

## **CITY YEAR SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS FOR 2012-13 ANNOUNCED**

From September 2012, London's leading youth and education charity, City Year, has announced it will be serving in five new schools across London.

The new partnerships build on excellent relationships already forged with London schools over the last two academic years.

The new schools are:

- Cyril Jackson Primary School, Tower Hamlets (primary)
- Haggerston School, Hackney (secondary)
- Lammas School and Sports College, Waltham Forest (secondary)
- Reach Academy Feltham, Hounslow (all-through free school )
- William Ellis School, Camden (secondary)

We are also delighted to confirm that City Year will continue to serve at the following schools, bringing the total number of schools that City Year is operating in 2012/13 to twelve:

- Gladesmore Community School, Haringey
- Moreland Primary School, Islington
- St Luke's C of E Primary School, Islington
- King Solomon Academy, Westminster
- Sebright School, Hackney
- Shacklewell Primary School, Hackney
- Whitmore Primary School, Hackney

City Year Chief Executive, Sophie Livingstone, said:

"We are delighted to be expanding the number of schools that we are able to support next year. It means that the young volunteers who join us as tutors, mentors and role models will directly be helping 6,000 children and young people, a large proportion of whom receive free school meals or speak English as an additional language.

"Despite City Year's long history in the USA, we are still a new organisation in London. It's very encouraging that we have developed partnerships with a diverse range of schools, including primary and secondary schools, a new free school, academies, community schools and voluntary aided schools. It confirms that whatever the type of school, City Year can make a powerful difference to children's academic progress and behaviour.

"I am also very happy that we are able to continue our relationship with schools where we already serve. This is the biggest endorsement of all because it confirms that head teachers judge City Year to be making a big difference to their pupils and teachers. These schools would not be seeking to extend the partnership with us if City Year wasn't making a very positive difference."

Ed Vainker, Principal of Reach Academy, said:

“We will be opening our doors as a newly established all-through school for the first time this September. We heard about City Year on the education grapevine and then spoke to fellow teaching colleagues to find out how their corps members supported pupils. It was very compelling feedback and we jumped at the opportunity to develop a partnership with City Year.”

Head Teacher of Cyril Jackson Primary School, Gillian Kemp, said:

“I am very enthusiastic about working alongside City Year next term. Young people serving with City Year are having a transformative effect on the children and young people that they mentor and tutor. I am very excited about the impact they can have at Cyril Jackson.”

Executive Head Teacher of Sebright School, Janice Thomas, said:

“City Year corps members have been serving at Sebright for two years now. They make a massive difference to children’s confidence and enjoyment of school and they do an excellent job supporting teachers to raise standards in English and maths. Heads should be forming an orderly queue to bring City Year into their schools. They are certainly helping me deliver the commitments in our school improvement plan.”

All of City Year’s partnerships with schools are based on a contract and team goals agreed with head teachers. These commit City Year to a range of activities and targets to improve the curriculum performance, attendance and behaviour of pupils.

In addition to working with these twelve schools next year, City Year will continue to organise a series of community action projects throughout the year, inspiring the public to work alongside us giving back to our communities; and run after-school science sessions for more than a thousand children across the capital.

A total of 120 corps members will be serving with City Year from September.

Sophie Livingstone said:

“Two years ago we started a small pilot with just seven corps members. This grew to 60 and last year we had 80 full time young people serving with us. Our rapid growth and the demand for places with City Year shows that there is a big appetite amongst young people to give back to their communities and to help disadvantaged children. Increasingly, young people see working in an inner city school as a prestigious and rewarding thing to do because it equips them with valuable skills for their future careers.”

## NOTES FOR EDITORS

City Year was established in 1988 in America where it now operates in 21 cities across the US and has the backing of President Barack Obama. City Year London was established during 2010 and is now reaching the end of its second academic year. We currently have 80 corps members working full time in schools in Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Islington, Westminster, Tottenham and Brixton. We have ambitious plans to grow across the capital and then expand into other areas of the UK so that we can help more children and young people be successful.

City Year recruits 18-25 year olds who then form small teams and serve full time, Monday-Thursday in schools, acting as tutors, mentors and role models. The young volunteers – known as corps members – run breakfast clubs, after school activities and throughout the day, deliver one-to-one or small group tuition with ‘focus list children’, supervise playtimes and strive to have a positive impact on the pupils.

As well as the amazing experience working in a school, CYL volunteers also receive one day per week dedicated leadership development, £100 per week for expenses, eligibility for £1000 Citizen Service Award, all travel expenses covered and networking opportunities with corporate sponsors. But more than all of this, our volunteers benefit from a life changing experience working with idealistic and dynamic colleagues in a superb team environment. Volunteers make friends, build relationships with professional networks and gain a cutting edge in today’s competitive labour market.

City Year London’s major funders include: The Private Equity Foundation, Credit Suisse, the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, MAN Group Charitable Trust, The Mayor’s Fund for London, SHINE, TowerBrook, v, ARAMARK, National Grid, Barclays and Deutsche. City Year was recently awarded £300,000 from the Government’s Social Action Fund to begin the first phase of growth beyond London.

For more information please visit our website [www.cityyear.org.uk](http://www.cityyear.org.uk) or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

For media inquiries, please contact Lee Bailey on 07785710936 or Alex Lowen on 0207 014 2690. We are happy to arrange interviews with any of our staff or volunteers. Media access to schools can also be arranged by us with prior consent of the head teacher. We have a photo library on a Flickr account found at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/cityyearlondon/>