elderly, working with asylum seekers, or working with local charitable organisations. A further 12 pupils in Year 10 are Youth Ambassadors for Transport for London, working with a range of school communities to raise awareness of safe travel amongst young people. A further 12 pupils in Year 10 are part of the Green Schools' Project, a social action group that seeks to implement ways of increasing environmental awareness and green operations at CLS.

- 115 pupils at CLS take part in the **Duke of Edinburgh Programme**, and contribute to the wider community as part of the service aspect of the course. This work includes coaching at local sports clubs, helping out at local libraries, working in local charity shops, helping at local churches, and contributing as part of the IntoUniversity programme.

The School is also seeking to increase the range of activities that are undertaken in partnership with the City of London School for Girls. Alongside long-standing partnership work in music and drama in particular, over 60 pupils from CLSG are now coming to CLS on a weekly basis as part of the School's CCF Contingent, and they are also participating in camps and all other training activities. This year's IGEN Project is also drawing pupils together from both CLS and CLSG.

Partnership and Outreach Engagement by CLS Staff

All of the activities outlined above see staff from CLS working with pupils. In addition, CLS staff are involved in the following projects.

- The School's link with **Bentworth Ark Academy** continues: a member of the School's SMT sits on the Academy's Board of Governors, and takes responsibility for Board oversight of teaching and learning. A member of School staff provides sessions to introduce pupils in the Academy to debating, and then invites Year 6 pupils to CLS in the Summer Term, to enrich their education in Science.
- The School continues to offer and provide practice interviews for applicants to the universities of Oxford and Cambridge from other Schools. In addition, pupils from the City of London academies were invited to participate in the School's programme of mock interviews for medical applicants, and pupils from Newham Collegiate attended the School's US Universities' Forum. The member of staff at the School who supports applications to US universities has offered to act as a consultant for Newham Collegiate, to support their work in this area.
- The School's Head of Senior Debating hosted a debating workshop in February 2019, delivered by the English Speaking Union, in which teams of pupils from most of the City of London Family took part.
- The Head of Economics runs the Fundamentals of Financial Services Course every summer, and five City schools have once again been invited to participate.
- The School Librarian sits on the National Committee of the School Libraries' Group, representing School Librarians from all types of school. He recently hosted a Regional Training Day at the School, and last year hosted the inaugural meeting for School Librarians from all of the City of London Corporation's schools. All City of London schools are also invited to bring pupils to our regular Author Events.

- The School is increasingly seen as a vanguard in the promotion of LGBT+ equality. The Deputy Head (Pastoral) and Head of Sixth Form have been invited to advise and support other schools as they set up LGBT+ societies, and CLS has hosted and visited other schools to meet with teachers and pupils, offering further advice and support.

These activities sit alongside a range of others: staff serve as governors at local schools; staff provide support to schools in the areas of learning support, safeguarding, reading and curriculum development.

CLS Premises

CLS is also delighted, wherever possible, to make its premises available to support educational and charitable initiatives in the local community.

Most significantly, the School is proud to be the home for the **London Youth Choir** (www.londonyouthchoir.com). This Choir (which, in fact, runs five separate choirs for young people of different ages and experience) seeks to bring music to children from across London, who might not otherwise have that opportunity. This sees over 250 young people from across London coming to CLS each Monday; the Choir is progressing towards a membership of 300. Each week, the Choir rehearses at CLS, and the School has hosted the Choir's concerts in July 2018 and October 2018, and will do so again in July 2019. In March 2019, the Choir participated in a joint concert with pupils from CLS.

Beyond this, CLS's premises have been used for the following over the last academic year:

- The Samaritans (whose international headquarters are adjacent to the School) used the School site for their summer party, and will use the School for its annual national conference in July 2019.
- 40 tickets were provided free of charge to staff from the City Schools to CLS's conference on Creativity and Innovation in Education (October 2018).
- St. Paul's Cathedral School uses the CLS swimming pool on a weekly basis for swimming lessons for its own pupils.
- The choristers from the Temple Church use the premises for football each Sunday, and the Temple Church Conference was hosted at CLS in January 2019.
- In June 2018, CLS hosted a national event for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, with 180 delegates in attendance.
- The Physics Partners' Charity holds meetings at CLS each term: the charity trains Physics teachers across Africa.

Developments for 2019-20

Over this academic year, the School's partnership work has been overseen by the Assistant Head (Head of Sixth Form). From September 2019, following a reallocation of roles on the Senior Management Team, this work will be undertaken by the Senior Deputy Head and the Deputy Head (Co-Curricular and Operations).

Whilst sustaining the projects outlined above, a major strategic aim for the School is to develop its partnership work over the coming five years: it is a central theme in the new Strategic Plan for the School. As this work is undertaken, the School will seek to do the following: quantify the value of its work with increasing rigour, so as to dedicate resources to activities where it can have the most positive impact (and, in so doing, demonstrate ever more clearly the public benefit of the School's work); ensure that the School's curriculum provides the scope for all pupils to benefit from the School's partnerships; work with the Education team at the City of London Corporation to ensure that it continues to contribute fully to the City of London's Education Strategy; and ensure that the operational infrastructure within the School provides the basis for delivering the School's medium-term aims in the areas of partnership and outreach.