



City of Sanctuary

Sanctuary award

Report from the appraisal committee

Name and type of organisation:	Newman Catholic College
Town / City:	Brent, London
Name / position of lead applicant:	Susan Grace, Assistant Headteacher
Date of submission:	26 April, 2019
Date of appraisal team response:	11/05/2019
Names of appraisal team:	Ben Margolis, Leao Neto, Jian Kay, Anne Kittappa, Tahseen Mehar, Misha Quick-Tomasevic

The Organisation Context

Purpose of the organisation, size, numbers of staff, numbers of users/ numbers of people seeking sanctuary etc.

Large Secondary School and 6th form college with a large number of EAL students including some UASC and other refugees and asylum seekers

Summary of Activity

The Appraisal team discussed the organisation's presented application and evidence. This report should be read in conjunction with those documents.

We recognise and commend current activity, in particular the following examples of good practice:

Newman Catholic College shows an outstanding commitment to being a School of Sanctuary which is welcoming for all of those studying in the school who are forced to leave their own countries and homes behind.

The commitment appears to be from across the school with the explicit support of governors, senior leadership, the teaching staff and students. It is particularly welcome to see the

involvement of some students who are themselves refugees or UASC. There is a clear pathway of support for refugee children including bridging lessons and therapeutic support which is so crucial for sanctuary seekers. It is good to see that this support extends beyond the school into home visits and family networking. Newman Catholic College also demonstrates its desire to contribute to the wider Sanctuary movement through their support for Brent Borough of Sanctuary and offer to help other schools and faith groups seeking to become places of sanctuary.

Feedback on key principles

Below are our reflections on the evidence relating to the three principles of the Sanctuary Award

<p>Learn <i>Learn about what it means to be seeking sanctuary</i></p>	<p>It is good to see that learning is happening across the school community and opportunities have been put in place for governors, staff and students. It would be good to know how those in the school with lived experience are able to share their own experiences (as well as the drama plays) if they wish to, and also whether external speakers have come to the school to share their experiences. We would like to hear more about the plan to map curriculum links in each subject area and whether this could be done in connection with other schools. Would it be possible for some of the resources that have been added to the teachers shared area to be shared with other schools?</p>
<p>Embed <i>Embed this knowledge in activities and infrastructure of the organisation</i></p>	<p>Great to see the connections with other organisations including Sufra and Paiwand and the active participation in Refugee Week. Also really good to see that EAL students are supported to explore London. An induction for new students is vital - are you able to share what the induction involves? How does your buddying system work - we would like to share any learning you have with other schools. We welcome the schools commitment to signposting parents to potential support organisations and helping people understand their rights when it comes to accessing medical care. Student involvement is clear through the London Citizens group and the focus group. You might be interested in the Friends Not Foes group at 6th Form College Colchester which has developed a lot of interesting student led work in this area - https://www.facebook.com/fnfcoldch/. An additional suggestion would be to appoint a School Governor as a Governor of Sanctuary who has a responsibility to ensure the ongoing commitment of the school and that it is meeting its responsibilities as a School of Sanctuary. Has the school formally signed up to the City of Sanctuary charter? The charter is available at https://cityofsanctuary.org/about/. Can the governors sign up to this?</p>

<p>Share <i>Share the knowledge and understanding with the organisation's wider community</i></p>	<p>The school is actively involved in Brent Borough of Sanctuary. We would like to explore with you how you could practically support other schools and faith groups to become Schools of Sanctuary both in Brent but potentially also elsewhere in London. The City of Sanctuary regional coordinator is hoping to establish a Schools of Sanctuary support group for London and we welcome Newman's participation in that. It is good to see the school website includes information about Schools of Sanctuary. It would also be useful to add the charter to this page.</p>
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<p>Reflections on future plans</p>	
<p>The following are the areas of commendation and recommendation for the ways in which the applicant states they intend to develop their commitment to being a place of sanctuary over the next three years:</p>	
<p>The school already has such a fantastic programme in place that an ongoing commitment to maintaining and building on this over the next three years demonstrates the desire to continue to grow as a School of Sanctuary. There are a small number of suggestions that have been made in this appraisal that we would encourage the school to follow up on - and we would be very happy to discuss these in more detail. One area we would like to explore more is the schools relationship with universities and how students with refugee or uncertain status are supported to access higher education.</p>	

ASSESSMENT

Has the minimum criteria specified in the stream of sanctuary guidelines been met?

Have the following criteria been met across the whole portfolio of evidence?

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Criteria	Criteria met?
<p>Minimum Criteria</p> <p>Have the minimum criteria specified in the Stream of Sanctuary guidelines been met (where relevant)</p>	Yes
<p>Values and network principles</p> <p><i>Endorsing the City of Sanctuary's charter and pledging support to the local organisation vision of welcome as relevant. Is the commitment to the vision of welcome visible for the public to see?</i></p>	Not yet
<p>Staff involvement / awareness</p> <p><i>Was everybody made aware of what Sanctuary means? Is there evidence of a whole organisational approach to learning about what it means to be seeking sanctuary</i></p>	Yes
<p>Engagement of people seeking sanctuary</p> <p><i>Is there evidence of meaningful engagement with people seeking sanctuary?</i></p>	Yes
<p>Sustainable commitment</p> <p><i>Has the organisation demonstrated a sustainable commitment to sanctuary? What evidence is there that this commitment will continue after the award is granted? Is there evidence of ensuring that examples of welcome can be sustained through embedding in policy and procedures or the organisational development plans.</i></p>	Yes
<p>Self-evaluation</p>	Yes

<i>Do the staff/volunteers feel that the organisation has completed sufficient work for the award?</i>	
Feedback from people seeking sanctuary <i>Has feedback from people seeking sanctuary been taken into account?</i>	Yes
Sharing achievements and learning <i>Is there evidence of planning to share achievements either through their networks or through City of Sanctuary?</i>	Yes

Conclusions		
The review panel were unanimous in concluding that the organisation has fully met the conditions to be granted a Sanctuary Award.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Further recommendations
Additional recommendations from the appraisal group (including areas of improvement necessary for applicants who have not yet met all condition necessary to be granted a Sanctuary Award)
As noted in the sections above

Date awarded	June 11 th 2019
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Signatures	
Signed by the lead applicant	Susan Grace Assistant Headteacher
Signed by the lead member of the appraisal group	Ben Margolis, City of Sanctuary regional coordinator