

PARTNERSHIPS AUDIT 2022-23

£21,500



AMOUNT RAISED ACROSS
THE SCHOOL FOR CHARITY

330

BAGS OF FOOD
DONATED TO THE
BOOTH CENTRE
AT OUR
HARVEST FESTIVAL



5,000



ENVELOPES ABOUT RECYCLING
PREPARED BY WGS PUPILS
TO BE DISTRIBUTED BY
MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

160



HOURS SPENT BY WGS PUPILS
WRITING CHRISTMAS ELF
LETTERS TO LOCAL MAINTAINED
PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS

79

CHILDREN ATTENDED OUR
SHINE TOGETHER SATURDAY
SCHOOL FROM 15 MAINTAINED
PRIMARY SCHOOLS

OVER 230

PUPILS PARTICIPATED IN OUR
MANCHESTER
sings

Manchester Cathedral 29th November 2022

2022 EVENT AT MANCHESTER
CATHEDRAL IN NOVEMBER

OVER 100



SENIOR CITIZENS ENJOYED
OUR SISTER ACT
PERFORMANCE & TEA PARTY

OVER 200



KS3 CHILDREN EXPERIENCED
OUR FLASH BANG SCIENCE SHOW
HELD AT MANCHESTER ACADEMY

2,769

HOURS SPENT BY WGS PUPILS
VOLUNTEERING FOR THEIR
DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS
EQUATING TO £13,318
IN SOCIAL VALUE.



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GIRLS' SCHOOL EST 1890

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INTRODUCTION

As a forward-thinking, outward-looking school, Withington Girls' School is very proud of our Projects and Partnerships work within our local community, and beyond. We have a strong track record of delivering programmes that benefit both our own school community, the wider community and children attending maintained schools. Ever mindful of our place in the global community, we were also delighted this summer to once again offer places on our popular Summer School to children from Ukraine.

The main example of our Educational Partnership programmes continues to be our hugely successful Withington SHiNE Together Saturday morning classes for boys and girls in years 5 and 6 in a range of subjects, as well as our Science Communicators programme and Classics lessons. Numerous staff also continue to occupy Governorship positions, including two Chair of Governors and a vice chair, offering their expertise to both maintained primary and secondary schools across Greater Manchester

We remain extremely proud of our Manchester Sings programme which involves extensive musical work with six primary schools. Our Partnership programme however extends far beyond our involvement with younger pupils. This year we have welcomed the opportunity to work closely with secondary school pupils at Manchester Academy on numerous large-scale events and are looking forward to deepening these links next year. Moving away from working with school children, our Partnership work also includes hundreds of local senior citizens who enjoy the school's hospitality and music at Christmas and during the summer term.

Withington has forged strong links with The University of Manchester and their teacher training programme over many years and we continue to support our new colleagues as they begin their teaching careers. Links with overseas communities, including schools and projects in The Gambia have been supported for 20 years with funding and visits focused on providing practical support for both students and staff. We were delighted to return to The Gambia in December 2022 and are looking forward to visiting the country again this December. This year also saw a sports tour to South Africa with some time being spent during this trip at a community-based project which tackles poverty.

All girls from across the Junior and Senior School are involved in raising money for their chosen charities; the amount last academic year reaching over £21, 500. Our active Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme at school saw over 150 girls contribute 2,769 hours in various volunteering roles between April 2022 and March 2023.

Our whole school Citizenship Day in June is a yearly reminder to the entire school community of our commitment to being local, national and global citizens and the responsibilities we have towards others. Pupils this year visited the largest range and number of projects and schools in the local area since our Citizenship Day began many years ago. Our commitment to help those around us, however, extends all year round with our food collections for Fallowfield and Withington Foodbank and Emmeline's Pantry and individual fundraising ventures and volunteering by both staff and pupils for various appeals and charities.

We continue to audit and assess the impact of our Partnership work yearly and the results of the 2022-2023 audit are featured in the document that follows. This information is also shared on the Schools Together website which celebrates Partnerships across a range of schools and provides more detail on each of our Partnerships.

Many of our Partnerships are long-standing, sustained and mutually beneficial and very much built into our whole school ethos of respect for self, respect for others and personal responsibility. We were delighted to be recognised in the *Independent Schools Council Celebrating Partnerships* booklet published in November 2022 for our work with The Bursary Foundation and were also the feature blog to launch Partnerships Week for our Manchester Sings programme. This year we are launching a Social Action Club and I look forward to reporting back to you about their impact in next year's audit.



MRS C EDGE PARTNERSHIPS COORDINATOR



STRUCTURE OF RESPONSES

In reviewing the responses from staff about their Partnership work, it was clear that our activities could be grouped into one of four categories:

- Delivering classes for children from maintained schools
- Providing support, including governance, and sharing resources with children/teachers from maintained schools
- Supporting community initiatives
- Supporting developing countries

A SUMMARY OF THE RESPONSES

	WGS PUPIL AND STAFF HOURS	PEOPLE BENEFITING
Delivering classes for children from maintained schools	1,477	717
Providing support and sharing resources with children from maintained schools	920	6,555
Supporting community initiatives	14,761	9,404
Supporting developing countries	572	1,500
TOTAL	17,730	+18,176

The table shows that Withington staff and pupils spent approximately 17,730 hours on a wide range of Partnership

activities last year. Their activities benefited approximately 18,176 people, including children from maintained schools.



DELIVERING CLASSES FOR MAINTAINED SCHOOL PUPILS

The audit shows that classes taught between September 2022 and July 2023 benefited over 717 children from a range of maintained schools across Greater Manchester.

SHiNE Together, our education programme for local pupils from maintained primary schools which has been run by the school on Saturday mornings for 15 years, went ahead successfully this year. 79 boys and girls from 15 maintained primary schools attended six weeks of SHiNE Together courses in Complete Creativity, Computing, Creative Writing, Science, Drama, Music and German. Feedback from parents and pupils alike has been outstanding and you can read our full Impact Report on the school website. 19 members of the Lower Sixth volunteered for the first time this year to assist staff in running these sessions, gaining leadership and other practical skills along the way. We recognised these girls' commitment with our new Partnership Awards presented to them in final assembly in the Spring Term.

This is the eighth year that Withington's Latin department has been in Partnership with a local maintained primary school, Classics for All and the Manchester Classical Association by delivering Latin lessons in a fun and entertaining way to younger pupils. Withington Sixth Form pupils have delivered sessions over nine weeks. The lessons introduced younger pupils to vocabulary, grammar and mythological stories. It has been rewarding to see how our pupils' natural teaching skills developed over the weeks and we are grateful to them for giving up their lunchtimes to participate in this programme which the children really enjoyed.

Science Communicators has been running at Withington since 2017. This year four different projects were run by the department and Sixth Form pupils. All pupils involved in the programme gained invaluable personal skills in the process, improved their own subject knowledge and were awarded a Gold Crest Award. Pupils were divided into groups of about 12 and led a Flash Bang Science Show at Manchester Academy for their KS3 pupils as well as one of Manchester Academy's feeder

schools. Another group made videos and presentations to be used by Manchester Hospital Schools. These videos will now become an invaluable resource for both pupils and staff alike as they can be used in future years. A further group hosted a Harry Potter-inspired Science show at WGS attended by our Junior School and West Didsbury Primary School. The last group helped KS4 Manchester Academy students with their required practical sessions during a day at WGS in the laboratory.

We also held our second Future Focus event in collaboration with Manchester Academy at the Whitworth Art Gallery in May. This was the second in a series of conferences aimed at inspiring young women with confidence and improving self-esteem and mental health. The conference was attended by a group of pupils from Manchester Academy and Year 9 pupils from WGS who heard from a range of speakers in different career fields and considered issues like discrimination in sport, inclusion in the workplace and developed strategies to improve self-esteem and well-being.

Each year the school runs a variety of Summer Schools where boys and girls from the local community participate in a multi-sports camp, art, drama or dance sessions. Many of the children to attend this year came from maintained schools. We were happy to be able to offer places to pupils from Ukraine this year on our art camp. Contact was made with the Manchester City Council who advertised the school to various Ukrainian community groups. While only one pupil was able to attend this year, we will continue to extend this offer to children from Ukraine next summer.

We are looking forward to developing a new Partnership link with a school in Germany, Gymnasium Winsen, over the coming academic year. An e-friend system has been set up and all pupils studying German in Years 8 to 13 are benefiting from the relationship formed between these two schools. We are looking forward to visiting the school in February 2024.



DELIVERING CLASSES FOR MAINTAINED SCHOOL PUPILS

	WGS STAFF & PUPIL HOURS	NUMBERS OF PUPILS BENEFITING
Manchester Academy Required Practicals session	206	36
Science Show at Manchester Academy attended by KS3 pupils	196	212
Science Show at WGS attended by two primary schools	196	100
Manchester Hospital Schools	120	+60
SHiNE Together	396	98
Latin Lessons at Mauldeth Road Primary School	58	60
Future Focus with Manchester Academy	200	80
Partnership with Gymnasium Winsen in Germany	100	70
Ukrainian children attending Summer School	5	1
TOTAL	1,477	+717



PROVIDING SUPPORT

This includes governance and sharing resources with children/teachers from Maintained Schools

Many departments across the school are actively involved in providing support and/or sharing resources with children from maintained schools. This represents approximately 920 hours of staff time. Our estimate is that this level of support benefits upward of 6,555 maintained school pupils.

The Head of Politics meets with her counterpart at Xaverian College each half-term to discuss the Politics A Level specification and to share materials. This year she also delivered a Politics lecture to students from Xaverian. The Head of ICT shares resources and is actively involved in collaborating with maintained schools through online groups including Computer at Schools (CAS) and the AQA Computer Science Facebook group. The school also hosted a large meeting of the Association of Language Learners, held on a Saturday morning, where 70 teachers from across independent and maintained schools shared ideas and benefited from a presentation on how to implement the new French GCSE. This Partnership between teachers from so many schools, and therefore benefiting so many pupils, explains the high numbers even though this is a conservative estimate in the table below. For the last nine years the school has been a Centre for the Standard Admission Test (SAT) for American universities. The tests take place three times a year and the organisation of these is carried out by school staff. This is the first year that tests have been fully digital, so we have relied heavily on our IT department to assist with the administration. Approximately 90 candidates from maintained schools register for the test annually.

We have for many years supported The University of Manchester with its Initial Teacher Training programme. This year the school took three trainee teachers over the course of the year. Subject mentors observe a lesson every week and have a weekly meeting with their trainee as well as being available

at other times for informal guidance; the professional mentor has a weekly professional studies session with the trainees and observes at least one lesson per placement. It is difficult to measure the impact on maintained school pupils in this area as we do not always know which of our teacher trainees pursue a career in the maintained sector.

We also have numerous members of staff who fulfil a governance role at maintained schools, both primary and secondary, across Greater Manchester. Furthermore, one member of this group of staff fulfils the role of Chair of Governors at two respective schools and another is a Vice-Chair. Our staff share their teaching, leadership, financial and safeguarding expertise and support hundreds of children who attend these schools in the process.

Withington was again able to host The Bursary Foundation Summer School over four days this Summer. The Bursary Foundation, founded by alumna Jenny Hopkinson (Class of 2005), is a catalyst for social mobility and supports able pupils from disadvantaged areas to prepare for entrance examinations at selective schools. These pupils had group tutorial sessions, sat mock examinations and one of our Bursary ambassadors from the Sixth Form spoke to them about what life is like at an independent school such as Withington Girls' School.

We hosted a lacrosse tournament this year which involved children from three maintained primary schools alongside pupils from our Junior School. Staff from these primary schools were able to learn new coaching skills in the process. We hope to run more of these sessions next year. Furthermore, we were again pleased to be able to assist with a request from one of our Partner primary schools to provide full technical support for their end of year summer musical. Our drama technician assisted with all the sound and lighting for their show.

	WGS STAFF HOURS	NUMBERS OF PUPILS BENEFITING
CAS (Computers at Schools) online group and computing Facebook groups	50	70
Host of Business Language Champions Event	35	50
ITT partnership with Manchester University	300	Unknown
Sharing resources/lecture with Xaverian College	20	40
Technical Support for a maintained primary school musical	12	40
Lacrosse tournament	5	26
Association of Language Learners	20	+2,500
SATS host venue	125	90
Host for The Bursary Foundation Summer School	3	22
Governance	350	3,717
TOTAL	920	+6,555

SUPPORTING COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Withington Girls' School is well-known for its support of a variety of community initiatives. A breakdown of most of the major events and activities which took place over this year is shown below. Our Music Department is heavily involved in our Community Initiatives and many of the staff and pupil hours in this audit can be attributed to these activities.

The school year started with the annual Harvest Festival collection in both the Junior and Senior Schools. The generosity of the Withington community enabled a large amount of food to be sent to the Fallowfield and Withington Foodbank on behalf of the Juniors and The Booth Centre on behalf of the Seniors. Food collections run by a Sixth Form group of girls have continued to take place over the year and we have sent many hundreds of donations to the Fallowfield and Withington Foodbank as well as Emmeline's Pantry. We were also approached by the Manchester City Council in September to help with the preparation of over 5,000 envelopes about recycling and rubbish collections to be distributed in our local area. We were pleased to help them with this venture as Withington is also an Eco school and recognises the role we can play in our local community in environmental education and good practice.

Manchester Sings 2022 took place in November at Manchester Cathedral. Now in its third year, this year's theme was "We're all in this together". Six maintained primary schools from across Greater Manchester performed with our Junior and Senior School choirs and band at a large-scale celebration of music and poetry at Manchester Cathedral. The children had all rehearsed the songs at their schools separately, under the direction of our Director of Music, and over 230 of them came together on the day for a massed choir event. Money raised at the performance went to our long-standing charity partners, The Booth Centre and Wood Street Mission. We were so pleased that one of our Partner primaries had held their own cake sales in anticipation of the event and contributed the money they raised for these charities on the day. Feedback from the schools involved in Manchester Sings 2022 was outstanding and they, and we, are very much looking forward to the Manchester Sings 2023 event later this term. We are extremely grateful to Beaverbrooks for their continued support of this event.

After a break of two years due to the pandemic we were delighted to welcome back many familiar faces from our local senior citizen groups to an evening of music and festive refreshments in December. Over 120 guests thoroughly enjoyed their evening and were served and entertained by pupils from all age groups and staff. A small group of girls who belong to Thursday Singers in collaboration with Manchester High School for Girls and The Manchester Grammar School, also performed to an audience of over 1,000 people at Manchester Cathedral for Carols in the City in aid of Manchester Foundation Trust Charity. The event raised over £15,000.

In December our Year 11 girls were involved in responding to Santa's letters from children at a local maintained primary school as well as performing in their own nativity to raise funds for a local charity for the homeless, The Mustard Tree. In writing letters, our pupils became 'elves' responding to letters from

primary-aged children. The project creates an opportunity for personal development and reflection as well as aiding with the development of literacy skills in younger pupils. This year over 160 replies were sent, and we were delighted with the feedback received from the primary schools.

Eight of our pupils took part in the Muslim Arts and Culture Festival (MacFest), a celebration of Muslim heritage, in February and contributed to a festival of spoken language entitled 'Mother Tongue' alongside pupils from other schools. Our pupils read their own poems in an online festival which was attended by members of the general public.

Our staff volunteer at a wide range of organisations and groups outside of school and are trustees at charities such as Friends of Rosie and Beech Hall Trust and work for institutions like the National Trust. Members of staff have undertaken charity fundraising runs and walks for organisations like Cancer Research, The Batten Disease Family Association and The Alzheimer's Society. Three members of staff fulfil roles within their respective churches on church committees and as camp leaders, and a Junior School teacher has for many years delivered Yoga classes for children at a local special school and a Down Syndrome Support group once a month. Other staff members cook for a homeless charity, Mad Dogs, and one teaches dance to adults with learning disabilities. Others are involved in sports activities – volunteering their time at Parkrun, a rugby club and a lacrosse club.

All Forms at the School are actively involved in charity fundraising and this year raised £21,500. Money was collected for a range of charities chosen by the pupils themselves, including: Children in Need, Comic Relief, The Christie Hospital, The Brain Charity, Smartworks, The Read Foundation, Ronald MacDonald House, The Girls' Network and Anti-bullying Alliance to name but a few. Pupils sold raffle tickets for hampers over the year, knitted Easter Chicks, collected toys, sold t-shirts, held an own shoe day, an odd socks day and a "bring anything but a rucksack" to school day.

Citizenship Day 2023 in June, titled "Bee the Change", saw students and staff take part in a number of projects both within school and in the local community. Senior citizens were invited into school to watch a performance of the school musical Sister Act and enjoy afternoon refreshments. The cast and musicians spent many hours rehearsing and put on an outstanding show. Year 10 pupils demonstrated their culinary skills in helping to prepare food for the afternoon tea and also spent time as waiters chatting happily with our visitors and sharing stories. This combined WGS effort provided a fabulous afternoon of entertainment for over 120 local senior citizens.

Building on the success last year at Old Moat Children's Centre, keen gardeners from Year 12 and Year 9 this year visited three children's centres to assist with tidying outside spaces, summer planting and cleaning play equipment. The children now have safe areas to play outside and the centres are welcoming for local users. Gardening skills were not limited to children's centres and this year groups of Year 9 students went to Fog Lane Park and Fletcher Moss Park to assist with gardening tasks

SUPPORTING COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

and tidying of those areas enjoyed widely by local residents. It was a privilege for Withington students to visit two local primary schools. Building on our long-standing relationship with Old Moat Primary School, Year 9 pupils spent the day in reading workshops with Year 5 and 6 children. We were also able to donate an additional 250 books to further stock their beautiful school library. At St Kentigern's Primary School staff and students spent the day helping with displays and listening to reading. As a result of this we are now working to develop reading partnerships with the schools supported by our Year 12 students. Art projects also featured in the day with students working with local artist Oskar with a K to produce a mural with spray paint at Cringle Fields. The mural saw students working with vibrant colours and stencils to produce a piece of work that significantly improves the environment for users of the facilities. Year 7 and 8 students also made use of their artistic talents in school producing artwork to be displayed in the Manchester Deaf Centre.

Drawing the day to a close, the media team of pupils from across the year groups worked to produce an assembly to share the outcomes of the day and reflect on the difference Withington can make to those in our local community. With 'Bee the Change' in mind we were able to celebrate the industry and teamwork

that had gone in to making the day a success and, more importantly, what we had learnt from our interactions with our local community.

It is always difficult to quantify the number of people helped by many of our community initiatives as, for example, it is not possible to tell how many people have been positively impacted by our fundraising efforts or donations to local foodbanks. It was particularly difficult to quantify some of the impact of our activities on Citizenship Day as presumably all users of an outdoor space, or centre, will benefit from improvements. Recognising this, our charity partners are looking at ways to quantify the impact of our support and this will continue to be an area of development in subsequent audits. It is interesting to note that Duke of Edinburgh's Award equates the 2,769 hours of volunteering undertaken by our pupils at a social value of £13,318. We believe the social value of our work on Citizenship Day was significant. The audit this year has also managed to capture the wide range of activities undertaken by our staff body. We also hope in future audits to capture more information on the private fundraising and volunteering work undertaken by our pupils outside of school and within the Sixth Form Voluntary Service programme.



SUPPORTING COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

	WGS PUPIL HOURS	WGS STAFF HOURS	NUMBERS BENEFITING
Harvest Festival	150	10	200
Foodbank collection	20	2	500
Positions of responsibility at various churches		370	1,400
Committee member for Gloddaeth Holidays		212	100
Senior Citizens' Performance of Sister Act	5,520	420	250
Manchester Sings 2022	325	48	+235
Santa's letters	80	4	200
Thursday Singers' Performance at Carols in the City (Manchester Foundation Trust Charity)	80	8	Unknown
Pupil fundraising for various charities	1,000	60	Unknown
Pictor Academy/South Manchester Down Syndrome		15	25
Manchester City Council recycling information envelope preparation	15	10	5,000
Ukrainian Children Christmas hampers		10	12
Senior Citizens' Christmas party	960	68	120
Young Leaders' Lacrosse volunteering	80	18	150
Trustee at Friends of Rosie charity		20	Unknown
Duke of Edinburgh Volunteering	2,769		Unknown
Dance Teacher at Stepping Out Dance and Movement company for adults with learning disabilities.		100	200
Volunteer at Parkrun Northwich		60	100
Pupil performances at the Muslim Arts and Culture Festival	25	5	30
Assistant Beaver Scout leader		50	12
Volunteer at Quarry Bank Mill National Trust		144	Unknown
Treasurer at a lacrosse club		150	200
Running a children's rugby club at Burnage Rugby Academy		150	300
Citizenship Day community events	1,105	290	+250
Other staff volunteering/fundraising activities	+200		Unknown
Co-founder and leader of a Feminist Online Film Course		160	120
Cooking for Mad Dog Charity providing meals for the homeless		48	48
TOTAL	+12,329	+2,432	+9,404

SUPPORTING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The cultural and educational programme with The Gambia has been running since 2003 and there are exciting plans for later this year when we will celebrate this 20-year partnership. This year, pupils have organised tombolas and plant sales as well as completing a 5k race at Media City. They have many other individual and group events in the pipeline prior to their departure in December including a large-scale concert to be held at Manchester Cathedral in September. There are huge benefits for those pupils taking part in the year-long fundraising initiative culminating in a week-long stay with a Partnership school in The Gambia. Our pupils interact with the local community and spend time on renovation work at the school, as well as teaching the primary-aged children at Mama Tamba Nursery. This is a wonderful learning experience for all involved. WGS works with local community groups in the country, as well as a local health centre and the benefits of the support we are able to provide are social, economic, cultural and environmental. There are over 100 students at the school

aged between three and six years old and we have worked with this same school since 2003. This year we were able to donate a large amount of football equipment, stationery and toothbrushes and toothpaste for the local health centre. The wider community around the primary school have benefited from the installation of a bore hole for water as well as electricity and a youth empowerment programme which includes a bakery, soap making and juice making facilities, bee keeping and other farm-based projects mostly sponsored by the fundraising of past and current generations of WGS Gambian teams.

Our sports teams visited South Africa this year and spent some time at the Goodgedacht Trust in the Western Cape, a farm-based community support organisation which aims to transform impoverished rural communities and implement sustainable strategies that will bring long term relief to those in need. Members of the touring party fundraised for the Trust and spent time on their tour visiting the project.



CONCLUSION

This audit has highlighted the diverse range of support offered by Withington Girls' School staff and pupils through our Projects and Partnership work. There is clear evidence of well-established links with the maintained sector and the opportunities for all children involved to benefit, are evident. We are proud of the ways many of our mutually beneficial Partnerships have developed and adapted over many years

and are delighted with the new Partnerships established this year. We continue to be grateful for the opportunities that our Partnership Programme provide for both our staff and pupils to play an active role as socially responsible citizens at both a local and global level. We aim to deepen and sustain our Partnerships over the coming year and look forward to some new and exciting prospects to come.





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