



Faith in Schools

Annual Report

September 2014– August 2015

This report tells of our work in schools and with churches in Newham over the last twelve months. Our aim is to advance the Christian faith amongst children and young people particularly in schools and in conjunction with churches in Newham. We aim for every child and young person in Newham's schools to have the opportunity to meet, in their RE lessons, local Christians and discover what it means to be a Christian in the 21st century.

To this end, we taught **253 lessons** in **24 different schools**, teaching over **9300 pupils**. We saw over **1,300** pupils at the Easter Experience and the Christmas Journey. Volunteers have given over **1900 hours** of their time supporting what we do in schools. This sees a growth from last year of **77%**.

We trained **52 different people** through our training programmes, which included: assembly training, volunteering in primary schools lessons and learning to lead primary school lessons. We also trained up peer mentors from a primary and secondary private Christian school to come with us into schools and talk to other children their age about their Christian faith. As a team we received one day's training all together, and also had a retreat day together outside of Newham.

Our finances and figures

Our finances go from April 2014 to March 2015. In this time our **income** was **£56,346.00** and our **expenditure** was **£54,518.00**. We are pleased that our charity has become more self-financing through this year as more Newham churches and individuals have given financially to our work, giving up from 12% to 24%. Of the balance left in our account, £808.00 is in restricted funds for wages due to paid in the financial year 2015-2016 for projects that are part way through completing. Leaving £1020.00 in unrestricted funds.

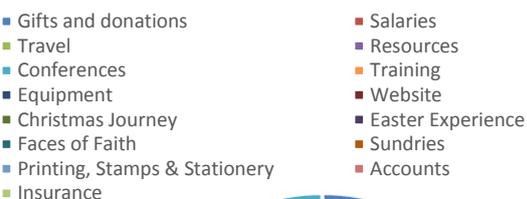
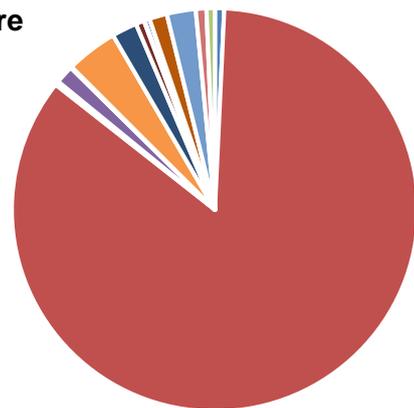
Expenditure

Gifts and donations	400	0.73%
Salaries	46296	84.91%
Travel	173	0.31%
Resources	798	1.50%
Conferences	54	0.10%
Training	2237	4.10%
Equipment	1098	2%
Website	360	0.67%
Christmas Journey	43	0.07%
Easter Experience	214	0.40%
Faces of Faith	0	0%
Sundries	767	1.40%
Printing, Stamps & Stationery	1252	2.30%
Accounts	460	0.84%
Insurance	366	0.67%
TOTAL	54,518	100%

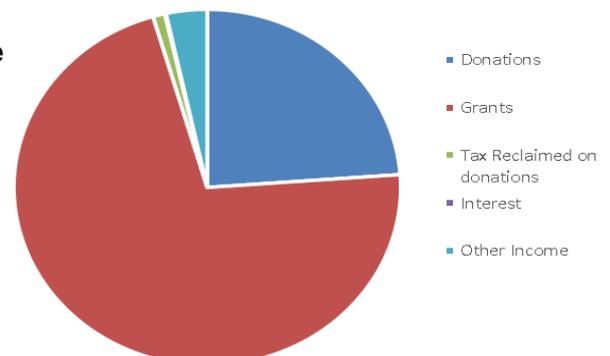
Income

Donations	13,437	24.75%
Grants	40,360	71.70%
Tax Reclaimed on donations	563	0.10%
Interest	56	0.02%
Other Income	1930	3.43%
TOTAL	56,346	100%

Expenditure



Income



New work in Forest Gate starts well

We started work in September 2014 providing 1 day a week of support to churches and schools. This grew to 2 days a week as a new team member joined our Primary Team. Over the last year we have taught 2270 children (including schools coming to the Christmas Journey and "It's Your Move") in Forest Gate schools. We are now working in 8 schools regularly, with support from about 15 churches in Forest Gate. Lessons evaluated by teachers were an average of 5 out of 6 (6 being excellent). To assist with these lessons we have used 26 different volunteers who between them given us 592 hours.



Forest Gate Christmas Journey team December 2014



Christmas Today lesson

Secondary



FIS launched its latest project '**Faith in Action**' by organising a trip to a local Church where 30 Year 9 (aged 13-14) students from Stratford School Academy spent an afternoon as part of their PSHE Day themed – 'Inspiration, Enterprise and Charity'. Students came to Woodgrange Baptist Church where they heard inspiring talks by two local Christian residents. Jahmal Germain, a local decathlon athlete, set to qualify for the Olympic Games 2016 in Rio, Brazil and Melissa Mbewe-Masahma; a local teacher who achieved the remarkable task of losing 24 stones without medical intervention, transforming her body and life in the process. Staff and students alike enjoyed the session. One pupil commented, "I feel like the talk has changed my life!" Others enjoyed being challenged to think about what they need to be doing to make their dreams a reality. Teachers evaluated the sessions very highly and noted of the speakers, "Very inspirational stories." We are looking forward to seeing this project grow in 2015/16.

Volunteers

We have expanded our training offer to churches in Newham in 2014/15 and have seen 77% increase in volunteers giving their time to help us run lessons in schools, as well as special events at churches. We have trained 52 different people and have seen 62% of these people go on to work with schools, a better average than we have realised before. We are so grateful to church leaders for putting us in contact with these potential volunteers, as well as to all our volunteers and the incredible gift they give pupils in Newham through sharing their faith.



Another busy and productive year thanks to the support of Christians and churches in Newham.



Our aim is for every child and young person in Newham's schools to have the opportunity to meet, in their RE lessons, local Christians and discover what it means to be a Christian in the 21st century.

If you are interested in knowing more about our work in schools, please contact us.

W: www.faithinschools.co.uk E: leonie@faithinschools.co.uk T: 07760 820124, ask for Leonie

Find us as well on Facebook at [faith in schools Newham](https://www.facebook.com/faith_in_schools)

Twitter at [@lady_j](https://twitter.com/lady_j) [@faith_in_schools](https://twitter.com/faith_in_schools)

