



CITY YEAR LONDON

give a year. **change** the world

Giving back to get ahead

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City Year Overview

City Year is built on the belief that young people can change the world. As tutors, mentors and role models, City Year's young leaders make a difference in the lives of children and transform schools and communities in 22 cities in the United States, in Johannesburg, South Africa and since September 2010, London.

City Year's **GOALS** are to:

- Improve children's **A**ttendance, **B**ehaviour and **C**urriculum performance (the **ABCs**)
- Develop young leaders who have the passion, values, experience and skills to lead transformative change to address pressing public problems
- Break down social barriers
- Improve and promote voluntary citizen service



City Year volunteers experience a Leap Year, not a Gap Year

- Dynamic teamwork
- Leadership experience in schools
- Over 300hrs of training & development
- Leadership After City Year Programme

In 2010/11:

- 35,000 hours spent in academic classroom support
- 65,000 hours of service in total
- More than 2,000 children served
- 4:1 ratio of applicants to successful candidates for corps members for January 2012 cohort

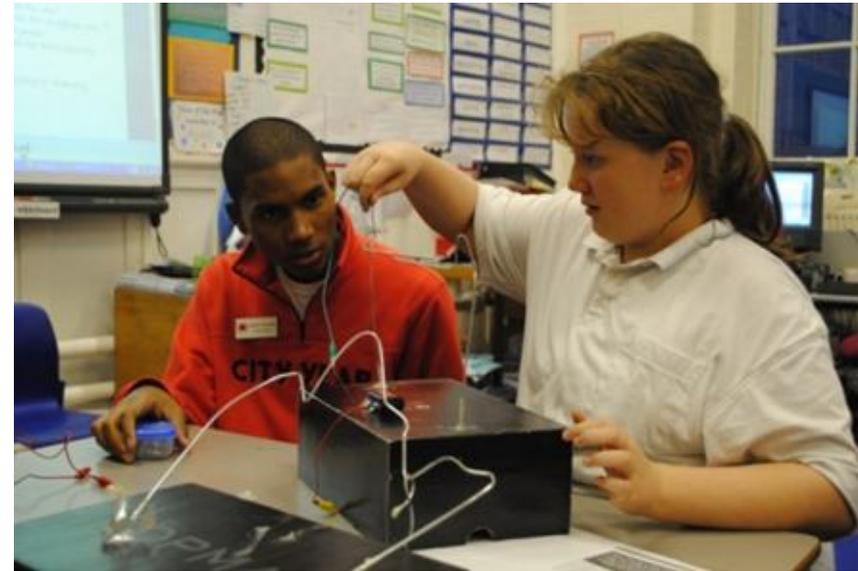
“Participation in City Year had a positive and significant impact on ‘corps members’, including increased confidence and development of new skills such as public speaking and leadership. Ninety three per cent of ‘corps members’ felt they had gained valuable skills that could be used outside City Year.”

Evaluation of the City Year London Programme,
Year One Report, Institute for Volunteering
Research, October 2011



Volunteers said:

- *“I just thought I would gain working with children, a bit more experience, but I didn’t think I would gain so much confidence.”*
- *“City Year has provided me with the opportunity to develop skills as a leader that I never thought I had.”*
- *“Working with an extremely diverse team has enabled me to think or analyse situations in different ways.”*
- *“I know that my CV is now a million times better than it was when I started.”*



In 2012 the bar is higher than ever for graduates

- The game has changed
- The bar to entry to employment is higher than ever
- The economic crisis has put the UK in danger of 'losing a generation'



Does the UK need to be more radical?

- We believe there is a powerful case for changing our expectations of young people after compulsory education
- The UK should be more ambitious about **National Citizen Service**
- National Citizen Service could achieve a dual impact – new resources for the community, plus a radical investment in skills, work experience and talent of Britain’s young people
- Feedback from City Year’s corporate partners is that the *quality* of volunteering is important to them.
- A **transition year** between education and work could be an answer to the graduate employability crisis



After graduating from City Year...

- More than 90% leave City Year into employment or training
- City Year USA – Comcast is now fast tracking alumni to interview stage
- UK corporate partners are now hiring our alumni



What can employers and careers advisers do in the meantime?

Good graduate schemes and careers advisers should ask young people:

- “What have you done for your community?”
- “How have you made a difference to the lives of others and what did you learn from it?”
- “How can you do more in your community to impress the corporate world?”

Call on the Government to expand its National Citizen Service programme to support a year long opportunity to support the transition from education to work





Thank you

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