

## Workers Report 2018/19

Just as each new year has a different emphasis, 2018/19 was a year of changes.

Our lunch club at Rastrick School reached a conclusion after the retirement of our long term supporter Mark Stevenson but as one season ends, a new one comes.

Crossley Heath School, which had started a new Question Point run by local church volunteers, had opportunity to involve CICS staff and develop further. By input from CICS workers, we were able to offer two tables at each session. One of these offered a thought provoking question for students to answer with a written comment on. On the other table other the answer was a more active response, such as using play dough.

Over the year as our presence became more established, CICS staff were able to deliver three sets of RS lessons to different age groups. These always had a Question and Answer element with students asking excellent well thought out queries.

We also engaged with the pastoral staff and delivered throughout the academic year, a series of Alcohol Awareness workshops which had a strong link to the Street Angels ministry.

With an established work, CICS is a regular fixture in other schools too. During the same year we delivered lessons in Lightcliffe Academy and in Ryburn School, building on relationships made with the staff in previous years.

At Brighouse High, our long standing mentoring support program continues and positive comments by staff and students demonstrate the continued value of this pastoral support role. Using our popular Question Point activity at Brighouse, we have a great spot where we engage several hundred children and also members of staff who come and chat and give their viewpoints to CICS staff.

The team had another chance to bring a Christian assembly at Christmas for all the year groups at Brighouse High and these are part of the tradition in the final week of Autumn term each year.

With our link to Scripture Union, Neil Harris was asked to deliver a talk at the regional SU conference in October 2018 and also share a little about CICS to other workers.

CICS often focuses on High schools to allocate staff time but in July, we had a special request to deliver an RE day to Parkinson Lane School. The pupils, many of whom came from families with different beliefs and perspectives, were great and engaged well in learning about Jesus.

Neil Harris

Lead Worker (to Sep 2019)

See Nancy's latest termly report from the work in Todmorden with Open the Book, It's Your Move and other assemblies/lessons in all 5 primary schools feeding into Question Point etc in Todmorden High School. The Labyrinth was well received and will, hopefully, be used throughout Calderdale.

As a personal footnote, I want to thank the staff, trustees and our faithful band of volunteers for CICS I had the great privilege to work with from Oct 2015 to September 2019. Continue to pray for the work as it soon enters into the 2020s and thanks to those who pray, and financially commit to this vital role in Gods outreach to young people in Calderdale.

Neil.