

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 May 2021

Review of Progress and Achievement

1. Fund raising: We were unable to do any face to face fund-raising at all due to the Covid restrictions but we had an excellent response to an appeal on line for donations towards our Gambian First readers Scheme. We raised over £1000 towards illustrating and publishing the books professionally.

2. Publicity– we sent out our annual newsletter in August 2020 and since, we have kept interest alive by posting on Facebook but there has been a limited amount of activity to report or share due to the restrictions on travel and problems with the internet connection in The Gambia.
3. Education – the school reopened in October 2020 under limited conditions. The timetable was altered to allow half the class to come in on alternate days. By working on Saturdays, the teachers were able to give all pupils a 3 day week. The focus was on catching up on the time lost since March 2020 when the school closed, and concentrating on numeracy and literacy. It has been a difficult year to ensure that all pupils develop and make up for lost time. There has been no opportunity for home schooling or classes on the internet.
4. In the Nursery School One teacher who has been studying for her certificate in Early Childhood Development qualified in April and so now all our teachers are fully qualified. Three of them have worked in the school for ten years and the Nursery Head has taught with us for nearly twenty years. Our Gambian First Readers scheme is working very well with the older children and the teachers are improving in their understanding of implementing this phonics based individual method.
5. The Lower Basic School - the teacher who we sponsored for his Primary Teachers' Certificate will qualify at the end of the academic year and return in September 2021 to teach in the school. SchoolGambia has agreed to sponsor a young teacher who has been working with the children needing extra help. She is a graduate of Yalding Basic Cycle School and it is very rewarding to know that she is a capable and enthusiastic trainee teacher. The Grade 5 teacher who we are sponsoring on a part-time Management course is doing very well and our G4 teacher will complete his university degree in computer science at the end of the academic year. Sponsoring these teachers is a worthwhile investment as the school benefits from teachers who develop professionally and the individual teachers are motivated to extend their skills and share them with the school. Our pupils continue to do well at the annual National Attainment Tests.
6. The Upper Basic School - there are now 2 classes for each year group from Grades 7-9 and despite the restrictions of Covid and the school being closed for six months, the Grade 9 pupils did exceptionally well in their national exams in May 2021. The team who share the management have worked very well together.

7. Our Bursar left in December 2020 and has been replaced by another graduate of the school. She has been employed as the School Secretary so far but is coping well in her new role with the support of the Head Teacher, SMT and one Trustee who is training her on line.
8. Buildings and maintenance– maintenance of classrooms, furniture, the water pump and the solar panels is ongoing. The pump has needed several repairs and this has been possible by communication on WhatsApp. The teacher who has newly been appointed to take care of the pump and the school environment is very diligent and reliable. Plans to refurbish the Nursery in April 2020 are still on pause as is the plan to erect a purpose built library. The Trustees who have been appointed to oversee these building projects hope to return to Farato in early 2022.
8. The Board of Directors supports the Senior Management Team (SMT), together with the Head Teacher. The Board is a team of volunteers from the village, some of whom have been involved with the school since it started in 2000. They have all worked well together to steer the school through the challenges of working under Covid. Cases in The Gambia fluctuated in the rainy season, especially July to September, but fortunately Farato has not suffered. The application for subvention (when the government pay the teachers' salaries) has been submitted and we await a decision.
10. Volunteers and Visits: we have not been able to visit the school this year. Overall support in UK and smooth running of the school in The Gambia have gone surprisingly well under the circumstances. We look forward to a much more active year in 2021-22.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name SchoolGambia	No (if any)
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Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 6/1/2020	To	Period end date 5/31/2021
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations and other income	1,500	5,695	-	7,195	1,048
Sponsorships	13,764	-	-	13,764	16,297
Fundraising	2,534	-	-	2,534	4,199
Deposit Account Interest	45	-	-	45	102
Mini Bus	-	-	-	-	12
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Travel Refund	-	-	-	-	-
Cancelled cheques	-	-	-	-	7
Gift Aid Reclaim	2,245	-	-	2,245	2,425
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	20,089	5,695	-	25,784	24,090
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	20,089	5,695	-	25,784	24,090
A3 Payments					
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Christmas Cards	-	-	-	-	480
Transfer to Gambia - salaries and expenses	10,000	-	-	10,000	31,000
Travel Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Bank Charges	237	-	-	237	90
Goods to the Gambia	325	-	-	325	106
Event Costs	80	-	-	80	-
Printing and Advertising	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising Expenses	-	-	-	-	102
Insurance	248	-	-	248	-
Commission for Fundraising	212	-	-	212	134
				-	
Sub total	11,101	-	-	11,101	31,912
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	11,101	-	-	11,101	31,912
Net of receipts/(payments)	8,988	5,695	-	14,683	- 7,822
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	65,636	4,032	-	69,668	-
Cash funds this year end	74,624	9,727	-	84,351	- 7,822

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds				
	Bank Accounts	74,949	9,727	-
	Unpresented cheque	- 325	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	74,624	9,727	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK

OK

OK

B2 Other monetary assets

Details

Unrestricted funds
to nearest £

Restricted funds
to nearest £

Endowment funds
to nearest £

	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details

Fund to which asset belongs

Cost (optional)

Current value (optional)

		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details

Fund to which asset belongs

Cost (optional)

Current value (optional)

		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details

Fund to which liability relates

Amount due (optional)

When due (optional)

		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

School Gambia

On accounts for the year
ended

31st May 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1096152

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and
basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/05/2021

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

~~The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Callum M. Findlay

Date:

16/1/2022

Name:

CALLUM MACDONALD FINDLAY

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

OBE BSc MSc CEng FICE

(if any):

Address:

MILL PLACE FARMHOUSE

SYMONAS LANE

YALDING KENT ME18 6HA.

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity (the Trust) for the year ended 31/12/2022.

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts, carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(3)(b) of the Act.

The Trust's governance arrangements (2010-2022) and I am satisfied in undertaking the examination by being a member of the Trust's governance arrangements (2010-2022) (the Governance Arrangements).

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the accounts or in relation to the Governance Arrangements which give me cause to believe that as any material matters:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 122 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements including the requirements of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 or that any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of my examination.

I have no concerns and have no other matters to draw attention to in connection with the examination of the accounts or the Governance Arrangements in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be achieved.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signature:

[Signature]

Date:

16/1/2023

Name:

Carver Macdonald Finance

Relevant professional

qualification(s) or title:

CCIF, ACCA, CMA, CIPFA