City of London School

Working in Partnership

2021

Our partnerships in numbers

£84,601 raised for charity Switchback in 2021 by the pupil-led Charity Appeal.

90% of pupils actively involved in raising money for the Charity Appeal.

Over 6,000 hours voluntary service invested by pupils in 2021.

300+ pupils actively involved each week in community service projects.

300+ pupils from London schools visiting CLS each week through partnership relationships.

60+ pupils in the Junior Sixth Form volunteering for IntoUniversity.

65 pupils attend CLS who receive a full-fees meanstested bursary.

81 pupils receive a meanstested bursary covering a portion of their fees.

Our economic impact

£TBC

Total fee-remission assistance to families of CLS pupils.

£TBC

Total savings to UK taxpayers as a result of pupils attending CLS.

£TBC

Total UK tax contributed by CLS and its supply chain.

£TBC

Total amount of UK tax supported by CLS activities.

£TBC

Total sum contributed to UK GDP.

£TBC

Total sum contributed to City of London GDP.

TBC jobs

supported by the CLS supply chain.

£TBC

Value of the external use of our facilities by charitable organisations.

Source: ISC Economic Impact Assessment Tool



Foreword

In another year of disruption to education and society, I am delighted to be able to share with you the Partnership Report for City of London School for 2021. The pandemic notwithstanding, our partnership work continues to go from strength to strength, aligning ever more clearly with our ethos, and preparing our pupils to go out into the world as kind, aware and ready individuals.

Over the past year, we have particularly developed our relationships with the City of London Family of Schools, co-ordinating – in conjunction with City of London School for Girls – a termly Partnership Forum. We see enormous value in collaboration and the sharing of best practice across our community of teachers and learners: the benefits of this have been seen in, amongst other areas, music, careers, sustainability, numeracy and literacy.

More widely, this report will give you a flavour of our partnership work with a range of broader organisations, including IntoUniversity and Eastside Young Leaders' Academy, who we are so pleased be able to welcome to our site on a weekly basis from September 2021. It is a source of great pride that our relationship with IntoUniversity was recently recognised in a national ISC report as an example of valuable partnership.

I hope that you enjoy the contents of this report. Should you have any questions, or any thoughts as to how our work in this essential area can develop in the years to come, please do not hesitate to contact our Director of Partnership, Laura Hynes. She would be delighted to hear from you.

Alan Bird

Head

City of London Family of Schools

The City of London Corporation has one maintained primary school, eight sponsored academies as part of the City of London Academies Trust, and two co-sponsored academies in neighbouring boroughs. It also supports three independent schools. In its pursuit of educational excellence, the City of London Corporation has drawn these schools together, collectively known as the City of London Family of Schools. These schools are engaged in establishing and sharing a collective ethos based on what will be known as the 'Foundations of the City Schools'.

The City of London Family of Schools include:

- The Aldgate School (formerly Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School)
- Galleywall Primary, City of London Academy
- Redriff Primary,
 City of London Academy
- City of London Primary Academy, Islington
- City of London Academy, Southwark
- City of London Academy, Highgate Hill
- City of London Academy, Highbury Grove

- Newham Collegiate Sixth Form, City of London Academy
- The City Academy, Hackney
- The City of London Academy, Islington
- City of London School
- City of London School for Girls
- City of London
 Freemen's School
- The Guildhall School of Music & Drama

"A key feature of the City of London Family of Schools has been the way they work in partnership and collaboration activity. This is with each other, and with the many businesses and the range of world-leading cultural institutions in and around the City. These partnerships include both formal and informal programmes and involve schools of different phases and types working together. The impact evidence points to partnership working as being a case of 'all good things go together'. There are strong positive consequences of inter-school collaboration for everyone involved. Partnerships help the pupils, teachers, and school leadership. They improve morale and commitment of all involved and can lead to innovations in ways of working."

> Professor Anne Bamford, OBE Strategic Director of Education and Culture City of London Corporation







The Partnership Forum

In September 2020, City of London Schoo (CLS) and City of London School for Girls (CLSG) launched the City of London Partnership Forum to bring together colleagues from across the Family of Schools in termly meetings.

These meetings allow for partnership opportunities to be shared and requested and also ensure that our partnership work is responsive, meaningful and relevant.

We are delighted that the Partnership Forum is now in its second year and are proud of the pioneering and exciting work achieved through this termly discussion of needs and opportunities. The Partnership Forum aims to be a mechanism to enable pupils and staff to learn from and collaborate with each other across the diverse and impressive range of school contexts which form the Family of Schools

This year we have collaborated with the Family of Schools in the following ways:

- » Significant support for pupils attending Newham Collegiate Sixth Form Centre and COLA Southwark, who are applying to North American universities.
- » Individual interview support and guidance for pupils aspiring to Oxbridge and medical schools for pupils from the Family of Schools.
- » Higher Education and careers events attended by pupils from across the Family of Schools.
- » Linklaters Careers Webinar attended by 120 pupils.
- » Subject networking at Key Stage 2 in Geography focusing on curriculum, assessment and the sharing of best practice
- » Extensive work with Redriff Primary School and The Aldgate School, which included Mandarin teaching, virtual reading clubs and resource generation.
- » The Head Librarian at CLS has worked with a range of schools to promote and celebrate reading.
- » Launching seasonal art and music workshops for the Family of Schools, led by the Director of Music at CLS.
- » Mock COP climate conference, attended by 50 pupils from the Family of Schools.

CASE STUDY

Linklaters

Linklaters

Following the success of our Communications Webinar in partnership with Linklaters in Autumn 2020, in January 2021 we were fortunate to be joined by five early career lawyers and a senior recruiter who talked about their routes into law. The panel of expert speakers gave invaluable advice about preparing for applications to careers in the city.

We are delighted that 11 schools participated with 129 individual participants. The high level of engagement from attendees, and the range of the 69 questions asked, was testament to the value with which our pupils viewed the event. We look forward to continuing our partnership with Linklaters to enable pupils from across the Family of Schools to benefit from their insight and expertise.

11 schools

129 participants

69 questions posed

"At the webinar it was interesting to hear from lots of different people about their experiences, and it was comforting to know that they did not have a clear plan about which career they aspired to, and that there are so many opportunities to try different paths."

Participating pupil



CASE STUDY

Maths Partnership Forum

We are proud to have been closely involved with the launch of the City of London Family of Schools Maths Partnership Forum, enabling the close collaboration of colleagues from across the Family of Schools with a focus on curriculum and leadership in Maths. This group enables Cross-Phase as well as primary and secondary-specific

dialogue to take place, facilitating a rich exchange of ideas, led by Caroline Sharp (Assistant Headteacher, Redriff Primary School). We look forward to hosting future sessions of the Maths Partnership Forum and are excited by the potential for teacher partnership work in this core area of the curriculum.

CASE STUDY

Mock COP Climate Conference

In November, CLS and CLSG organised a Mock COP for nearly 50 pupils from the Family of Schools, including COLA Highbury Grove, COLA Southwark and Newham Colllegiate Sixth Form Centre.

The Mock COP was arranged to help pupils gain a better understanding of the challenges that many countries have with becoming more ecologically viable. The event began with a presentation from the Chief Climate Officer of the City of London Corporation, which detailed the City's climate action plan, including the target of net-zero emissions by 2040, 10 years ahead of the official UK Government schedule

Participants were allocated a country and tasks included preparing and giving headline statements to the whole conference, debating key issues raised in the headline statements and voting on resolutions proposed after further discussions in groups.

The engagement of the pupils was fabulous, and they left with a powerful message from the organisers: 'Find your voice and discover your power'.





"The pupils had a wonderful time and got a great deal from this experience thanks very much for organising it"

> James Bounds Newham Collegiate Sixth Form Centre

"It helped me, and other pupils, understand the perspectives of different countries and their national interests with regard to tackling climate change"

Roman
Pupil at City of London School



Charity Appeal

The values of social responsibility and individual contribution to the lives of others are priorities which are fundamental to our pupils and to our staff at CLS. Our annual Charity Appeal is testament to this valued aspect of school

Total raised since Sept 2019
£84,601
SWITCHBACK

life and this year, pupils continued to support Switchback which conducts important and inspiring work supporting young offenders to alter course and change their role in and relationship with society after prison.



The Charity Committee

The annual Charity Appeal is run entirely by the a committee of Junior Sixth (Year 12) pupils, who plan and deliver a range of initiatives and events. The Committee also works hard to ensure the democratically chosen charity's message is shared with the School community. We were delighted to welcome in, on a number of occasions, representatives from Switchback to talk about the brilliant work they do.









We are proud of our fundraising efforts in recent years:



2016-17

£78,079



2017-18

£84,062



2018-19

£69,232

Fundraising

In what was a challenging year for fundraising, pupils demonstrated great agility in their efforts to raise money. During the Lockdown, online quizzes, online auctions, and virtual Cit-Ed lectures proved popular, as did a Q&A with Alison Dawnay (CEO of Switchback). There was great relief that 'normal' events such as the Sponsored Walk and the Sponsored Row were possible.

Contribution of Staff

CLS staff make a significant contribution to the Charity Appeal both supporting the pupils in their fundraising endeavours, but also undertaking their own challenges to support the cause. For example, Mr Bracken (Head of History and Politics) ran the London Marathon raising in excess of £2,000





Switchback is proud to be a partner of CLS. We are blown away by the enthusiasm of staff and pupils through every layer of the School to truly engage with our work. CLS understands the value of raising funds for Switchback as an independent charity, but beyond that there is a real consideration of the shared humanity of young Londoners forging their way in the world. Humanity and generosity shine through our relationship with CLS from educational assemblies to sharing of facilities and inventive lockdown fundraising. We really hope to continue our relationship in the long-term so that together, we can help more young Londoners build stable, rewarding lives they can be proud of.

Alison Dawnay
Founder and CEO, Switchback

Community Service and Volunteering

A significant part of a CLS education is contribution to our local community via the Community Service Organisation, volunteering as part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and through our partnerships with external organisations and other schools.

We are a licensed provider of the **Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme** and last year over
200 pupils completed their Gold, Silver or Bronze
Award. The awards require them to undertake and
complete extensive volunteering. This amounts to
approximately **4,000** hours of volunteering.

As part of the **Community Service Organisation**, pupils in the Fourth Form (Year 10) participated in a wide range of service activities, each volunteering for **60 hours** across the academic year. Activities

vary and included tennis, football and cricket coaching; volunteering at local libraries, churches and temples; fundraising for a charities, working at City Farms, food banks, Parkrun UK, Sacroma and Teach First.

Pupils also made a significant contribution to organisations with whom CLS have developed relationships. This includes the Salmon Youth Centre, Maggie's Cancer Centre, Redriff Primary School and The Aldgate School.

In 2021, the number of combined hours of voluntary service invested by the pupils in CSO and Duke of Edinburgh was over **5,700 hours**.

Salmon Youth Centre

Our relationship with the Salmon Youth Centre in Bermondsey is longstanding and highly valued. The centre has been supporting young people in inner-city London for over a hundred years, seeking to inspire young people to reach their potential and contribute positively to their local communities. In 2021, 14 pupils volunteered at the Salmon Youth Centre as part of the CSO programme. They supported others in a variety of ways including helping with art clubs, football training sessions, tennis sessions, music and drama as well as homework clubs.



Everyone's home of cancer care

Maggie's Cancer Centre

Our partnership with Maggie's Cancer Centre at Barts Hospital continues to flourish. Located on the grounds of NHS cancer hospitals, Maggie's Centres provide free cancer support and information to people with cancer and their family and friends, following the ideas of cancer care originally laid out by Maggie Keswick Jones. Every year, pupils work with the Maggie's team to raise awareness about the organisation, support fundraising and procure corporate support.

"Despite the coronavirus pandemic CLS have been outstanding with their volunteering for Maggie's Barts. Over the year we have worked virtually together, and every pupil gave their all to each task and produced amazing results! From researching tasks in the local community to creative tasks such as creating a book of positivity and design. With their support we have been able to spread the word of Maggie's and the work we do to support those with cancer and the ones they love. As well as supporting our fundraising with the raffle prizes and collection tins!"

"It has been amazing to have this year with the pupils and is a real credit to them for all of their continued hard work. I'd like to say a huge thank you to each of them for helping us here at Maggie's Barts and ultimately supporting those with cancer and their friends and family."

Vanessa Trippick

Fundraising Organiser, Maggie's Cancer Centre



Redriff Primary School

We are delighted to have developed a new relationship with Redriff Primary School

this year. CLS pupils visit the school once a week to support their after-school provision. They are involved in the setting up and running Mandarin, French and Sports Clubs. Pupils have also developed a range of podcasts to develop virtual dialogues with their Mandarin learners.



The Aldgate School

Our relationship with The Aldgate
School continues to evolve and CLS
pupils have been acting as Reading
Mentors. In this role, pupils regularly
meet (virtually) with Year 4-6 pupils to read. Mentors take
turns along with the pupils to read, while also sharing
their experiences of books to celebrate the importance of
reading with younger pupils. Alongside this, other pupils
have been working in a Learning Resources Content
Creating team to design curriculum aligned pre-recorded
media and resources which the class primary teachers can
integrate into their lessons. We are also delighted that
CLS volunteers are now visiting The Aldgate School to
assist with their Early Morning Support Groups.



"My reading buddy is called Thomas. He is very funny and imaginative, reads well and (I like to think!) we get on really well, though he is in slight awe of somebody who has lived a whole 14 years! Maybe my favourite bit of our weekly sessions is the voices. Occasionally a torment, but mostly pure comedy, in an inspired act of teacher-ism, for Thomas's first piece of homework, I gave him the task of coming up with voices for the various characters."

"Through the reading sessions, I feel I am learning skills in how to deal with younger children, though I do occasionally hear myself and worry how I am slowly metamorphosising into a teacher ("Come on Thomas, we're nearly there, just 5 minutes left, keep focussed" or "I know it's a big page, but you can do it, you've done longer pages before"). I am having a lot of fun with the sessions, whilst simultaneously, feeling the mental health benefits of helping others out."

Rupert, Year 10
Reading Mentor for Aldgate School

CASE STUDY

Volunteering, Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

Two Third Form pupils (Year 9), as part of the Volunteering section of their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award, undertook a quite remarkable project. They decided to undertake the task of sourcing books for and a new library at the City of London Primary Academy Islington (COLPAI). They reached out to the CLS and their local community to collect thousands of books and also raised over £3,000 to fund gaps in essential literature and furniture for the library. They then devised a cataloguing system for the books and arranged for delivery and distribution at the new COLPAI site.

We were delighted that these pupils were invited as guests of honour to for the opening ceremony and they have written a detailed planning document to help inspire and guide other pupils wishing to do something similar.



More praise for our pupils...

'Joseph provided essential support for the fundraising team, collating fundraising packs and doing mailings at what was an incredibly busy time for the organisation. Not only did Joseph play a vital role in helping the organization to its best every fundraising year, but he was an essential member of the team that was shortlisted for a Third Sector Excellence Award (Fundraising Team of the Year). We would love to have Joseph volunteer with us again in the future.'

Sacroma

"It was fantastic to have Noah join the Team. He clearly understood the instructions he was given and completed all the tasks in time and to a very high standard. He demonstrated confidence and worked extremely well in a team"

Teach First

Partnerships

We are delighted, despite the particular challenges that 2021 has provided, to have both maintained existing partnerships and developed new ones. The return to 'normality' has helped extend the opportunities available.

IntoUniversity

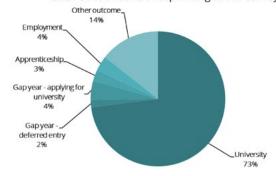
We are proud to continue our partnership with IntoUniversity, which is an organisation which provides local learning centres where young people are inspired to achieve. At these centres, IntoUniversity offers an innovative programme that supports students from disadvantaged backgrounds to attain either a university place or another chosen aspiration. They began in 2002 as a homework club in North Kensington, but now operating over 30 learning centres and projects. Alongside the significant financial support CLS provides for their North Islington Centre, our pupils normally volunteer at IntoUniversity centres, providing academic mentoring for GCSE aged students.

Since 2017, **200 pupils** from CLS have volunteered for IntoUniversity.

In 2021, **60 Junior Sixth Form pupils** (Year 12) volunteered to create digital content or mentor in IntoUniversity centres.



Destinations of IntoUniversity North Islington 2021 school leavers responding to our survey



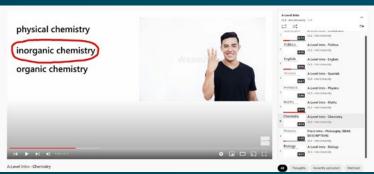
| | | Area | H.E. progression rate | Percentage point difference for Into University students |
|-----------|---|--|-----------------------------|--|
| Benchmark | IntoUniversity North Islington | | 75% | n/a |
| | Estimated % of all FSM maintained school pupils who entered H.E. by age 19 (2019/20)* | Islington | 44% | 31 pp |
| | | England | 27% | 48 pp |
| | Estimated % of all maintained school pupils (FSM and non-FSM) who entered H.E. by age 19 (2019/20)* | Islington | 52% | 23 pp |
| | | England | 43% | 32 pp |
| | Estimated % of all disadvantaged students studying A-Level or equivalent progressing to H.E. (2019/20)* | Islington | 64% | 11pp |
| | | England | 46% | 29 pp |
| | Estimated % of all (disadvantaged and all other) students studying | Islington | 64% | 11 pp |
| | A-Level or equivalent progressing to H.E. (2019/20)* | England | 49% | 26 pp |
| | % 18 year olds who entered H.E./F.E. based on POLAR 4 (2009- 2015)* | U.K. | 37% | 38 pp |
| | | Islington | 47% | 28 pp |
| | | Local area ('MSOA')** around the North Islington centre | 39% | 36 pp |

"I have been hugely impressed with the professionalism and enthusiasm of our Junior Sixth contributors. They have shown creativity, teamwork and dedication to achieve what they have achieved. I loved the personality and good humour they brought to their videos. It has been great to see different pupils in different roles develop a range of skills and learning from the process. It is wonderful to work at a school where a quarter of the Junior Sixth Form have committed a huge amount of time towards

supporting an organisation whose aims fit so well with the inclusive, egalitarian, and empowering ethos of CLS. By participating in this the pupils are more aware of the realities for many young people in London, have shown kindness by giving their talents to the benefit of others, and through their experiences of using technology collaboratively, are more ready to make a positive impact in the future."

James Innes, Head of Geography and Project Coordinator, CLS





Digital Content Creation

For much of 2021, the pandemic prevented these face-to-face interactions, so a group of 40 committed Junior Sixth formers produced a selection of educational videos on a range of topics. These included core subjects such as Maths, Biology, Chemistry and Physics as well as additional content including 'Picking Your A-Levels' and 'Revision Strategies'. These were trialled in the North London Centre and then shared across the whole IntoUniversity network.

Although teaching staff provided some oversight, the resources were entirely conceptually designed and produced by CLS pupils drawing on their expertise and their own experience of GCSEs.

The Future

A new cohort of over 60 Junior Sixth
Formers have just begun volunteering with
IntoUniversity. Many of these will be engaged
in face-to-face mentoring at learning centres
across London; others will continue with digital
content creation. We are delighted that pupils
from CLSG will also be joining this project.

"I remember struggling to grasp different scientific concepts when I was revising so I tried to incorporate my own understanding of the subject into the videos I made. I hope our content will greatly help and students revising for their own exams"

Alex
Junior Sixth Form, CLS

"I would firstly like to thank all of the pupils involved in making the videos. They were clear, informative, and helped our students through some notoriously difficult topics. The videos on probability were particularly useful and helped a number of our students feel more confident ahead of their mock exams."

"The videos have allowed us to support our students across a broader range of subjects and have become an important tool for their independent learning. We will now be sharing the videos across our national network of 34 centres and I am sure that they will be an invaluable resource for many students"

Liam ???
Secondary FOCUS Coordinator,
IntoUniversity

"I am delighted to be able to thank CLS for their support of IntoUniversity. Our work is only made possible by the generous support and investment from our partners. It has been an exceptional year for the charity, and for our university and school partners, as we have all responded to the ongoing challenges of COVID-19 and its impact, in particularly on students from the most disadvantage background.

It has been vital for us all to work together to support our students in navigating this difficult time. The many years of collaboration between our charity and CLS played a crucial role in enabling us provide such effective and transformative learning opportunities to our students."

Dr Rachel Carr OBE Chief Executive and Co-Founder, IntoUniversity



Eastside Young Leaders' Academy

Eastside Young Leaders' Academy (EYLA) is a valued partner of CLS whose work enables young people with leadership potential to embrace and develop their leadership skills through a structured programme of Saturday morning enrichment and learning opportunities.

Founded in 2002 and based in East London a mission to nurture and develop the leadership potential, health and well-being of children and young people, especially Black and minority youth, empowering them to become the next generation of successful leaders. They view education as a launchpad for this mission and as a gateway to belonging to an influential peer group who will individually and collectively exert positive influence in society.



During Lockdown, CLS staff provided virtual sessions for EYLA students in response to the need for high quality, enriching and ongoing learning during the period of school closure. Sessions ranged from an Introduction to Philosophy to sessions on Politics, Maths, Leadership and Art.

We are delighted that EYLA are now making use of our facilities for their enrichment sessions - every Saturday, 60 or so of their students visits the school. This has provided an opportunity for CLS staff and pupils to continue to enhance their programme, running workshops in a diverse range of topics.

"During the Lockdowns we were grateful to CLS staff for volunteering their time on a Saturday to teach our young leaders online, and now we have the benefit of on-site, in-person lessons."

"We also had access to Great Hall for our summer graduation at which we celebrated the achievements of our young leaders and scholars. We are excited about this evolving partnership and thankful to the Saturday team who enable us to run our programme seamlessly."

Anne Collard, Co-founder & Chief of Staff Eastside Young Leaders' Academy

Ark Bentworth Primary Academy

CLS has had a longstanding relationship with Ark Bentworth Primary Academy. Although the pandemic limited the usual visits from their Year 6 pupils, we were pleased to be able to donate a equipment to help them with their developing OPAL Primary Programme. A member of CLS staff also serves on their governing body.

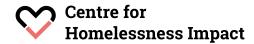


Project Rousseau

Project Rousseau is an organisation based in New York whose mission is to empower youth in communities to reach their full potential and pursue higher education. They achieve this be delivering mentoring, academic support, community service programs and international cultural exchanges for the young people referred to them. All of their students live well below the poverty line.

Since 2016, we have worked in partnership with Project Rousseau, and although we were not able to host students in 2020 due to the pandemic, CLS pupils volunteered to support their generation of teaching materials. We are delighted that plans are currently in place to welcome exchange students in March 2022.





Centre for Homelessness Impact

CLS is delighted to have started a relationship with the Centre for Homeless Impact (CHI). The Centre seeks to end UK homelessness through the use of better research evidence and data. Its goal is that within ten years homelessness in the UK is rare, brief, and non-recurring.

Since its launch in 2018 CHI has acquired an excellent reputation for using an evidence-based approach to accelerate progress towards this goal. This is reflected in its designation as the What Works Centre.

In December, representatives from the organisation gave an impactful talk to Second Form (Year 8) pupils about a range of issues relating to homelessness and work the Centre does. We are collaborating with them on the production and trialling of PSHEE resources for schools. Our Future Guidance Department is also exploring opportunities with regards to promoting work in the charity sector.

CHI's work is designed to ensure that policies and practice in the homelessness sector are informed by the best available evidence of what works. The CHI team plan to achieve this in three ways:

- **1.** Generating the evidence required to end homelessness, and making it as accessible as possible:
- 2. Providing resources and services that improve skills among policymakers and practitioners across the UK to analyse data, evaluate interventions; and
- **3.** Mobilising a learning culture in which data and evidence helps policymakers, practitioners and philanthropists improve outcomes.

"Homelessness has many causes but key factors that perpetuate homelessness are that misconceptions are widely held and stereotyping is common. This generates stigma that is damaging for individuals who experience homelessness and acts as a barrier to the changes we need to end homelesness."

"We are therefore delighted to be working with City of London School to share our research insights with the school community and to explore together how we can generate a better, evidence-based, understanding of homelessness and its solutions "

Dr Ligia TeixeiraCEO, Centre for Homelessness Impact

Higher Education and Careers

CLS proudly provides bespoke support to pupils from a range of state schools as they prepare their applications to elite universities. Pupils from across and beyond the Family of Schools are invited to attend a range of Higher Education and Careers events to support their application and to demystify the options open for their future.

In 2021 CLS provided Oxbridge and medical school preparation support, including mock interviews, for pupils from a range of schools, including Oasis Academy South Bank and Newham Collegiate. Our US Universities

Adviser also delivered workshops at both Newham Collegiate Sixth Form Centre and COLA Southwark on how to navigate the notoriously complex US university admissions process.

CASE STUDY

City of London Academy, Southwark

In 2021, CLS has worked very closely with COLA Southwark in supporting their university applicants. This included:

- 'What I did in Year 12' a virtual event for pupils from CLS, CLSG, COLA Southwark and Oasis Academy South Bank in which alumni from the three schools reflected on what they had done in Year 12 to prepare themselves for applications to university in Year 13.
- Invitations to **Higher Education events** at CLS and CLSG.

- 'Owning Your Future' a virtual event, with a talk given by Elke Edwards from the Ivy House Group.
- 'Applying for Medicine' a seminar given by a member of the CLS alumni community (currently studying at the University of Cambridge) on how to make a successful application to medical school.
- 'Supra-curricular Commitments' a workshop on developing supra-curricular interests
- Mock interviews for Oxbridge and Medical applicants

What I did in Year 12

In January 2021, during the second full Lockdown, CLS arranged a quite remarkable evening for pupils in Year 12 from CLS, CLSG, COLA Southwark and Oasis Academy South Bank. Hosted by Andrew McBroom, (Deputy Head, CLS) nine alumni from the four schools came together to talk to over 150 pupils about their experience of Year 12 and to give advice about all aspects of the university applications process. The alumni represented a range of subjects, including Medicine, History and Natural Science. Some were just starting their undergraduate lives; others had already graduated.

Beyond the extensive insights about the importance of supra-curricular commitments, the panel spoke with passion about the importance of young people making their own choices about what to study and resisting fulfilling the expectations of others, be it family or school. The evening finished with a powerful message from Cecille from COLA Southwark about the importance of mental health. This was a particularly apposite, given the context in which the event took place.

"Thank you so much for inviting our students to such an inspiring talk from some clearly phenomenal students. All the key messages that came out were so perfect, and it was such a useful starting point for the twenty students who joined from Oasis. Reaching out to us with opportunities means a huge amount, especially at this time!"

Alice Hirst, Head of Year 12 & 13, Oasis Academy South Bank

Attended by over 150 pupils from Year 12 across 4 schools



"Thank you for putting together the Alumni event last night - it was great. There was a really diverse range of excellent panelists and I'm sure the students will have really benefited from their experience and advice. But, of course, from my point of view it was great to see four ex-COLA students on the panel. I was particularly proud of Cecile for coming in at the end with her heartfelt reminder of the importance of mental well-being."

Anthony Brosnan

Vice Principal of Sixth Form, COLA Southwark

"Thank you for inviting me to be a part of such a wonderful event. I even took away some great advice myself from the other panellist, who were phenomenal."

Jamelia

Pupil at Oasis Academy South Bank

Oasis Academy South Bank



Since 2019, CLS has supported pupils from a new Sixth Form in Lambeth with their university interview preparation. Oasis Academy South Bank is a secondary school serving a community historically underrepresented at the UK's top universities.

Last year we adopted of a more systematic approach to the partnership with sessions delivered to pupils at the end of Year 12 focussing on the university application process, personal statements, aptitude tests and supra-curricular commitments. This was followed with interview practice, feedback and further advice in the run-up to the real interviews in November and December. We were delighted to hear the news that in January 2021 six pupils received offers from Oxbridge and medical schools, and even more delighted to learn that they all secured their places in August 2021.

The partnership with Oasis Academy South Bank is going from strength to strength and senior leaders from both schools are considering the ways in which it can evolve to encompass a wider range of collaborations.

"The mock interview in Engineering reminded me how important it was to prepare to think aloud through the problems interviewers would present me with. Ms Bhandari put me through my paces and helped me practice both how to articulate my passion for the subject I was applying for, but also my scientific reasoning. Practising online, meant that the weird online interview format started to feel more familiar."

Fabbilha

now studying Engineering at University of Oxford

With CLS support, **six pupils** from Oasis Academy South Bank secured places at **Oxbridge and medical schools**.

"CLS has supported students from Oasis" Academy with mock interviews over the last three years to help put them on an even footing with their more advantaged peers at Oxford, Cambridge and medical schools. The teachers at CLS are both knowledgeable in their subject, savvy about preparing teenagers for university interview techniques, and go out of their way to help others when they can. In 2020-21 the education of our students was heavily disrupted by COVID-related closures and teacher absences. The only way we could keep on providing the tailored support that our Oxbridge and Medicine applicants required was through partnerships like the one we have with CLS. Of the eight students invited to interview at Oxford and Cambridge, six received offers - and all six ended up progressing to secure their places. It's thanks to the support they received from teachers at CLS that we can now enjoy receiving photos of them in their matriculation gowns and mortarboards at college! It is astounding that our school has been able to send 10% of its alumni to these institutions."

"At a time when resources are stretched and school logistics are more complex and fraught than ever, this collaboration between the private and state sector is a significant aid to us.."

> Michael Slavinsky Assistant Associate Principal, Oasis Academy South Bank

Careers

We were delighted to able to take advantage of technology to invite pupils from the Family of Schools to careers talks. Hosted on Tuesday evenings during Lockdown, pupils listened to engaging and informative talks from people currently working in a wide range of professions including innovation and technology, law, engineering, project management, international development and sustainability. These events were typically attended by over 100 pupils.





An online forum featuring both CLS and CLSG alumni who are studying, or have recently studied, at an overseas university.

Universities represented:

- USA: Yale, Stanford, UCLA, and Brown.
- Canada: UBC, McGill University.
- Italy: Bocconi University.
- France: Sciences Po (semester only)
- The Netherlands: Amsterdam University College (and University of Amsterdam for a Masters).



Music

Our wide range of valued musical partnerships is a source of great pride at CLS where we recognise music as a vehicle to support and share opportunities with young people from many backgrounds. The last eighteen months have given rise to new opportunities for strengthening collaborations, and we look forward to returning progressively to more in-person, live events to foster creativity and performance skills in our projects for young people.

London Youth Choir

We are proud to partner with London Youth Choirs (LYC), a family of five choirs established in 2012 by Suzy Digby OBE and Rachel Staunton. Their mission is to give young people the opportunity to



achieve exceptional standards in choral singing, musicianship and vocal production. This is truly an inspiring organisation which enriches the lives and talents of young people from a diverse variety of backgrounds across London. CLS helped provide LYC with space to run online workshops during lockdowns and is again able to support the work of LYC through the sharing of our facilities, once again used by 240 visiting singers each week.

The CLS Music Department has also launched a new weekly 'cambiata' project for changing voices, aligned with LYC rehearsals to enable crossover and collaboration projects to take place. We look forward to more opportunities for shared rehearsals and performance projects in the future.





City Schools Concert

In January 2020, CLS proudly hosted an incredible musical partnership event featuring performances from pupils from across the Family of Schools. This dynamic was maintained in 2021, through online workshops allowing partner schools to develop song writing projects on a common theme, culminating in a mix of videos and a shared online 'listening event' in place of the annual joint concert. We long forward to hosting the 2022 event, bringing together pupils from across all key stages for a concert in our Great Hall

Cambiata Project

The new 'cambiata' project at CLS offers continued weekly support, both musical and pastoral, for ex-choristers from various London choral foundations who are pupils at CLS. We are proud to offer such an accompaniment within a single school for those young singers beyond the period of their voice change; this programme supports their well-being and prepares them for their musical future.

240 young people from the London Youth Choir visit CLS every week.







"The event was a lovely celebration of the focus in our schools on culture, with instrumental playing, a massed choir and dancers. It was joyful to see the younger and the older children enjoying creating music together and they were so supportive of one another. The event ran like clockwork, which is not an easy thing to achieve with more than 200 performers all on stage! It was wonderful to see a 'full house' of parents and families watching the talent of their children and even participating in the singing at the end."

Matt McDonough
Music Teacher & Peripatetic Coordinator, CLS

London Handel Festival

We are delighted to work closely with the London Handel Festival. The school is a member of their Choral Partners network, in connection with youth, amateur



FUSION

and professional ensembles across the country. Similarly, in 2021 we have begun collaborations with Pimlico Music Foundation, Hackney Children's Choir, Open University and other partners to devise and deliver teaching resources aimed at Key Stage 3 and 4 pupils. Our resource pack aims to facilitate access to classical music for non-subject specialist teachers as well as reinforcing skills taught up to GCSE. We are proud to be involved in the online FindFusion platform for collaborative educational projects.

"The poems we created looked at how people are happier and have better mental health when they regularly interact and work with other people and have good relationships. How better to do this than through music where cooperation and working together is so key?). It was very enjoyable and interesting to work with such experienced leaders, and the project profited immeasurably from their invaluable help, as well as the way they made the actual song. Overall, it was an interesting and exciting experience, and I am sure everyone else feels the same way!"

Julius Third Form Musician

Trinity Champions



Becoming a Trinity Champion Centre recognises our commitment as a school to the Arts and enables us to share our passion and experience within wider settings and our community. This provides a strong pathway for pupils to develop individual musical talent across a broad number of instruments, composing and arranging, up to and beyond diploma level under the guidance of highly recognised music teachers. Our Champion status further acknowledges our Music department's partnerships with local organisations, including access to facilities, instruments and the ability to offer support with wider musical learning experiences to those within our community.









Voces 8 Foundation Young Leaders Programme

CLS joined forces with others from the Family of Schools to participate in the 2021 Young Leaders programme led by professional singers from Voces 8 and Apollo 5. The pupils from several schools met through online workshops and were taught how to teach songs, foster healthy singing technique and to develop effective rehearsal techniques. Instead of applying those skills in classrooms within partner schools, the pupils recorded their teaching modules and sent the videos to the Family of Schools

Royal College of Organists

CLS is also proud to have been named an Accredited Institution by the Royal College of Organists, in recognition of the work undertaken to promote the organ to a wider audience of young people. We are developing partnership projects with the Family of Schools to allow children access to discover the wonderful instrument found in the Great Hall, and to promote creative, practical and artistic projects around the organs in school and around the city.

"We learned three broad categories of "Mental", "Vocal", and "Physical" warmups. The mental warmups included tricky tongue- twisters and fun riddles, while the vocal category consisted of a fun magic paint brush themed warmup. The aim of these warm-ups is to get the children moving and thinking, before warming up their voices so that they are ready to sing! As COVID has meant that we were unfortunately unable to deliver the session to the children in person, we recorded a video for them to watch and practice the songs and warm-ups. We each took it in turns to present one of the items to the camera to be copied by the others and had great fun!"

> Will and Finbar Third Form pupils, CLS



Temple Church

The long-established partnership between CLS and Temple Church Choir continues to flourish with several current CLS pupils singing in various choirs at Temple Church. The choristers are able to benefit from their education at CLS alongside a centuries old cathedral-style musical training, whilst still living at home. CLS is proud of our positive and valued partnership with Temple Church, enabling choristers to develop and thrive both academically and musically.

The Choir of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal, St James's Palace

CLS educates the Choristers who sing in the Choir of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal, St James's Palace. We currently have ten full Choristers and three Probationers at CLS, as well as seven Pre-Probationers (years 4-6) who attend several different state and independent primary schools. Rehearsals take place at CLS during the week and the Choristers sing on Sundays at St James's Palace.

Partnership work with children's choirs and churches and the recruitment of young singers who would not ordinarily be able to afford education at CLS is a vital element of this musical partnership and regular contacts are maintained with primary schools across five London boroughs.







Bursaries

Ever since John Carpenter's original bequest in 1442, inclusivity has been a guiding principle for CLS. We believe that the ability to pay fees should not be a factor when choosing to apply to CLS. No child's opportunities should be limited by their economic or social circumstances.

Over 500 supporters donated over £800,000 in 2020-21. This allowed us to award transformational bursaries to 12% of new pupils joining Year 7 in September 2021.

By 2025, our plan is to increase the number of new pupils receiving bursaries to **15%**.

We all know, of course, that a child's prospects remain closely linked to their parents' income and that social mobility remains painfully low. At CLS, we are determined to play our part in changing that.

Every day we see the many benefits of diversity. We recognise that, in a school community, diversity helps pupils to appreciate the power of difference, to understand new perspectives, to become more outward looking and more ready for life after school. We want CLS to be a School that is open to everyone.

City of London School and Me

PJ joined our Sixth Form on a full-fee bursary in September 2020. He is studying for A-Levels in Maths, Geography and Economics and for an Extended Project Qualification. Ten years ago he arrived in the UK with his mum, unable to speak English. They initially lived in a friend's loft. PJ was encouraged to apply for a bursary by his East London school, and within months of arriving at CLS, during a global pandemic, he has become a prefect, been asked to join our basketball team and taken part in a competition for social entrepreneurs. PJ now hopes to help build a better future by studying sustainable human development at university.

"My mum cried the day we found out I had been offered a bursary at CLS. It felt like all of the hard work she invested in me – the early mornings, the late nights – had been worthwhile. That's one of the reasons I'm so determined to keep pushing myself: to get the greatest outcomes and be the greatest son I can be. I see the bursary as a privilege and a

massive opportunity, because without it I wouldn't be at this School. Every bursary is going to be life changing. It's going to provide an opportunity for someone to push forward, work harder and make the most that they possibly can of themselves. It means everything to me."

PJ, Senior Sixth Form pupil

Working Collaboratively with CLSG

A key element of our Strategic Vision is to expand the scope for our pupils to work with and learn from pupils at CLSG, so they understand that through working with others, we are strengthened ourselves. In 2021, there have been a number of exciting developments, including the launch of City+ and the joint iGEM.

CASE STUDY

City+

We were very excited to launch City+, our new Sixth Form enrichment programme with CLSG, at the start of this school year. The weekly timetabled programme includes a range of speakers and workshops addressing today's big issues, and seminar sessions during which pupils can choose from one of 26 short courses designed and taught by a team of teachers from both schools. It is a great opportunity for pupils to broaden their horizons, meet some new people and hopefully have a little light relief from their A-Level subjects once a week. We were very happy to welcome Gina Martin as our first speaker this term, a campaigner who managed to change UK law on upskirting, and who demonstrated to our students that, with a little perseverance, they can make change happen. Other highlights of the term include the new joint acappella choir, the Archaeology group's outing to the City's Roman remains, and the lively spin classes down at Boom Cycle. It is great to see pupils from both schools exploring these new areas together.





CASE STUDY

iGEM

In 2021, pupils from CLS and CLSG joined forces to create **Project Ribotox**. Their aim was to find a way to screen for preeclampsia before symptoms have arisen using genetic engineering, so patients can be monitored by specialists and, if needed, medication can be taken to decrease blood pressure. Currently, it is detected after symptoms have arisen by generalised, antiquated methods such as a blood pressure cuff that often result in misdiagnosis and missed-diagnosis. This, combined with late diagnosis ultimately leads to preventable complications in pregnancy such as foetal growth restriction, low birth weight and life-threatening seizures and blood clots.

Project Ribotox was submitted as an entry to the iGEM competition - the world's largest synthetic biology competition, in which high schools and universities from around the world such as Stanford and MIT compete to solve real-world problems with real-world, synthetic biology-based competitions.

After a year of arduous research and labwork, the pupils presented their project to the iGEM judges, and were awarded a **Gold Medal** for successfully creating their proof of concept for a preeclampsia-screening kit.



"The kit works by detecting two upregulated 'microRNA' (miRNA) biomarkers in the serum of patients with the condition with a novel riboregulator called an AND-gate toehold switch, along with a new method



of isothermal amplification. The team designed the DNA and RNA used in these kits both by hand and by coding a python script to generate riboregulators in silico based on their secondary structures, predicted by a complex thermodynamics-based algorithm. The team were able to characterise the riboregulators in the lab and proved that they were able to distinguish between concentrations of miRNAs in patients with and without preeclampsia."

Peter, Senior Sixth

Diversity & Inclusive Education

We are enormously proud of our diverse and inclusive School community and seek to create opportunities in our curriculum, pastoral and co-curricular provision for pupils to discuss and reflect on issues of identity, culture and belonging.

The momentum caused by the murder of George Floyd has been motivating and the pupils and staff have, together, sought fresh opportunity to examine, discuss and confront systemic issues of inequality. As such, we have active societies including the Afro-Caribbean Society to enable pupils to have a space to discuss issues pertaining to race. Last year, a Race Equality Review was undertaken across both CLS and CLSG to identify areas for improvement in order that the School can seek to be more inclusive and representative. The Race Equality Review steering group are working to ensure the recommendations of this review are realised. To date, the School has seen fresh portraiture in the School building, changes to the pupil rules on appearance, a multicultural event to celebrate the individual heritage of all pupils,



and the ongoing development of the curriculum to ensure diversification and the diversification of the governing body.

The Amos Bursary exists to ensure talented young people of African and Caribbean descent have the opportunity to excel in education and beyond by recruiting high quality pupils and mentors, running development programmes with peer and professional mentors, parental engagement and cultural and networking opportunities. The pupils of the Afro-Caribbean Society were lucky enough to have a meeting with some of the current Amos Bursary pupils, who come from a variety of schools from across London, which was led by Ms Colleen Amos OBE and Baroness Valerie Amos. The Amos Bursary

and the School hope to work more in partnership over the coming months and look forward to exploring how we can learn from and enrich each other.

Our pupil-led societies also include an active Jewish Society, Islamic Society, a Christian Union and Hindu Society. Increasingly, we are connecting our societies with their counterparts at other schools to further enrich our discussions and experiences. We also have an active LGBT+ society which meets weekly, hosts a range of speakers, delivers assemblies and celebrates Pride and LGBT History Month.

As part of the School's actively anti-misogynistic position, the powerful social movement that followed the murder of Sarah Everard, as well the testimonies posted onto Everyone's Invited gave fresh momentum. CLSG Sixth Form pupils joined us to hear a powerful address from Gina Martin. It Happens delivered timely training to all teaching staff to support the delivery of high-quality Relationships and Sex Education. The City+ programmes saw powerful pupil-led workshops addressing the issues of consent.

CLS is also part of a network of London independent schools who discuss issues concerning LGBT+ and support the provision of inclusive education in schools more widely beyond our immediate network. Our Head continues to sponsor the City of London Pride Network and we are proud to continue to champion Stonewall and to continue to partner with the City Pride Network







The Future

As we look ahead to partnership work in the coming year, we also reflect on the ways in which partnership has fundamentally changed as a result of the Pandemic. With a blended approach to partnership work, we have embraced opportunities for greater accessibility and engagement with a wider pool of young people and organisations. Nonetheless, we look forward to many more in-person partnership events in the future and recognise their enormous benefit, alongside the virtual experiences we seek to broker and lead. A close working relationship with CLSG will further enhance our partnership provision. enabling pupils and staff to work alongside each other, for example in the wide-ranging Sixth Form enrichment programme, social events and the launch of our new coeducational junior school.

In addition, we are keen to further develop our relationships with the Family of Schools, expanding our Oxbridge support and building upon our success in supporting pupils to access elite universities in the US and at home. We recognise the importance of Oracy as a tool for social mobility and are planning CPD and pupil experiences using Oracy as our focus. In addition, we look forward to continuing to host the Maths Partnership Forum, enabling colleagues to share best practice in curriculum and assessment, working closely with our lead facilitator, Caroline Sharp (Assistant Headteacher, Redriff Primary School). Other plans include the launch of a Pastoral Leads network alongside CLSG, creating a KS2 Humanities Network and sharing Career learning expertise with our primary colleagues. Ensuring that partnership work is responsive and collaborative

is a priority; we look forward to continuing to facilitate the Partnership Forum, as a key platform for colleagues to share opportunities for pupils and colleagues to partner. We are proud to work closely with our diverse and talented Family of Schools and anticipate great opportunities ahead.

We also plan to continue to partner with a fantastic range of external organisations, further developing our partnership relationship with Linklaters as leaders within industry. Our partnership with IntoUniversity continues to thrive, enabling pupils from CLS and CLSG to gain leadership and mentoring experiences. Eastside Young Leaders' Academy remains a key partner for CLS and we continue to seek opportunities for our teachers and resources to support their incredible work. We work closely with The Aldgate School, with our pupils acting as valued reading mentors to younger pupils as well as seeking to carry out significant charitable work as part of our CSO provision, building further on our relationships with our charity partners.

Partnership remains a central and strategic priority at CLS. We recognise its enormous value to our school community, acting as a mechanism to support pupils to achieve our vision of being kind, aware and ready for their futures. We aim for partnership to further develop as an impactful and important aspect of school life and look forward to sharing our success with you.

Andrew McBroom

Deputy Head, Co-Curricular and Operations ajvm@cityoflondonschool.org.uk

Laura Hynes

Director of Partnerhsips leh@cityoflondonschool.org.uk





