

## **IntoUniversity and The British & Foreign School Society**

Final end of year report, November 2013



*Year 6 pupils affix 'aspiration leaves' to a University Tree at IU Haringey North*

### **Summary**

We are now coming to the end of the second year of our generous grant of £15,000 p/a for 2 years from the British and Foreign School Society, which has funded IntoUniversity's Academic Support programme at our centre in Haringey.

Our Academic Support programme provides disadvantaged children and young people aged 7-18 years with a structured environment in which to work. It gives students from low-income families a dedicated work space and tutorial support from specially-trained staff and expert volunteers, as well as important resources which may not be available in their homes, including books, computers and university prospectuses. The programme aims to provide young people with the knowledge and skills to break out of negative cycles of underachievement and reach their full potential. As such the Academic Support programme includes a strong element of pastoral care, helping to address the many reasons why a young person may not achieve. The encouraging, affirmative approach of our staff and volunteers helps foster a positive environment in which young people can address challenging behaviour and fully engage with their learning. A high staff-to-student ratio means that staff and volunteers get to know young people very well and can give the students a sense of personal expectation which they may lack at home or school.

## Metrics

In the 2012-13 academic year, **IntoUniversity Haringey North** supported **159** students on the Academic Support programme: 84 primary students and 74 secondary students.

The table below shows a breakdown of these students by school year group:

School Year Group	Students %
3	11
4	13
5	9
6	21
7	6
8	7
9	7
10	8
11	8
12	2
13	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

The centre's target was to support 120 children and young people on the Academic Support programme this academic year; we are delighted that IU Haringey North has met and exceeded its target for Academic Support attendance.

## IU Haringey North's partner schools

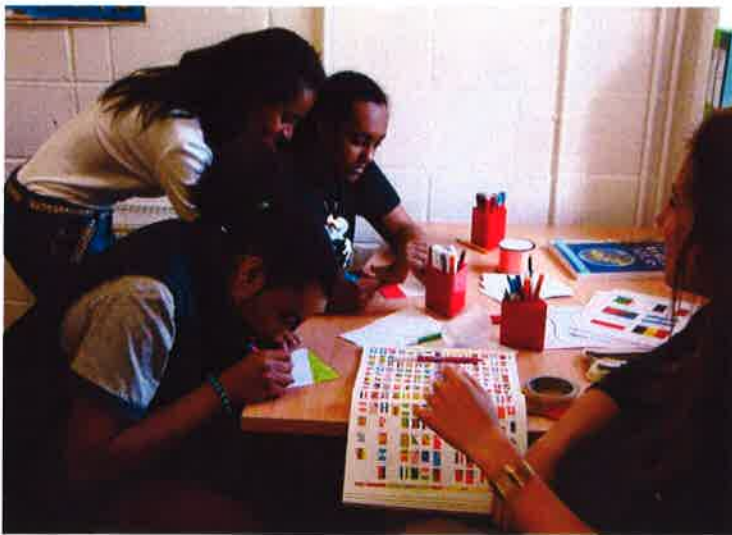
Partner schools - Primary	FSM	Partner schools - Secondary	FSM
Risley Avenue Primary School	47%	Northumberland Park Community School	51%
Devonshire Hill Primary School	46%	Park View Academy	39%
Lancasterian Primary School	42%	Hornsey School for Girls	38%
The Willows on Broadwater Primary School	41%	St Thomas More Catholic School	43%
		Haringey Sixth Form	N/A
		Sir George Monoux College	N/A

### Programme Update – Academic Support

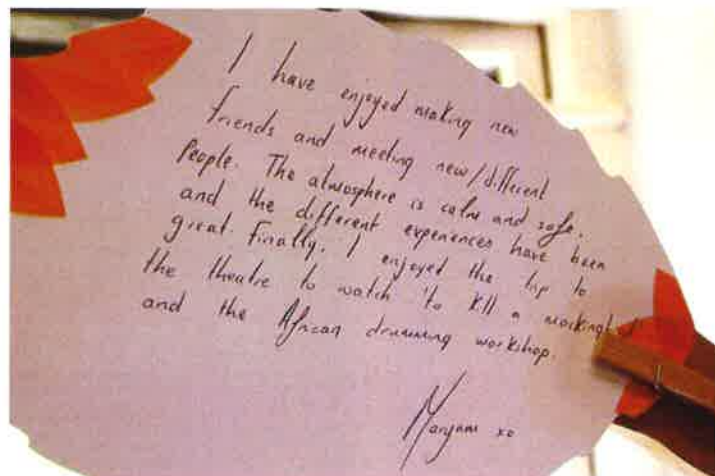
Academic Support at IU Haringey North is delivered four times each week after-school during term time. The team are pleased to have seen consistent high levels of attendance at both primary and secondary Academic Support sessions since the beginning of the academic year. Students attended an average of 26 sessions each in 2012-13.

The sun shone for the centre's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration event on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May, which was attended by over 100 students, family members, volunteers and IntoUniversity supporters. There was a bouncy castle, treasure hunt, face painting and a bring-and-share lunch for everyone to enjoy. Young people on the secondary Student Council were very much involved in planning the event, and in planning the **Cultural Arts** Holiday FOCUS week that led up to it. The week included an African Cultural Awareness workshop, featuring a music workshop delivered by London African Drumming, and a visit to see *To Kill a Mockingbird* at the Regent's Park Open Air Theatre. The celebration day itself culminated with a performance from students who had participated in the Holiday FOCUS week, and speeches from IntoUniversity Chief Executive and Co-Founder, Dr Rachel Carr, and Haringey North Team Leader, Robert Line.

The event was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate both 10 years of IntoUniversity and to look back at the achievements and progress of the Haringey North centre since it was established in 2009.



*Photos of IU Haringey North's Cultural Arts Holiday FOCUS week and 10th anniversary celebration event, May 2013*







In primary Academic Support, students have been learning about **Oceanography**. Numeracy sessions have included 'fish fractions', handling data and coordinates. Students have also worked on improving their literacy by writing a diary as an oceanographer and identifying species of 'punctuation fish' (students were tasked with identifying 'species' of punctuation and their definition, which they then used to correct the punctuation in a letter).

The centre's Student Council for the new academic year have been elected (Council members are jointly elected by their peers and by centre staff) and have already presented at Parents' Evening about what happens at Academic Support. They are next meeting to decide upon the timetable for the end of term celebration. Having elected Student Councils at each centre gives our young people a say in the day-to-day running of their own learning environment. Members of the Student Council are known as 'Student Leaders', ensuring that young people know who to go to with any issues they want addressed at Council meetings. The Council acts as a platform to voice the ideas and opinions of all students who attend Academic Support sessions.

Eight secondary students were recognised for their commitment and attitude at Academic Support by being invited for lunch with the staff team at Giraffe, Muswell Hill. A Haringey North Year 12 student was selected from students across the network to spend a week's work experience in the Accountancy Department at The Crown Estates.

Two students who have been attending the centre for three years have been rewarded with an undergraduate mentor now that they are in Year 6. An undergraduate mentoring pair that had been working together for three years brought their relationship to a close with a celebratory trip to Alexandra Palace Ice Rink.

## Impact

### Post-school destinations

83% of IntoUniversity school leavers progressed directly to Higher Education in 2013; this is in comparison to a national average of just 20% amongst students from similar backgrounds to our users.

### Student Survey 2013

We conduct an annual Student Survey on a 10% representative sample of our students. This year, Academic Support students at Haringey North reported the following successful outcomes as a result of attending IntoUniversity:

- 78% reported that they were more likely to go to university
- 80% reported improved school grades
- 85% reported that they were working better at school

### Student Evaluations

We ask each student to complete an evaluative feedback form at the end of every IntoUniversity activity – these are then electronically scanned and data collated centrally at our Head Office. Students at Haringey North last academic year reported the following outcomes as a result of participating in our programmes:

- 75% were more likely to go to university
- 64% said that they knew more about university
- 54% said their confidence had increased
- 65% said that their school marks/exam grades had improved
- 65% said that they were more likely to achieve their career goals
- 63% said that they were more confident communicating with others, including adults
- 66% said they would work better in a team

## Organisational Achievements

### 10th anniversary year

In 2012-13 IntoUniversity celebrated its 10th anniversary year. The year was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the charity over the past decade, to thank all our students and supporters who have enabled its success, and to look forward to our future development as we expand nationally and reach even more children and young people.

We are extremely proud of how far we have come, and in reflection of this gave each centre an opportunity to host an event celebrating the charity's anniversary. As well as speeches from staff and our Chief Executive and Co-Founder, students were able to have their say by writing their aspirations on 'leaves', showing in real terms the aspirational benefits that our work can have.

### Awards and recognition

We are delighted that all IntoUniversity centres were awarded Quality in Study Support (QiSS) 'Established' status in July 2013. This is a nationally recognised quality assurance scheme which is open to different types of education providers, and has been developed by Canterbury Christ Church University in partnership with the Department of Education. QiSS stated that the charity had been recognised in this way because: *'IntoUniversity is clearly a proactive and innovative organisation, committed to providing a wide variety of opportunities to young people... the impact*

*of IntoUniversity is not only academic, but personal and social, its students gaining the confidence to succeed as well as the desire to contribute to their communities and society as a whole.'*

We were named 'Voluntary Organisation of the Year 2013' by the Careers Volunteer Centre at LSE over the summer, recognising the work of IntoUniversity in managing LSE students and enabling them to make real social change whilst at university.

We are also pleased to have been receiving increasing external coverage on the quality of our programme and our impact measurement. In the January 2013 report from the Office for Fair Access (OFFA) – which called for universities and colleges to step up the long-term work they do reaching out to schools and communities where few progress to higher education – Professor Les Ebdon, Director of Fair Access to Higher Education, cited **IntoUniversity** as an example of best practice, a story that was picked up nationally by Channel 4 News.

**IntoUniversity** was delighted to be cited as a leading charity in the field of impact measurement in New Philanthropy Capital's October 2012 report, *Making an Impact*. In March 2013, *The Guardian Voluntary Sector Network* also featured **IntoUniversity** as a best practice case study in an article on how impact measurement can boost charities' effectiveness.

#### **National expansion**

We are very pleased to report that **IntoUniversity's** expansion in London continues to progress successfully. Over the last 12 months, we officially launched our eighth and ninth London centres – **IntoUniversity Brixton** and **IntoUniversity Hackney Downs** – our second centre in Nottingham, and our first centre in Bristol. In September 2013, we commenced the set-up process for our two new London centres, **IntoUniversity Walworth**, supported by the University of Cambridge, and **IntoUniversity East Ham**, with the centres due to officially launch during the 2013-14 academic year.

The charity's national expansion also continues to progress in line with our 5-year strategic plan, with the launches of both **IntoUniversity Nottingham East** (the second of three Nottingham-based centres in partnership with the University of Nottingham) and **IntoUniversity Bristol East**, in April 2013. From September 2013 we will be starting the set-up process for our third centre in Nottingham, **IntoUniversity Nottingham Central**, with the centre due to officially launch during the 2013-14 academic year. A site has been located for this third Nottingham centre and a Team Leader for the centre has been appointed through an internal promotion.

We are delighted to be commencing a new partnership with the University of Leeds in September 2013. During 2013-14 a full feasibility study of the city will be conducted, with the set-up of the new Leeds centre to commence in 2014-15. We are also pleased to be in discussion with the Universities of Oxford, Sussex and Manchester with regard to launching **IntoUniversity** centres in these cities in the 2014-15 academic year.



'I was introduced to **IntoUniversity** through my school. At first, a few members of **IntoUniversity** came to help me and other students at my school with writing personal statements as well as choosing universities.

By the time you get to sixth form, you have to make a really difficult decision and answer one of the hardest questions – “what do I want to do in the future?” I always knew I wanted to study Medicine, but I didn’t have enough confidence to pursue my career. The careers advisor at my school got me in touch directly with one of the members of staff at **IntoUniversity**, Robert, who has been my mentor ever since.

I did not know what to do as I wasn’t sure I would get into Medicine with my grades. Before I knew it, Robert had answers to all of my questions. He researched possible universities that I could apply to, and not only did he guide me through the UCAS process, but also other things such as UKCAT that I had to prepare for. Robert was there every single time I needed help, even during summer holidays I could always email him and he would always reply ASAP. The most difficult part was writing a personal statement, but again it was Robert who was there ready to help.

I am now going to study Medicine at the University of Southampton – I can’t wait to start! Honestly, if I didn’t get all the help from my mentor I do not think I would be in the same situation. He always helped me to solve any problems that I had and continued to build my confidence. I can never thank him enough.'