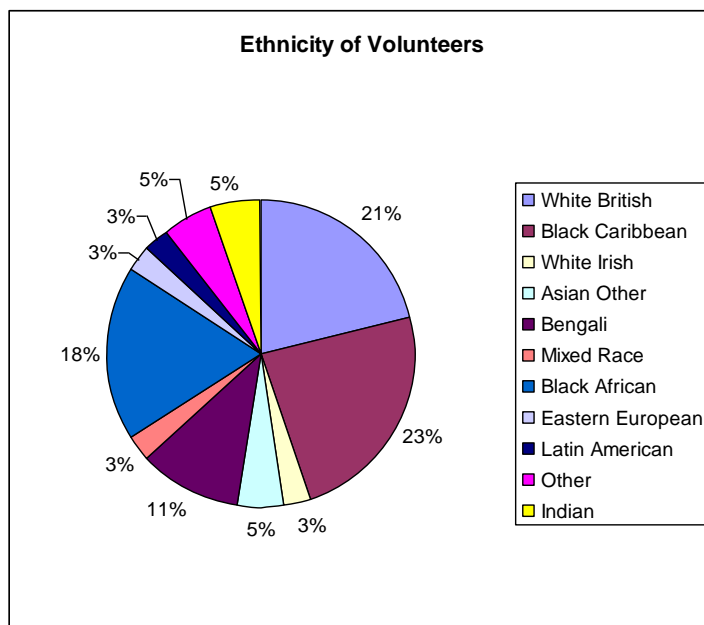


The Sebright Community and Parental Involvement

The area surrounding Sebright Primary School has a very diverse mixture of people. Many are families on low incomes and there are quite a few who are speakers of other languages. The way we have engaged with the local community has been through classes such as ESOL and Basic Skills to volunteering. The community is made up from people who live in Haggerston, Hoxton and De Beauvoir also known as Cluster E.

Community Involvement has grown particularly with the addition of Sebright Children's Centre. In the middle of 2008 Friends of Sebright was formed. The people who are part of the group are parents, grandparents and some are from the local community. They help with school with planning events such as Parent's Day, Summer Fair and other events. They consult with other parents on things such as recycling old school uniforms and school dinners.

Friends of Sebright have raised over £3000 since 2008 this has been used to make improvements to our playground. As well as assisting the school the members of Friends of Sebright started Maths courses to improve their knowledge and skills. Recently Four members achieved level 2 in Maths, Two parents are currently training to be teaching assistant based in Sebright School.



Sebright has a very strong volunteer programme with volunteers in the children's centre and school. Some of our staff members were volunteer parents. All volunteers have mentors. Volunteering has given people more confidence in themselves and a flavour of what it is like to work alongside professionals. It is the biggest programme of its kind in Hackney.

Community Cohesion – Case Study – Sebright Primary School | 2010

Toward the end of 2008 Sebright started an Employability project with a local Regeneration company to tackle unemployment in the area. There are fortnightly employment surgeries for parents who want to work or train.

In 2010 a Parent adviser from Job centre plus was based in Sebright School twice a week to offer parents the opportunity to discuss training and work tailored to their individual circumstances.

This proved to be a huge success. Parents were able to meet the advisor to discuss and calculate how much better off they could be in work, help with CV and interview skills

If Parents felt they didn't have the skills, confidence and knowledge to start work Ben our advisor offers a number of different training opportunities to equip parents such as Health and Safety courses, First Aid courses and Basic IT.

Women Like Us have attended some coffee mornings to offer coaching and developmental training to local mums.

The Community Development team have attended coffee mornings at some of the primary schools in Cluster E and run short introductory sessions of a courses and workshops. This has given many in the community a taste of what is happening at Sebright.

Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities and Speakeasy are two courses run specifically for parents to encourage positive parenting and discussions on positive sexual relationships.



Sebright runs a Housing Surgery a month with another in partnership with Thomas Fairchild.

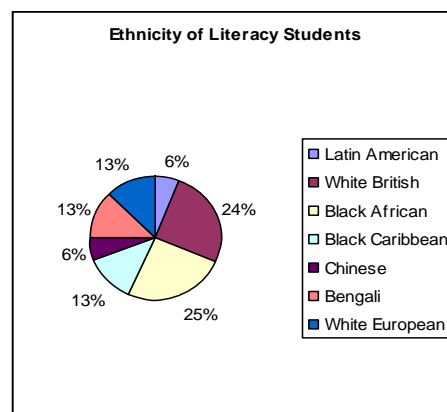
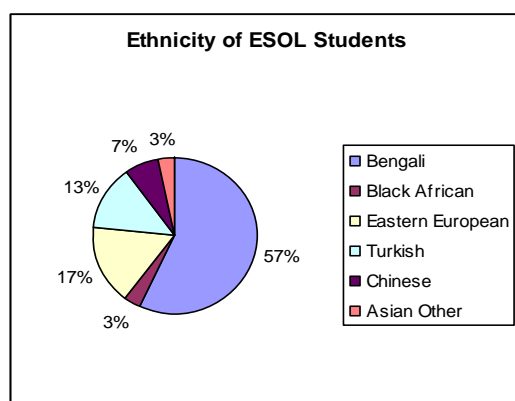
“We at the Hackney Homes repairs call centre have joined Sebright and Thomas Fairchild School by carrying out housing and repair surgeries where we meet our tenants face to face to raise repair tickets and deal with their Housing queries. We meet people from different ethnic back grounds and translate for those that cannot speak English.”

Eray Taylan
Repairs/Outreach Officer at Hackney Homes Ltd

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Who are our partners?

Haggerston School – Numeracy Classes
 The Community College Hackney – Literacy Classes, ESOL and Business Admin Students
 Renaisi – Employment Surgeries
 Hackney Homes Ltd – Housing Surgeries
 Career Development Centre – NVQ Level 2 in Childcare Learning & Development
 Aspire to Learn – NVQ Level 2 in Supporting Teaching and Learning



We have also teamed up with the Hackney College to provide literacy classes to local parents as well as ESOL particularly because there was a real need. Providing ESOL classes has given us the opportunity to engage with communities who may not have accessed local services.

From September 2010 parents who have attended Level 1 and 2 will be able to go onto Level 3. Our parent advisor is working to finance these courses so parents are not required to pay the £10.00 college fee.

We have worked in partnership with Aspire to Learn and Career Development Centre to deliver NVQ Level 2 training to our volunteers in Supporting Teaching and Learning and Childcare Learning and Development.

In Nov 2009 Sebright employed 3 parents successfully completed a NVQ in childcare. They are currently working for Sebright and successful members of our team.

Sebright works in partnership with Inspire to deliver a work experience programme that takes on local school secondary pupils and Business Administration students. They shadow various members of the team for two weeks.

Community Cohesion – Case Study – Sebright Primary School | 2010

From Sept 2009 we received funding for a Fathers worker, we organised a Father and child workshops to run every Saturday. Since it started the numbers have tripled. We plan to continue funding the Saturdays.



The benefit of our community involvement and partnership work is that we have reached the wider community and helped them in some way. The community have really helped us by being part of consultations and also being part of our extended team. Parents are now much more confident in themselves and their abilities. They now feel that they are better equipped to help and support their children.

Attending the literacy classes has also given the learners much more confidence in themselves and their abilities and as well as attending sessions at Sebright they also attend additional computer classes at the college. Many ESOL students have benefited. Some volunteer as a way to increase their confidence in using the English language and two ex ESOL students are now doing the NVQ 2 in Childcare Learning and Development.

In June 2009 we achieved a Quality in Extended school award and more recently we have been recognised by Ofsted April 2010 as:

“Sebright School is a good school that reaches out successfully to its community and where pupils thoroughly enjoy their learning. The high levels of pastoral care that pupils receive help them to develop very positive personal skills and qualities. As a result, their spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness is outstanding. The extended schools work, including the children’s centre, cements the schools very strong parent partnership and community links, and provides good support and enrichment for learning”