

THE CITY OF LONDON VIRTUAL SCHOOL MAGAZINE



EDUCATION

ACTIVITIES

SPORTS

AWARDS

2026



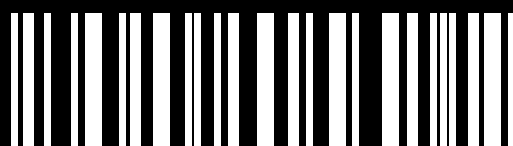
The Virtual School



Music Project



Achievements



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Welcome

Welcome to the City of London Virtual School magazine. This magazine has been created as part of my business administration apprenticeship and provides information about the achievements and exciting projects that have taken place recently in the City of London Virtual School.

Emilia Adeyemo
March 2026



About the virtual school

The Virtual School promotes and supports the education of all children with a social worker and those who had a social worker in the past.

The virtual school organises activities for the children and the young people to do over the summer, spring and winter. They organise it for the easter break too. They organise supper club and it is ran by the CiCC



What we do

The virtual school work with different organisations to meet the needs of the young people. This is through tuition and extra curricular activities.



The virtual school ensures that the young people are doing well in their education. We cater to the young people on their dreams and aspirations



Music Project

The Virtual School staff organised a music project to give the children and young people the opportunity to learn a musical instrument.

During the last two years sixteen young people have been provided with an instrument of their choice, and been able to have regular lessons with teachers from the company 'Musecool'.

These lessons have increased our young people's engagement in extra curricular activity, provided opportunities to be creative and all have been invited to perform in a concert at the Royal School of Music in the Summer.

'Musecool' provide lessons in six different languages and this has really benefited our young people who speak a variety of languages.

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City of London Football

The City of London Virtual School organises and hosts monthly football training sessions at Shoreditch Power League. The sessions are well attended and last year, we celebrated young people's participation with a summer tournament.

The tournament was a great success and featured teams made up of City Care Leavers, staff and young people from other London boroughs like Harrow. Another tournament will be held this summer and we expect it be even bigger and better than last year!

Following the football training sessions the young people also attend the CiCC supper club which provides additional opportunities for getting together and spending quality time with one another over a meal and this has also been an amazing experience for everyone involved.



More Than a Game: City of London Virtual School Football.

Once a month, our team, a group of care leavers and care experienced young people aged 16-25 who are connected to the City of London Virtual School and the Children in Care Council come together on the pitch to do more than just play football. We often combine this with a supper club evening meal to make it more enjoyable for all including those for whom football is not a strong interest.

This is more than just exercise. As they gather, they meet peers, build rapport, confidence, friendships and a sense of belonging that many of them have been missing in other parts of their lives. The football is also open to Virtual School young people from other boroughs as well.

The Virtual School supports children and young people who have a Social Worker, are in care or have experienced care, and those who need extra support in education. Staff realised football can be a conduit for care leaver connections and is one of the most powerful ways to encourage good relations between staff and young people as well as helping youth to engage among themselves meaningfully. Each monthly game focuses on teamwork, respect and resilience, fitness, and skills. Players learn how to communicate, solve problems together and support each other, with no pressure whether you win or lose.

The impact reaches far beyond the final whistle. Staff as well as young participants see positivity in these regular meetups and activities, building confidence, self-belief, and emotional resilience. Young people who commit to the monthly games are more likely to engage with education, attend other activities and talk more openly with trusted adults. The relationships built around football and between players and staff help create a strong safety net around each young person.

City of London Virtual School football shows how a simple game can change the way young people see themselves. It gives them a chance to feel proud to be part of something positive and to imagine new possibilities for their futures. Every step a young person takes to get out of the house, usually on a cold evening, to be there with their peers and be part of the team, is a small move towards a brighter future for them both on and off the pitch.

By Yahya Hassan Ahmed, a football coach and a Youth worker apprentice

Holiday and Food Programme

The Virtual School has worked with the Early Years and Commissioning teams to deliver holiday programmes for children and young people aged five to eighteen.

The holiday programmes have been run at The Aldgate School and Portsoken Community Centre.

Places have been open to all children and families who are entitled to free school meals or have a connection with additional City of London services.

This programme aims to:

- provide safe, enriching holiday activities
- support families with holiday child care
- increase well being
- provide opportunities to make, build and maintain friendships
- offer access to daily meals, snacks and drinks



Holiday fun, trips and teamwork

22-23 December & 30-31 January

In December and January our holiday programme included a range of activities provided by the Virtual School, Early Years Team, KABs (Kids and Activities Bootcamps) and Care2Dance.

There were cookery and art lessons, jewelry making, team games, mindfulness sessions, beatbox dancing, cookery and bingo!

Father Christmas paid a visit and brought gifts for all the children. The older children, aged 11-18 years attended a school trip to Arsenal football ground.

The young people said they loved the activities, particularly the cooking, dance, trip to Arsenal and bingo prizes! Fifteen of the children who attended in December have since continued to attend free weekly dance lessons and report that they 'love them!'



Epping Forest

The Virtual School arranges trips to Epping Forest four times a year, in different seasons and invites young people from Virtual Schools across London to attend. Whilst there, the children and young people go on walks, take part in orienteering, have picnics and produce art work.

These sessions allow young people to meet up and be together and be in touch with nature. In the Autumn the young people looked at the artwork of Andrew Goldsworthy and created their own mandalas with leaves, sticks and berries.

A range of other activities have been done at the forest such as kite flying and the young people taught the staff on how to do it and it was a success. At the forest, we threw and caught boomerangs and we located where they fell together. Catapults were built and it was fun. The food was shared around the campfire and we learnt how to make Japanese leaf art.



Fun in the Forest



Shining Stars Celebration

Shining Stars 2025 was real a success. The young people were happy and satisfied with their achievements and the awards that they received. Many of the young people reported that they had an amazing experience at Shining Stars.



Shining Stars is an event for celebrating the achievements of the young people. The event was hosted by the City of London Virtual School and Partnership for Young London.

60 young people were celebrated by over 160 guests from the virtual schools across London, in the Livery Hall on Monday 14th July. The young people were recognised for their outstanding progress in education in 2025. The TLC Live tuition company provided the prizes and the City of London Neighbourhood fund sponsored the event.



Future Plans

Ready to Shine!



The London Virtual Schools will be holding their very first Shine! Show at Hoxton Hall on Wednesday 8th July.

Young people will have the opportunity to share their many talents on a professional stage.

There will be an art exhibition in the foyer where artistic talent will be showcased.

Virtual School students will be able to work backstage in the hair, make up, special effects and stage management departments. These students will be mentored by industry professionals.

Remedy tutors will be sponsoring this exciting event.