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**Vision:** A time when all people are born with equal opportunity to access education, health and sustainable employment.

**Mission:** to enable local communities to improve their life circumstances by improving access to health, education and sustainable jobs.



## Values:

Respect

Community  
led

Integrity

Partnership

Equality

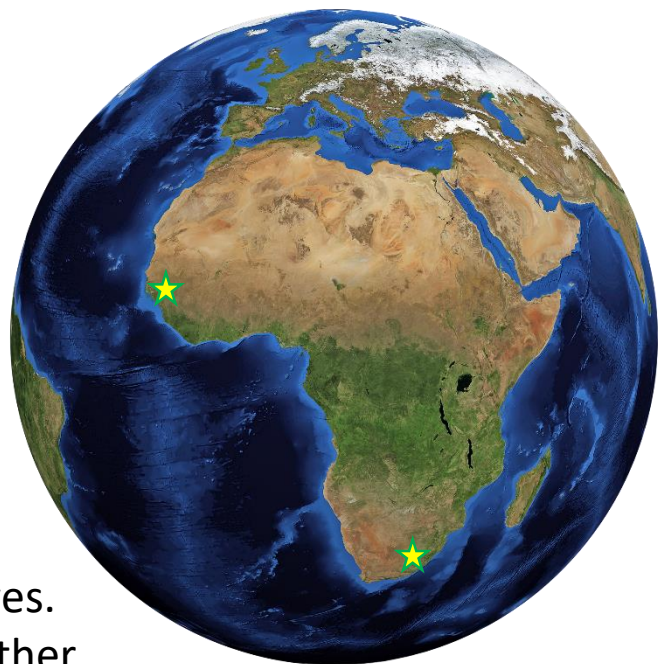


**She thinks she just made a bracelet.  
We know she also learnt  
numbers and colours in French.**

As we reflect on the year (Sep 20-Aug21) there is plenty to celebrate despite the ongoing difficulties of coronavirus. Fundraising became all consuming for parts of the year but thanks to the loyalty of our individual and trust supporters we were able to maintain our projects. We are grateful to each of you.

The work of Diapalante Community Education Centre in Kaolack, Senegal has largely returned to normal relying on masks and extra cleaning to keep coronavirus at bay. Sadly, there are still virtually no vaccinations in Senegal! However, the pandemic has also brought opportunity. Two local staff, employed in the absence of UK volunteers, have enabled us to start teaching a group of 60 talibés - young boys living in dire poverty and outside the school system. We are filled with hope for their future when listening to youngsters in our programmes telling us of the improvement in their educational achievement since joining The Diapalante Community Education Centre.

Many of the school leavers and adults who have moved on from our programmes are using the skills they have learned to secure jobs which improve the quality of their lives. Access to school, health, food, and other essentials are made easier when earnings rise, even by a small amount.





This has been another busy and successful year at the Diapalante Community Education Centre in Kaolack, Senegal.

Life in one of the world's least developed countries is tough: job, food and health insecurity are commonplace

and many jobs do not provide an adequate income. To help people escape the vicious cycle of inadequate family income the Diapalante Community Education Centre identifies and addresses some of the educational issues that hold back adults and children from surviving and thriving in their community, and from these choose the issues that the Centre are best placed to address.

The Centre is open to everyone and people come around their other family, work or school commitments. Often learners are also volunteers: teenagers trained in the Young Leaders programme lead activities for primary school children while adults and older teenagers help in the literacy programme for children who do not attend school. The Centre also benefits from links with other local education authority and community organisations.

A welcome addition to the Diapalante Community Education Centre this year is the introduction of a three year pilot project teaching 60 young boys who do not attend school to read and write in Wolof (their mother tongue) and learn basic maths skills. (Read more pages 8-9).



*Meet the staff: Nafi, Mamadou and Kaba.*



*The Centre's outreach is greater because learners also volunteer to help teaching.*

## Why do you come to the Diapalante Community Education Centre?



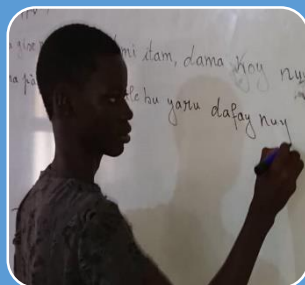
### Primary School Children

- Learn French so they can understand school lessons
- Young leaders lead small groups in craft, board games, storybook and other activities designed to improve French.
- 150+ primary school children and 30 Young Leaders



### Out-of-school Children (7-18 yrs)

- Learn to read and write in Wolof
- Learn basic maths skills
- 60 talibés (see next page) and 15 adult volunteer leaders



### Secondary School Pupils and Adults

- French grammar to improve schoolwork.
- Some pupils stay at school into their 20s.
- English & IT Skills
- Adult literacy
- 250 pupils, 50 adults



### Everyone

- Computer skills.
- Library
- STEAM activities  
(science, technology, art, maths)

*Get THAT job!*

*Build your skillset  
with our free courses.*

*Learn about:*

- Literacy for All
- Practical maths
- Computer essentials
- National (French) and international (English) language skills
- Skills for work (Young Leaders and adult volunteers)
- Personal growth and wellbeing
- Science, technology, engineering, art and maths

My name is Modou. I am from a village next to the Gambia. I came to Kaolack to learn the Quran. I and my friends are called talibés because we study the Quran and live in a daara (Quranic school).

Everyday I wake up at 5 in the morning, wash my face, take my wooden tablet, half sleep half awake and start studying the Quran under the supervision of my seriñ daara (teacher). At around 6:30 I take a break, do my morning prayers and start my daily begging. Everyday I go begging from door to door in the neighbourhood, in the streets or at the market. Sometimes I do some services like cleaning or carrying loads and get paid for those jobs. At around 8:30 I go back to the daara and study. At 12 I take another break. That break will be an opportunity for me to play football or marbles with my daara-mates and later on I go begging again for lunch. Study resumes again from 3 to 6 then I playing football and other fun games. Just after night fall I goes back to the daara for 1 more hour of learning before going out again to beg for dinner and watch tv in one of the houses in the neighbourhood. I then go back to the daara and go to bed.

My days off are from Wednesday afternoon to Friday afternoon. During that time, I have all the time in the world for myself.

## Notes

*It is during this time off, on Thursday and Friday mornings that MB comes to the Centre to learn to read and write in Wolof, his mother tongue.*

*Living conditions in daaras are often very basic. For example some daaras are based in partially built houses while the owner saves up to finish the build. The house is a shell with no plasterwork, rough floors, no doors, windows, water, sanitation or electricity.*





A group of 60 talibés, come to the Diapalante Community Education Centre twice a week to learn to read and write in Wolof, their mother tongue, and master the basics of maths. They just love the

computers and mastered the Roman alphabet so quickly as it is needed to use the keyboard. They play a few educational games we have made using Wolof, the local language, and read some books we have put online for them. There are so few resources in Wolof. They aren't deterred by the computers being in French, a language they don't understand.

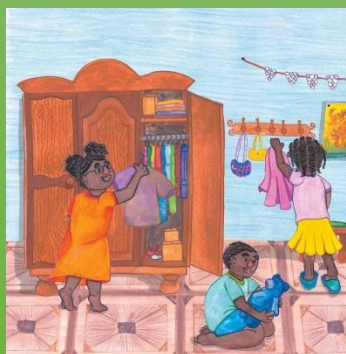
Some talibés will return to their villages when they finish their Qu'ranic studies, others will stay in the daara and others start independent lives. Most will look for work but some may go on to school when they leave.

“Diapalante opened the door to education for me” (Baye Dam, a talibé who went on to attend school).



## Senegal - UK Links

When the Diapalante Community Education Centre in Senegal heard that during the second coronavirus lockdown children in the UK were being taught at home using laptops they realised they could help. They asked us to lend 16 donated laptops to a primary school for the children to use for study at home, rather than storing them while waiting for shipment to Senegal. Children from one very grateful school used the computers and returned them cleaned and the software was soon restored leaving the laptops once again ready for shipping.



In the summer of 2020 members of The Diapalante Community Education Centre wrote books which were then illustrated by volunteers in the UK. Though the project was due to finish at the end of summer a few illustrators kindly continued this year, creating some more beautifully illustrated Senegalese reading books.

Hillcrest Advice Bureau and Bursary Fund (HABandBF) is a small South African charitable organization set up in the 1970's by three members of the Black Sash (a peaceful organization of women of all races who demonstrated for the freedom of Nelson Mandela and the end of apartheid throughout the apartheid regime). They are based in the beautiful but impoverished geographical area of the Valley of 1000 Hills surrounding Hillcrest, a small town just north of Durban in KwaZulu Natal. Unemployment in the rural areas is in the region of 75%, on average 30% of school children are orphans, with many child headed households.

HABandBF provides three elements towards supporting the local underprivileged community:

1. **Tertiary Fund:** works with  $\pm$  50 tertiary education students to help 96% of them achieve their qualification and go into a sustainable career so breaking the cycle of poverty.
2. **Schools Fund:** works with  $\pm$  110 school learners providing uniforms and a small number of special needs children providing transport and fees.
3. **Advice Bureau:** paralegals assists  $\pm$  120 community members in accessing their rightful grants, pensions and insurances

Diapalante supports Hillcrest Advisory Bureau and Advisory Fund and Advice Bureau annually through a restricted fund. Only donations given specifically to support the work of HAB&BF are used to support their work. Following the devastation of coronavirus, their fundraising in South Africa became very difficult and their ability to continue supporting students in tertiary education was in danger. Diapalante enabled UK supporters of HAB&BF to organise online fundraising activities. We are delighted that sufficient money was raised to allow all the 51 students to continue their studies.



## Supporters

**Thank you to the many people and organisations who**



Afternoon tea fundraiser.  
Ashwell WI.



Online fundraising events through the year included:  
International cookery demonstrations, head shave, sports challenges



have supported us this year. These include:

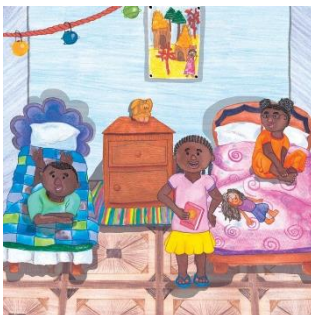
The London school that gives us computers for re-use.



*The  
Farthing  
Trust*



**BFSS** BRITISH & FOREIGN SCHOOL SOCIETY  
Educational Opportunity for All



Storybook  
illustrators

Our many  
**VOLUNTEERS**  
in the  
**UK and Senegal**

and many more!



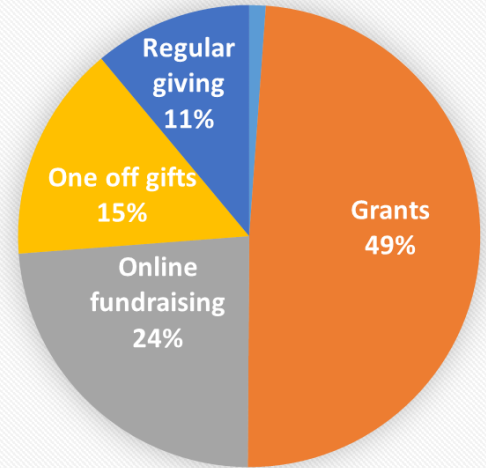
# Financial Report

We are very grateful for the continuing support we have received. In a worsening economic climate your continued commitment helps us prevent fundraising becoming so time consuming it reduces our ability to give time and expertise to support the work of our partners in Africa. All work in the UK, both fundraising and project support, is done by volunteers.

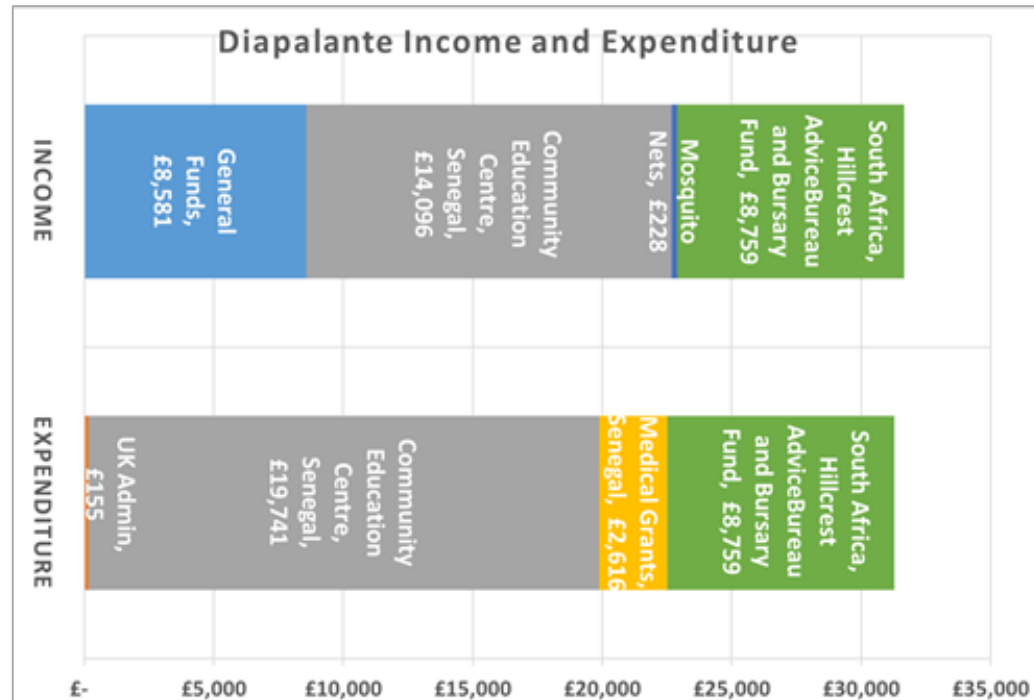
The money we receive goes into our general fund unless donated for a specific purpose when it is allocated to a restricted fund. Of the money spent this year, £23,030 was spent from restricted funds. All of the £8,241 spent from the general fund funded the Diapalante Community Education Centre in Senegal.

Finance matters, but the donations of time, goods and expertise, here and in Senegal, are equally important. All contribute to achieving a successful outcome.

Where our money comes from



Diapalante Income and Expenditure



**500 people in Senegal better equipped to contribute to a more sustainable future for their families and their country.**

*Let's do it again next year ....*



Diapalante is a Wolof word meaning solidarity, working hand in hand, standing together. This word guides our relationship with our partners in Africa.

We have many ideas for our next steps, each requires opportunity, time, money and work to develop and implement it. It is hard to know which will be the next opportunity. Here are some of the ideas which are simmering and slowly being progressed, ready for when the opportunity arises.

Re-usable period pads

Coding Clubs

A bookbox scheme brings a lending library to the classroom

Diapalante's own premises

Project Trust volunteers return to volunteering

There are signs of choppy waters ahead for us:

- The UK government closed its international aid grants to small charities.
- Facing greater demand some trusts have restricted their giving to UK only
- Our bank, HSBC, has announced the new fees for charity accounts.
- Virgin Money Giving is closing its fundraising platform shortly.

## Structure

Diapalante is a charitable trust governed by a Declaration of Trust dated 02/08/2005 as amended by Deed dated 04/01/2006 and by Deed dated 15/08/2012.

Diapalante is run by trustees who give of their time freely and no remuneration is paid. Trustees are appointed by the existing trustees and serve for three years after which they may be reappointed. There must always be at least three trustees. At least two ordinary meetings must be held each year to discuss future strategies, projects and fundraising.

The four trustees meetings and all trustee training was held online this year due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Meetings will remain online until trustees consider the situation regarding coronavirus sufficiently resolved.

## Public Benefit

The trustees have had due regard to the commission's guidance on public benefit. We have taken the guidance into consideration when exercising the relevant powers or duties. Our charitable purpose for public benefit is demonstrated by the activities and achievements summarised in this report.

## **Safeguarding**

Diapalante takes seriously its responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of everyone involved in our programmes, particularly children and vulnerable adults. To this end we have reviewed our safeguarding policy and code of conduct and procedures.

## **Risk Management**

The trustees have continued to review the risks the charity faces and acted to mitigate the most likely these. Coronavirus remains a major potential risk to our fundraising in the UK and to our project delivery in Senegal. The risk of inadequate income due the need to cancel planned fundraising events was averted by diversifying our funding streams. The risk of coronavirus impacting on project delivery in Senegal remains high but was reduced by working outdoors where possible and employing extra cleaning and hygiene measures.

## **Reserves**

Diapalante uses The Wise Owl Partnership's Reserve Calculator in conjunction with CC19 reserves guidance from the Charity Commission to establish a reserves amount and a reserves policy. Diapalante aims to hold a reserve of unrestricted funds which is appropriate to allow us to meet 6 months budgeted expenditure. For a low risk commitment in 2021-22 the six month reserve of unrestricted funds is calculated at £14,000. In line with this policy our unrestricted fund stood at £14,148 on 31/0/21.



# Administrative Details, Objectives

Charity name: Diapalante

Charity Number 1112875

Address: Kirby Manor  
73 High Street  
Ashwell  
Herts  
SG7 5NP

Charity Trustees as at 31st August 2020:

Pamela Brannigan	Caroline Chandler
Elizabeth Chandler	Ian Chandler
Emily Charlton	Orlando Gibbons
Alan Muhr	Carol Muhr

Bank HSBC  
Station Place  
Letchworth Garden City  
SG6 3AJ

## Diapalante’s Objectives

To further charitable purposes which relieve or combat malnutrition, hunger, disease, sickness or distress.

To help prevent or relieve poverty or financial hardship by providing or assisting in the provision of education, training, healthcare projects and any necessary support, enabling individuals to generate a sustainable income and be self-sufficient.



Charity Name Diapalante	No (if any) 1112875
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## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 01/09/2020	To	Period end date 31/08/2021
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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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
General Funds	£ 8,580.820	£ -	£ -	£ 8,581	£ -
UK Administration	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Community Education Centre, Senegal	£ -	£ 14,096	£ -	£ 14,096	£ -
Medical Grants, Senegal	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Mauritania, Talibe Project	£ -	£ 228	£ -	£ 228	£ -
South Africa, Hillcrest Advice and Bursary Fund	£ -	£ 8,759	£ -	£ 8,759	£ -
Gifts	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	£ 8,581	£ 23,084	£ -	£ 31,664	£ -
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
<b>Sub total</b>	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
<b>Total receipts</b>	£ 8,581	£ 23,084	£ -	£ 31,664	£ -
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
General Funds		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
UK Administration		£ 155	£ -	£ 155	£ -
Community Education Centre, Senegal	£ 8,241	£ 11,500	£ -	£ 19,741	£ -
Medical Grants, Senegal	£ -	£ 2,616	£ -	£ 2,616	£ -
Mauritania, Talibe Project	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
South Africa, Hillcrest Advice and Bursary Fund	£ -	£ 8,759	£ -	£ 8,759	£ -
Gifts	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
<b>Sub total</b>	£ 8,241	£ 23,030	£ -	£ 31,271	£ -
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
<b>Sub total</b>	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
<b>Total payments</b>	£ 8,241	£ 23,030	£ -	£ 31,271	£ -
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	£ 340	£ 53	£ -	£ 394	£ -
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	£ 13,808	£ 6,369		£ 20,177	£ -
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	£ 14,148	£ 6,422	£ -	£ 20,571	£ -

# Accounts

## 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 £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>		14,148	6,422	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>14,148</b>	<b>6,422</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>		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	





**CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Independent examiner's  
report on the accounts**

**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name

DIAPALANTE

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31 AUGUST 2021

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1112875

**Set out on pages**

1-2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent  
examiner's statement**

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn 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:**

JACQUELINE PRITCHARD

**Date:**

6/10/21

**Name:**

JACQUELINE PRITCHARD

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

ACMA

**Address:**

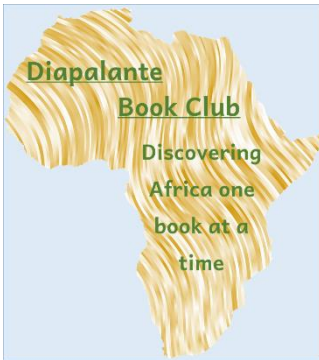
6 MILL STREET

ASHWELL

HERTFORDSHIRE SG7 5LY

## Disclosure

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



We have two UK groups who meet on Zoom.

A Book Club who are working their way around Africa a book at a time!

And also a square foot gardening club, who are raising

money for Diapalante a plant or pot of jam at a time.

<https://diapalante.org/category/book-club/>)

<https://diapalante.org/category/square-foot-gardening/>



Congratulations to our Centre Co-ordinator, Mamadou Kane and his family, on the birth of a son in September 2020.

Congratulations to Pam Brannigan, one of our trustees, on being awarded the British Empire Medal.



Ex volunteer Susanna House, seen here meeting Mamadou's baby, has been back in Senegal in her role as Africa Roaming Policy Officer at Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office



## Please consider donating to our work

Every donation counts, every £1. Please help us to support The Diapalante Community Education Centre as it enables and encourages adults and children gain the skills needed to secure better futures for themselves and their families.

If you feel more comfortable giving money as and when you can afford it then please do that.

However, if you can give a little every month, this allows us to plan ahead responsibly and ensures that The Diapalante Community Education Centre can continue to help people today, tomorrow and into the future.

334 supporters giving £5 per month would provide this income or  
166 supporters giving £10 per month or  
83 supporters giving £20 per month

We are grateful for every penny, and many people help Diapalante in many different ways. If you can support us financially – please do. If this isn't for you then keep in touch, **all** support and encouragement is valued by us.

To donate

- Go to <https://diapalante.org/donate> or
- Use our bank details:  
Name: Diapalante, sort code: 40-28-14, account no: 51576712
- Or post a cheque to our address below.



Kirby Manor  
73 High Street  
Ashwell  
Herts  
SG7 5NP

Charity No: 1112875