

# **Children and Young People's Scrutiny Commission**

## **New Regent's College: The Provision in Summary**

New Regent's College is Hackney's Pupil Referral Unit. We are also a Vocational College and do early intervention work in respect of students deemed at risk of exclusion or vulnerable in a way that means they need a bespoke program of education. We are designed to be a short stay provision, although the majority of students referred to New Regent's College from end of Year 9 onwards remain on our roll until the end of Year 11 to allow them to complete a two year programme at Key Stage 4.

We are an 'all through' provision from Year 1 to Year 11. We do not have Sixth Form or preschool provision.

All of our provision is based on a 25 hour per week of lessons model as recommended by Ofsted. Every student does numeracy and literacy (Primary) English and Maths (Secondary). We follow the National Curriculum and approved exam syllabuses. Students on roll in Year 6 sit SATs. Students on roll in Year 11 sit GCSEs or equivalent qualifications. A small proportion of learners receive one to one tuition as this is deemed the best way to meet their needs.

Our provision is made up of the following:

**Primary** (Years 1 to 6) currently on our Ickburgh Road site.

**Key Stage 3** (Years 7 to 9) at Ickburgh Road. These are divided into groups according to their readiness to return to mainstream schools.

**Key Stage 4** (Years 10 and 11) New Regent's College assesses and quality assures the education of these learners which is currently 'commissioned' to external providers (usually know as Alternative Education Provision). All our providers are registered by the DfE and subject to Inspection by Ofsted. Most are rated 'Good' or better, and, the annual commissioning process takes account of student outcomes, a Tri Borough Quality Assurance Process, and, outcomes of Ofsted Inspections. In total we commissioned 13 different providers last year, mainly located in Hackney.

### **Key Stage 4 – Vulnerable Girls**

Known as the 'Blue Hut' as the current premises are painted blue, this is a girls only provision for learners who have been identified as vulnerable and usually at risk of child sexual exploitation. This is a full time programme which combines study for GCSEs and equivalent qualifications with programmes designed to address their vulnerability. To my knowledge, this is the only provision of its type within Hackney and its neighbouring boroughs.

All of the above are provisions for any Hackney resident who has been Permanently Excluded (PEX), students referred to New Regent's College by the Assistant Director of education due to 'exceptional circumstances', and, students who are referred by their

schools (with parental agreement) for a time limited period of intervention (schools pay New Regent's College as a traded service and this is known as Dual Registration).

In addition The Restorative Learning School (RLS) housed on our Ickburgh Road site, is a traded service for students who mainstream schools have Fixed Term Excluded for five days or more but who will return to their school at the end of the Fixed Term exclusion. New Regent's College supervises the students doing work and tries to 'restore' the child's place at the school by getting the child to reflect on what happened or how to avoid a repetition of these behaviours. The RLS is separate to the rest of New Regent's College and students do not mix at any time. RLS students do not appear on our school roll.

### **Primary Partnership Placements**

These are a maximum of 12 places, funded by Hackney Learning Trust, for students in Year 1 to 5 deemed to be at risk of exclusion. The student attends New Regent's College for four days per week and spends the fifth day at the 'Host' school. We use a 'Nurture Group' model to support the child in improving behaviours and relationships. After 12 weeks the child returns to their school. This is with explicit parental agreement. At the time of writing, every child has either returned to their original school or has been placed in Special School via an EHC Plan. This programme has been successful in reducing rates of exclusion amongst Primary learners.

New Regent's School roll changes on a daily basis. If another Headteacher Permanently Excludes a Hackney resident we take responsibility for that child's education within five working days, and, immediately if that child is a Looked After Child or identified as vulnerable. We also act quickly in respect of referrals from schools. We have to plan for spare capacity and data sets are highly variable. A 'Snapshot' of our school on one day could be very different a week later.

We are placed funded for 225 learners (a notional figure) who will be 'ever on roll' during an academic year. This means New Regent's College will be educating that number of learners at some point during the academic year. In 2017/18 our 'ever on roll' figure was actually 258 – our funding will be adjusted for the next academic year consistent with a protocol agreed with Hackney Learning Trust.

In April 2019 we are due to move into new premises at Nile Street. This will be our first purpose built site, funded by Hackney Council. I have been heavily involved in the design of the new building. Initially we will move our Primary and Key Stage 3 provision. From September 2019 Year 10 will be predominantly educated on site. Year 11 will be on site from September 2020. We will still commission some external provision for KS4 even when we have our own KS4 school at Nile Street.

### **Mission Statement and Ethos**

Our mission statement is 'Learning to succeed'. Young people join us with a sense of failure, low expectation of themselves and poor self-esteem. They have either been PEX or have not been successful within a mainstream context of groups of 25+ learners. Groups at New Regent's College rarely exceed 10 learners, usually with two or more adults, including one Specialist teacher. We do not focus heavily on the past, but the present and the future. The aim is to refocus the student on learning and rebuild relationships with teachers and other adults. Primary and KS3 PEX learners will usually be referred back to a different mainstream school, when New Regent's College judge the time is right, via a process known as In Year Fair Access (IYFA).

## **Interventions**

These are varied and bespoke according to the needs of each learner. Most interventions are one to one. We also invite groups into school to work with our learners. We have time allocated by Young Hackney (who address risk taking behaviour and gang related issues) and are part of the WHAMs Project which is focused on developing good mental health and wellbeing in schools. Recent trips and visits have included to the Institute of Mechanical Engineering (KS3), Tate Modern, The Royal Navy Base at Canary Wharf and Swan Upping at Windsor (thanks to one of our Board Members). We participate in school sport competitions (Indoor Rowing at Lea Valley Athletics Centre, for example).

We had bi annual awards ceremonies supported by The Vintners – one of London's Worshipful Companies. In July 2018 one of our students won the English Schools' Athletics National Championship High Jump competition – jumping 1.83m. In short, we provide an extensive 'Enrichment Curriculum' which is designed to normalise behaviour and develop a love of learning. There is no shortage of external organisations who want to work with us. We need to determine what will make the most positive impact on our learners.

## **Leadership and Management**

Richard Brown has been Executive Headteacher since 2013 and combines this with being Headteacher of The Urswick School (a mainstream 11-19 Secondary School). Steve Belk is Chair of our Management Board and was previously Head of Hackney Learning Trust. Our Board includes representatives of Hackney Learning Trust, Primary and Secondary Headteachers, staff and community representatives. Sue Parillon is Head of Lower School. Our Primary section is currently led by Orlene Badu, an experienced Hackney Headteacher on a part time secondment.

Prior to 2013 there were numerous reorganisations of the provision and a rapid turnover of school leaders. Since 2013 there has been a period of stability in terms of the leadership of the school, which is set to continue.

We are the first school in our sector to be awarded an Equalities Award. We also gained the Artsmark – a reflection of the excellence of our arts education and our creativity in meeting the needs of young people.

## **Ofsted**

New Regent's College was last Inspected in June 2016 when our overall effectiveness was graded as 'Good'. We were graded as 'Good' in all four elements of the Inspection: Effectiveness of Leadership and Management; Quality of Teaching, Learning and Assessment; Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare; Outcomes for Pupils. The previous Inspection in June 2014 had categorised the School as 'Requiring Improvement'. Ofsted (2016) reported: 'Since the last inspection, the Executive Headteacher and Senior Leaders, supported by an experienced Management Board, have improved standards and raised expectations'.

'Staff have a clear understanding of the vulnerabilities of their pupils. Teachers plan lessons that successfully meet the needs of pupils'.

In my judgement, the quality of education has further improved since the last Inspection. This view is shared by Hackney Learning Trust's School Improvement Partner (SIP). We will be aiming to be judged 'Outstanding' at our next Ofsted Inspection. To place this in context, I am advised that nationally only one PRU inspected under the current Ofsted framework has been graded outstanding – and that is a KS4 provision not an all age provision like New Regent's College.

## **End of Key Stage 4 Outcomes**

2018 GCSE results are still provisional (and we have lodged a significant number of appeals in respect of these results given the uncertainty surrounding new specifications). These headlines reflect all our Year 11 students on roll including those learners commissioned to different providers (89 in total).

The percentage of students achieving 5+ GCSEs including English and Maths was 4.5% (4 students). This figure though low compared to mainstream schools will be well above average for the sector (it is usually less than 1% nationally).

10% achieved grades 4 to 9 in both English and Maths.

85 students achieved a qualification – one or more GCSEs or an equivalent qualification. Of those that didn't, one has been missing for most of the last year and the others are persistent non-attenders where statutory action has made no impact.

Below is our statistical analysis of New Regent's College student outcomes compared with national and London provisions within our sector (2012/13 to 2016/17 – the latest year for which validated data is available).

**New Regent's College 2016/17 Performance Analysis**  
National and Local Comparisons for PRU and AP Pupils

Region/ Local Authority	Number of end of key stage 4 pupils	Percentage of pupils at the end of key stage 4 achieving						Average GCSE and equivalents point score per pupil at the end of key stage 4
		5+ GCSE at A*- C or equivalent %	5+ A*- C including English and Mathematics GCSEs %	5+ GCSE at A*- G or equivalent %	Level 2 English and Mathematics skills %	Level 1 English and mathematics skills %	A pass in any qualification %	
National	8,982	1.9	1.2 (1.1*)	10.5	2.2 (3.2*)	21.3	57.8	51.2
London	2,233	2.9	1.8 (1.4*)	12.1	2.9 (5.1*)	16.3	57.6	56.7
Outer London	1,301	3.7	2.5 (2.2*)	12.4	3.4 (6.9*)	16.8	55.4	55.2
Inner London	932	1.8	1.0 (0.3*)	11.7	2.3(2.8*)	15.7	60.7	58.8
<b>NRC</b>								
<b>2012/13</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>0.91</b>	<b>0.91</b>	<b>15.45</b>	<b>1.82</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>75.45</b>	<b>48.65</b>
<b>NRC</b>								
<b>2013/14</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>0.99</b>	<b>0.99</b>	<b>30.6</b>	<b>3.96</b>	<b>33.6</b>	<b>79.2</b>	<b>57.03</b>
<b>NRC</b>								
<b>2014/15</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>2.88</b>	<b>2.88</b>	<b>41.35</b>	<b>6.73</b>	<b>50.96</b>	<b>94.23</b>	<b>79.12</b>
<b>NRC</b>								
<b>2015/16</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>2.29</b>	<b>2.29</b>	<b>48.27</b>	<b>9.19</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>95.4</b>	<b>85.24</b>
<b>NRC</b>								
<b>2016/17</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>2.15</b>	<b>2.15</b>	<b>35.48</b>	<b>7.52</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>96.77</b>	<b>73.80</b>
<b>+/-</b>								
<b>National</b>		<b>+0.25</b>	<b>+0.95 (1.05*)</b>	<b>+24.98</b>	<b>5.32 (4.32*)</b>	<b>+21.7</b>	<b>+38.97</b>	<b>+22.6</b>

The comparative data used in this table can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/revised-gcse-and-equivalent-results-in-england-2014-to-2015> and at  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/revised-gcse-and-equivalent-results-in-england-2015-to-2016> for available comparison data marked \*