

LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW

PUBLICATION ADVISORY PANEL

27 SEPTEMBER 2005

Reference from the Meeting of the Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Sub-Committee held on 27 June 2005: African Exchange Presentation

1. At the meeting of the Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Sub-Committee on 27 June 2005, the Sub-Committee received a presentation on an African Exchange project from Mrs Lynne Pritchard, Headteacher of Whitefriars First and Middle School.
2. The Sub-Committee were informed that over the previous two years, Whitefriars School had developed links with schools and communities in Uganda through a charity called Link Community Development. Since the first visit to Isagara in 2002, several further exchange visits had taken place. Members were informed that the exchange project taught pupils the values of co-operation, learning from others, mutual understanding and an acceptance of similarities and differences in people and cultures.
3. Members praised the work undertaken by those involved at Whitefriars First and Middle School. Concern was expressed that knowledge of the project had come to the attention of Members of the Sub-Committee through a report on a local television news bulletin.
4. Further to (3) above, the Sub-Committee **RESOLVED** that a reference be made to the Publications Advisory Panel asking the Panel to examine ways to publicise the ongoing work of the African Exchange Project undertaken by Whitefriars First and Middle school.

FOR CONSIDERATION

Background Papers:

Appendix A Minute 224 of the Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Sub-Committee on 27 June 2005

Available on Request - *Whitefriars, Linking with Uganda Presentation*

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Appendix A

African Exchange Presentation:

The Sub-Committee welcomed Mrs Lynne Pritchard, Headteacher of Whitefriars First and Middle School, who provided Members with a presentation on the African Exchange. It was reported that over the previous two years, Whitefriars School had developed links with schools and communities in Uganda through a charity called Link Community Development. Since the first visit to Isagara in 2002 it was explained that several further exchange visits had taken place, including the recent visit of the Isagara Deputy Head in May 2005. The exchange project was underpinned by several principles, including co-operation, learning from others, mutual understanding and an acceptance of similarities and differences in people and cultures. The Sub-Committee noted that a literacy training programme was undertaken in summer 2004 for approximately one hundred teachers in the Masindi District of Uganda. It was added that a numeracy training programme would be undertaken during summer 2005 when more of the schools' staff were expected to visit Uganda.

Members were also informed that Whitefriars School had set-up a Global Citizenship Week whereby pupils learnt about a different continent each year. Discussion focussed on a range of subjects including the content of the Ugandan curriculum, teaching hours, the size of classes, the benefits that both parties had gained through the project and the opportunity to build similar links with schools in other parts of the world.

RESOLVED: That (1) the Publications Advisory Panel be asked to examine ways to publicise the work of the African Exchange Project undertaken by Whitefriars First and Middle school; and

(2) the Portfolio Holder for Education and Lifelong Learning be sent a copy of the presentation.