

Primary School of the Year: St Antony's RC Primary School, Newham



What the school says about its pupils:

The general aim of our school is to recognise the individual qualities of each child and to develop them to his or her full potential. We help each child to foster an attitude of reverence and love for God and neighbour and to acquire the knowledge and skills relevant to our ever-changing world.

Angela Moore

Angela Moore, a Jamaican born headteacher, transforms a failing East London primary school across an eight-year period.

In 2002, education supply agencies and recruiters visited Australia to recruit teachers. The Jamaican government made contact with Estelle Morris, the then education secretary, to appeal to them to stop encouraging teachers from Jamaica to leave as they had already lost

600 teachers to other countries in that year. Teachers were leaving their homelands to go to Britain and North America as they were attracted by much higher salaries.

Diane Abbott, the then Labour MP for Hackney North and Stoke Newington, quoted in *The Guardian*, "It's bad for Jamaica because they need their trained teachers, and it is also not good for British schools to be so dependent on foreign teachers." She also quoted, "I think it is good in a way to bring supply teachers from the Caribbean to schools where there are large numbers of Caribbean children. It's better than bringing them in from Eastern Europe because they've never taught in multi-cultural schools." *Guardian 2002*

Below is a success story, covered by a news outlet in Jamaica, of Angela Moore and school of the year, St Antony's RC Primary School in Newham, East London.