

Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York visited <u>York Mosque and Islamic Centre</u> yesterday evening with Mrs Rebecca Cottrell, where they were welcomed by Faizal Mohamudbuccus and Naser Jasim, President of the Mosque to break the fast at the Iftar meal after sunset as part of the Mosque's 'Experience Ramadan' events.

Iftar is the meal that Muslims break their fast with during the Islamic Holy month of Ramadan, in which Muslims across the world fast from food and water from dawn till sunset for 30 days. It ends with the Eid-UI-Fitr festival this weekend.

Archbishop Stephen said: "This has been my first visit to the Mosque in York which has well established links with the local community, and with York Minster. It has been lovely to share Iftar, an opportunity to catch up with old friends as well as build new friendships."

Faisal Mohamudbuccus added, "It was a pleasure to share our Iftar with the Archbishop and his guests. Ramadan encapsulates community cohesiveness and togetherness. We look forward to having great links with the Archbishop in the future and maintaining great friendships"

York Mosque regularly hosts open door events and "Experience Ramadan' is an invitational event shared by many UK Mosques. York Mosque offers five daily prayer congregations, the Madrassah Arabic school which has 140 students, including refugee children, Quran study groups, foodbank and soup kitchen. The Mosque regularly welcomes school visits and the local scouts group. To find out when the next Open Day will be or if you would like to pop in for an informal talk, please email: **contact@yorkmosque.com**.



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