

Governors' Annual Report

Number 5, October 2018

Archer Academy governors play a vital role in the school and, behind the scenes, our team continues to support and challenge the school to deliver an ambitious and nurturing school experience for students and staff alike.

Through 2017-18 we saw all the hard work of the past five years come to fruition with our first set of GCSE results.

These exceptional results are a tribute to Lucy Harrison, her

staff, our pioneer students and their parents. We are proud to have been able to play our part in the success of the school.

We saw our students leave for a range of sixth forms and know they will be advocates for the Archer in years to come.

This report gives an insight into some of our work – do get in touch if you'd like to learn more.

Avis Johns, Chair of Governors



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ACADEMY



Headteacher's Highlights

We ended the academic year celebrating our wonderful first GCSE results for our pioneer cohort, who opened the school in 2013. The past five years have been the most privileged of experiences as our school has taken shape. The excellent results achieved by the cohort are testament to their hard work, commitment to school life and representation of the Archer Way. I could not have asked for more from my staff and students, and they thoroughly deserved their success. I am simply very proud.

With 40% of grades being secured at grades 7-9 and 44 Archer Academy students achieving at least one grade 9/A* (with 140 grades, overall, being secured at 9/A*) this highlights the incredible success of the pioneer year group.

The number of students achieving five or more GCSEs, including English and Maths, is 74% at Grade 4 or above. This represents really excellent achievement across the cohort. Even more impressive is the 33% of students (1/3 of the cohort) who secured both English and Maths at Grade 7 or

above.

These excellent results have enabled our students to transition to the 6th form of their choice, studying the courses they have chosen – this is superb and it has been wonderful to enable this success. The vast majority of our outgoing Year 11 cohort have gone on to Woodhouse College and we are delighted to be working in partnership with this outstanding institution.

When looking back over the last academic year, it is poignant to reflect on just how much we achieved. But for me, our inaugural Archer Adventure, where our entire school went on a walk together on routes around London, was an incredibly special moment. We are determined to build a new library at our Upper School and our students showed their commitment to this project by raising over £6,000 through sponsorship of their Archer Adventure – quite an achievement.

We are now a firmly established school. It is a dynamic place to be with a great deal to look forward to.

Lucy Harrison, Headteacher

Governing Body: Review of the Year

As governors we support the school in a number of ways outside of our regular, formal full Governing Body meetings.

As well as working closely with the senior leadership team through our committee meetings where we look in detail at various aspects of school life.

Link governors meet with our heads of department twice a year and give strategic insight into their priorities and challenges. We have also formalised our Strategy and Planning Committee meetings to ensure open communication and linking between committee work.

We continue to give strategic oversight as well as offer skills and expertise from our professional backgrounds, and act as a critical friend to ensure the very best outcomes for our students.

This last year, we said goodbye to founder governor Sanjay Maraj, although he remains Chair of the Trust. We must also thank Seema Shah for her work as a community governor specialising in finance and fundraising.

We were able to welcome new parent governor, Grace Palazzo, who joined the Fundraising Committee and two staff governors, Simran Jouhal and Judith Vandervelde, who help provide the essential link between governors and teachers.

As well as governors, we have volunteers who support committee work, for example in fundraising, resources, finance and communications.

Indeed, there are many ways that parents and community members can support the school, for example by delivering a Bright Ideas lecture or providing work experience opportunities for our Year 10 students.

If you are interested in supporting any aspect of the work of the school or the Governing Body, please contact Andry Moustras for further information:

andrym@thearcheracademy.org.uk

Education & Standards

The Education & Standards Committee ensures the curriculum is appropriate for the student body and monitors the quality of teaching and learning in the school. Therefore, 2017/18 presented a very significant year for the committee, as we moved towards the first set of national qualifications for our students

As a committee, we have been blown away by the efforts that the students and staff have made to prepare for these GCSEs. They have used online learning programmes, targeted small group tuition and 'walking-talking mocks' in an attempt to realise the academic potential of all our students. We also reviewed and ratified the policies and procedures that are necessary for the school to be a registered examinations centre.

When Ofsted arrived in July, we were so impressed with the commitment and passion that our students and staff have for the school. We are delighted that Ofsted were similarly impressed. The published GCSE results are a testament to work undertaken over the past five years. As we move into the next academic year, the committee will certainly celebrate our successes, but we will also continue to identify and interrogate key areas for further improvement. We are confident the academic achievements of our students will go from strength to strength.



If you are interested in working at the Archer Academy, please sign up for job alerts in the 'Join Us' section of our website:

<http://thearcheracademy.org.uk>



Friends Association

The Friends Association continues to explore new ways to build a community of parents and friends, while raising money to enhance the school offer.

They ran a series of excellent events last year, including a fashion show, the annual quiz night and a fabulous summer fair. We are very grateful to all those who work so hard to organise these events and activities for the school.

If you can help, or simply want to find out more, please contact the Friends for further information:

archerfriends@gmail.com

School Highlights

The vision for the school focuses on 'realising potential, inspiring creativity and engaging with our community.' Our staff and students constantly strive to deliver on this vision, both for themselves and for all those around them. As a result, there have been some wonderful events, achievements and successes over the past year.

Highlights of the year must include the Summer Showcase, Sports Day and our Choral and Instrumental concerts. In addition, our special themed weeks such as the Big Draw, LitFest and Science Week were outstanding.

The everyday aspects of the school continue to be outstanding, from rock climbing, debating and chess tournaments against other schools, Dragons Den workshops and Bright Ideas lectures for inspiration from paramedics, dentists, politicians and authors.

We continue to enjoy success in local sports, with excellent performances in athletics, cricket and football. This year also saw the first appearance of an Archer football team in a Barnet Cup Final (Year 7). In addition, the Archer Academy were Barnet Schools junior and senior dance champions.

Students developed their knowledge and experience, with trips to Amsterdam and the USA. Science students attended 10 Downing Street, where they met the Prime Minister. Our residential trip for all students in lower school remains an integral part of the school year. We also appointed our first Senior Student Leadership Team led by our first Head Boy and Head Girl.

Many of our students also pursued various forms of voluntary work in local organisations as they progressed towards Duke of Edinburgh awards.

In sum, the school is buzzing with energy, activity and, indeed, some very special occasions.





Fundraising

Fundraising is always an important issue for schools. At the Archer Academy we are ambitious in our desire to offer every student more than just a basic education.

Delivering our twice-weekly Enrichment programme is an area that we fund from the school budget. Whilst we have brought in some external funding to support this, it would not continue to be possible without the Excellence Fund.

Donations to this allow us to ensure that every student has the opportunity to try two new activities each term, in areas that they might never have had the chance to experience. We are deeply grateful to all those who donate.

The Fundraising committee also looks for ways to support and extend the curriculum. We have benefited from funding to deliver 'Restart' events, and to provide department specific equipment where required.

We are currently working on a number of projects, of which the most significant is 'Make Beaumont Brilliant'. Our ambition is to extend the building to create a library. We have received enough funding to apply for planning permission but this will still require considerable funding and we hope that our parents and friends continue to support this campaign, and share it with their networks.

If you would like to make a donation, or have fundraising expertise or contacts that you would be willing to share with us, please contact:
sarahg@thearcheracademy.org.uk

If you are interested in hiring any of our facilities, see:

<http://www.schoolsplus.co.uk/archeracademy/>

or contact the Schools Plus Venue Manager on 07983533501 on archeracademy@schoolsplus.co.uk

Developing our Campus

A significant amount of work was achieved over the summer, but we are glad to report that the intensive period of building that marked our early years is over.

We have continued to maintain our campus school premises to a high standard through the academic year, and continue to personalise the facilities to meet the distinctive needs of our vision, values and curriculum model.

The Upper School site at Beaumont Close has been developed to provide further specialist GCSE facilities, including an upgraded food technology room. Internal lighting has been improved to be more energy efficient and the entrance to the site now has automated external gates.

Our Lower School site at Stanley Road was re-decorated over the summer holidays and some of the internal spaces were re-configured to enable enhanced teaching and learning, and to support our marginal roll increase.

The Archer Academy has settled into life as a campus school. Although each site retains its own very special identity, staff and students are comfortable moving between the two sites when the need arises.

The school continues to ensure its appointed catering supplier promotes our aim to encourage healthy eating.



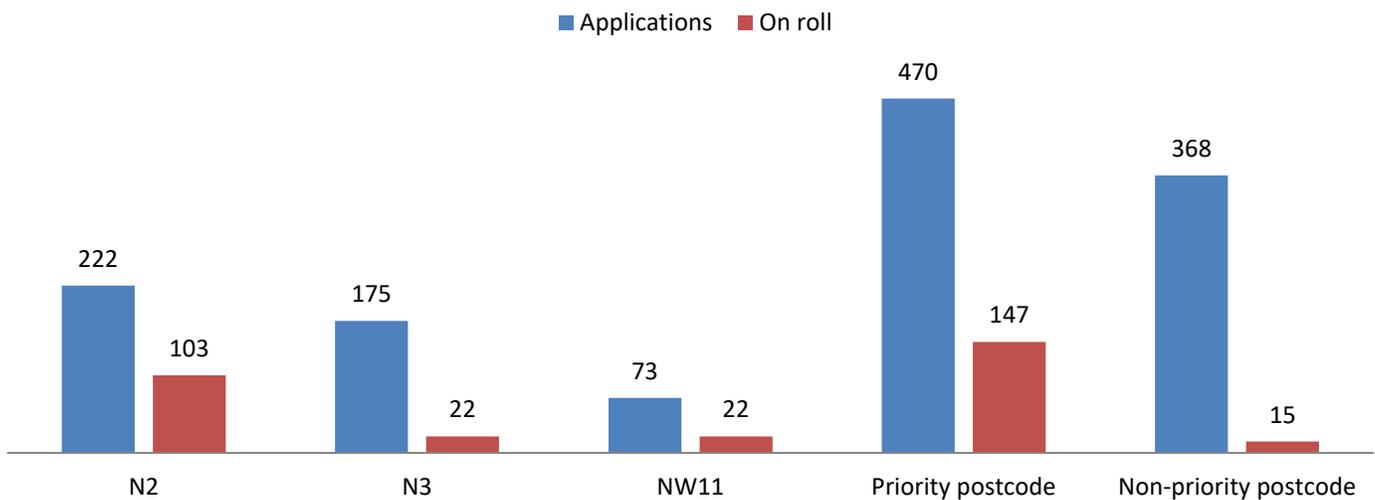
Admissions, September 2018

We received nearly 840 applications for the 162 places available for September 2018 entry.

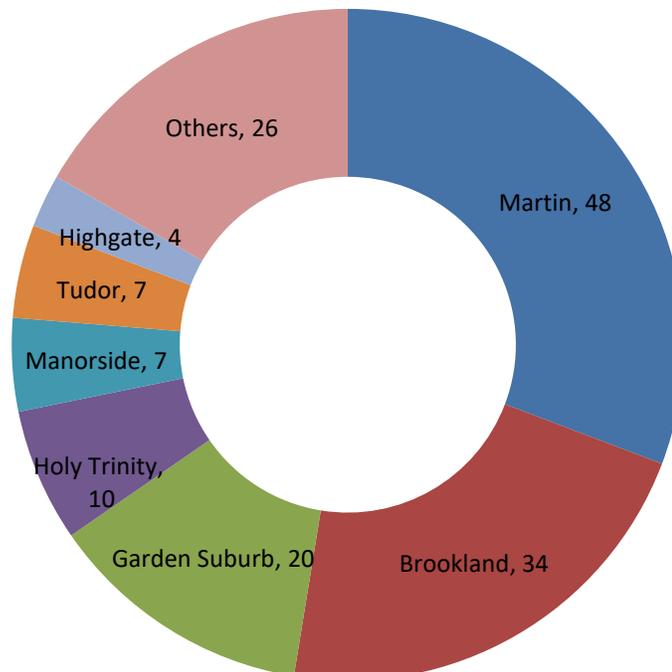
For September 2018, the admissions criteria included a number of feeder places as well as places secured purely on the basis of proximity to the school. This meant that for 2018 admissions, while straight proximity places were not offered outside N2, a number of feeder places were given to those living in the other two priority postcodes.

The Archer Academy Trust will continue to monitor the admissions data in the years ahead.

Postcode (2018-19)



Primary school of students (2018-19)



Key features of our student population: 2016-17

Girls	49%	
Boys	51%	
Students with an Education Health and Care Plan (previously a statement of special educational needs)	5%	The Barnet average is 2.7%. (School Performance in Barnet, 2015)
EAL (students who do not have English as a first language or it is not the language spoken at home)	31%	The Barnet average for EAL students is 38.9%. (School Performance in Barnet, 2015) <i>N.B. English is a barrier to learning for only 3% of our students.</i>
Students eligible for pupil premium funding	28%	The Barnet average is 30.1%. (School Performance in Barnet, 2015)
Academically gifted students	17%	The national average in 2011 was 14.2%. (DfE, 2011)

Attendance: 2017-18

94.5% (excl. students off roll and educated offsite)

National average: 94.7% (DfE, Secondary school performance tables 2015).

Barnet average: 95.1% (DfE, Secondary school performance tables 2015).

Academic progress: 2017-18

This was an exciting year as our first cohort of students finished their time at the Archer Academy. We are delighted to report that the first set of GCSE results were outstanding. Under the new system, exams are graded from 1-9. The proportion of our students gaining five or more GCSEs (including English and Maths) at 4+ was 74%. This represents an excellent level of achievement across the cohort. Over a third of students achieved 7+ (the equivalent of A-A*) in both English and Maths and 13 students secured at least 10 grades 7-9.



Looking Ahead

In the academic year 2018-19, we will continue to train and develop as a board so we are up to date with the latest developments in education and safeguarding. The financial climate affecting schools in the state sector remains challenging. We will therefore continue to put an emphasis on fundraising in order to provide the best opportunities and facilities for our students. Our major campaign is still the new library and "Make Beaumont Brilliant". At the same time, we will continue to develop close working partnerships with local primary schools and colleges. As a governing body we will hope to represent the community of the Archer Academy as fully as possible.

For support of many and various kinds over the past year, we would like to thank:

Alison Moore, Arjun Mittra, Atkin Charitable Foundation, Bernard Manson, Brightbox Marketing, Alex Coric, The Childhood Trust, East Finchley Electrical, Elisca Coelho, Finchley Youth Theatre, First Kicks, Fortitude Dance Company, Full Circle Drama Club, GLH, Grahams Butchers, Hampstead Dyslexia Clinic, Jeremy Leaf Estate Agents, John Lyons Foundation, Josephine's Florist, Kinder Kitchen, King's College London, Liz Sacre, Andy Francis, Melinda Athinodorou, Mike Freer MP, Natalia Cid, Pat Leacock, Peter Copley, Philip Vile Photography, Saracens, Stormont LTRSC, Tatlers Estate Agents, TaxAssist Accountants, The Childhood Trust, Archer Newspaper, Phoenix Cinema, The Big Lottery Fund, Tony's Continental, Zoe Walsh, Sara and Jeff Wolfen, Woodhouse College, Sarah Brown, Ashleigh Hurford, Ian Stone, Grange Big Local.

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Governor Name	Committees/ Responsibilities	Type
Avis Johns	Chair of Governors Education & Standards	Founder / Trust Member
Bryan Marcus	Co-Vice Chair of Governors Chair, Resources Pay Committee	Community
Andry Moustras	Co-Vice Chair of Governors Pastoral & Wellbeing Fundraising & Bus Dev Link, MFL & Humanities Link Governor Coordinator	Community
Toby Blume	Chair, Finance & Audit Fundraising Communications Pay Committee	Founder / Trust Member
Martin Bright	Link, School Council Communications Fundraising & Bus Dev	Parent
Patricia Choiral	Chair, Pastoral & Wellbeing Finance & Audit Link, Safeguarding	Community
Louise Dobrin	Resources	Community
Cathy Halstead	Education & Standards Communications Link, SEND	Founder/ Governor
Jon Hindmarsh	Chair, Education & Standards Chair, Pay Committee Link, Thematic Learning	Founder/ Governor
Grace Palazzo	Fundraising & Bus Dev Link, PE & Science	Parent
Sarah Pearce	Chair, Fundraising & Bus Dev, Resources Company Secretary	Founder/Trust Member
Judith Vandervelde	Pastoral & Wellbeing	Staff
Ben Whittaker	Education & Standards Link, Post-16	Community
Lucy Harrison	Headteacher	
Simran Jouhal	Education & Standards	

Headteacher: Ms L Harrison
Proprietor: The Archer Academy Trust