



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

1st April 2021 – 31st March 2022

Charity name: Sponsor A Gambian Teacher (SAGT)

Charity registration number: 1191072

Objectives

In its constitution, the object of SAGT as a charity is:

“The advancement of education for the public benefit in the Gambia, by providing grant funding to support the training of adults to become teachers, and to support teachers.”

Our main activities to achieve this are:

1. To work with Headteachers in the Early Childhood Development Association (ECDA), West Coast Region of The Gambia, to identify adults who are suitable to train as teachers, and who would not otherwise be able to finance their own training.
2. To pay the teachers' fees for teacher training courses provided by the University of The Gambia School of Education, also known as the Gambia college.
3. To give teachers a monthly living allowance during their training.
4. To monitor the progress of teachers via the ECDA.
5. To receive donations from sponsors to enable us to carry out these activities.

The trustees believe that the public benefits of SAGT, in line with Charity Commission Guidance, are:

1. To enable adults to train as teachers, who would not otherwise be able to finance their own training.
2. To enable schools to increase the number of qualified teachers working there.
3. To improve the quality of education available, which then benefits children, families and communities more widely.

Partnership with the ECDA

SAGT works in close partnership with the ECDA.

The charity could not operate in the way that it does, without this partnership.

Leading Headteachers in the ECDA take on key tasks which must take place in The Gambia for SAGT to be effective. This also includes meeting with the university staff to discuss developments affecting teachers sponsored by SAGT.

The partnership between SAGT trustees and the ECDA ensures that decision making about the best way to support schools and teachers is taken in The Gambia, by local people with the right knowledge and experience.

SAGT aims to empower school leaders in The Gambia to take decisions and support schools and student teachers in the best way possible.

Activities

All sponsored teachers must meet the entrance qualifications of the University, and also go through a selection process undertaken by the ECDA, to ensure that they meet the objectives of SAGT.

In all cases, teachers work within a school during their training, and attend University part time or in the school holidays. The children, the school and the wider community therefore benefits from the work of the teacher throughout their training.

The ECDA maintains contact with the schools and teachers throughout their training. One important contact is the monthly meeting when teachers are given their allowance (also called a stipend) and sign for it.

ECDA leaders and SAGT trustees keep in contact and information is shared about the progress of teachers, the available funding, and planning for the next cohort of teachers.

SAGT trustees monitor the budget and transfer money to the ECDA account three times a year.

All payments to teachers and the college are administered by the ECDA and records are given to SAGT trustees.

Achievements and Performance

At the 31st March 2022, SAGT was sponsoring 14 teachers. Of these, 11 are studying for the Early Childhood Development Certificate (ECDC), 2 are studying for the Primary Teachers Certificate (PTC) and one teacher is taking the Advanced Diploma Higher Teaching Certificate (Primary). 11 students are women and 3 are men.

The sponsored teachers work in 12 different schools, with each school taking children from one or more villages, so the impact of our small charity can be quite significant.

Some teachers need three years of sponsorship, some two years and others only ask for sponsorship for their final year.

There are a range of reasons why teachers might need only one or two years of sponsorship. They may have started the course by funding it themselves or being financed by a relative. The death of a parent or other family member, or a change in family circumstances might mean that they would be unable to complete their qualification without our support.

SAGT also ensures that at least 50% of its sponsored teachers are women, and the figure is usually higher. This contributes to “Educating the Girl Child” – a campaign in The Gambia to promote sending girls to school. Training women teachers, and providing education for girl children, is seen as one of the best ways to reduce child marriage in The Gambia.

In all, a total of 87 teachers have been sponsored by SAGT between March 2012, when SAGT started, and March 2022. Of these teachers, 73 are now qualified and 14 are still in training.

The total amount of money raised between March 2012 and March 2022 is £97,657.

A combination of the impact of Covid-19, and a new Registrar at the University of The Gambia meant that teachers started training in November 2021 rather than in the August. Since then, students seem to be accepted onto courses at different times of the year. There is still some uncertainty about re-establishing an academic year as there has been in the past. We liaise closely with the ECDA Committee who maintain contact with the University.

The trustees thank all sponsors for their very generous support, some over many years, to enable SAGT to make a massive difference to the lives of teachers, children, schools and the communities they serve. We know that the chance for young people to train and qualify as teachers is truly life-changing. The children they teach are often the first generation in their family to go to school. Every person and every school has a story to tell.

Financial Review

During the financial year 2021-2022, SAGT received donations amounting to £19,258. This is a big increase on previous year, due to a very generous and unexpected donation from a trust fund.

We brought forward £6,996 from the previous financial year, 2020-2021

We spent £3,055 on charitable activities in The Gambia during the year. This amount is lower than usual because of the delay in courses starting due to Covid-19. Course fees are therefore being paid later than usual.

We carried forward £23,169 to the next financial year, 2022-23.

A Statement of Financial Activities is available summarising this.

SAGT’s donations come mainly from individuals who know about the charity and are committed to supporting teachers in The Gambia. General fund-raising activities are rarely undertaken.

On the advice of the financial auditor, the trustees have agreed a Reserves Policy. This is:

- to maintain a balance in the account that would enable SAGT to complete its existing commitments to teachers who have started training;
- to retain a small reserve for contingencies;
- to allocate reserves over and above that to train and support teachers;
- to review this policy annually.

Structure, Governance and Management

SAGT is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) whose only voting members are its charity trustees. It has a constitution based on the Foundation model constitution provided by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

There is a Partnership Agreement between the ECDA and SAGT setting out key tasks undertaken by each.

During this year, SAGT joined has joined Hub Cymru Africa, which supports charities working across Africa and Wales. With their advice SAGT has adopted a Code of Conduct, and is working on a Safeguarding Policy to be adopted by SAGT and the ECDA.

Reference and Administrative details

Sponsor A Gambian Teacher (SAGT) operates from:

Fron Grove

Bodfari

Denbighshire

Wales

LL16 4DE Tel: 07944 075569

info@sponsoragambianteacher.org

www.sponsoragambianteacher.org

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Date appointed	Term of appointment
1	Nigel Hamshire	Chair	August 2020	2 years (reappointed for 4 years On 10.05.22)
2	Susan Lewis	Secretary	August 2020	3 years
3	Stephen Lewis	Founder	August 2020	4 years
4	Peter Lewis		October 2021	4 years
5	David Lewis		October 2021	4 years

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
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Full name(s)	Nigel Hamshere	Susan Lewis
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Position	Chair	Secretary
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Date	18th Nov 2022
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Support A Gambian Teacher		Charity No		
		Company No		
Annual accounts for the period				
Period start date	01/04/2021	To	Period end date	31/03/2022

Section A Statement of financial activities (including summary income and expenditure account)

Recommended categories by activity	Guidance Note	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total funds £ F04	Prior year funds £ F05
Income (Note 3)						
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	S01	19,258	-	-	19,258	9,822
Charitable activities	S02		-	-	-	-
Other trading activities	S03	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	S04	-	-	-	-	-
Separate material item of income	S05	-	-	-	-	-
Other	S06	-	-	-	-	-
Total	S07	19,258	-	-	19,258	9,822
Expenditure (Notes 6)						
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	S08	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	S09	3,055	-	-	3,055	9,223
Separate material expense item	S10					
Other	S11	-	-	-	-	-
Total	S12	3,055	-	-	3,055	9,223
Net income/(expenditure) before tax for the reporting period						
Tax payable	S13	16,203	-	-	16,203	599
	S14	-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) after tax before investment gains/(losses)						
Net gains/(losses) on investments	S15	16,203	-	-	16,203	599
	S16	-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)	S17	16,203	-	-	16,203	599
Extraordinary items	S18	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	S19	-	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	S20	-	-	-	-	-
Other gains/(losses)	S21	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	S22	16,203	-	-	16,203	599
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward	S23	6,966	-	-	6,966	6,367
Total funds carried forward	S24	23,169	-	-	23,169	6,966

Section B Balance sheet

	Guidance Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total this year	Total last year
		£	£	£	£	£
		F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
Fixed assets						
Intangible assets (Note 15)	B01	-	-	-	-	-
Tangible assets (Note 14)	B02	-	-	-	-	-
Heritage assets (Note 16)	B03	-	-	-	-	-
Investments (Note 17)	B04	-	-	-	-	-
Total fixed assets	B05	-	-	-	-	-
Current assets						
Stocks (Note 18)	B06	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors (Note 19)	B07	63	-	-	63	-
Investments (Note 17.4)	B08	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand (Note 24)	B09	23,169	-	-	23,169	6,966
Total current assets	B10	23,231	-	-	23,231	6,966
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Note 20)	B11	-	-	-	-	-
Net current assets/(liabilities)	B12	23,231	-	-	23,231	6,966
Total assets less current liabilities	B13	23,231	-	-	23,231	6,966
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year (Note 20)	B14	-	-	-	-	-
Provisions for liabilities	B15	-	-	-	-	-
Total net assets or liabilities	B16	23,231	-	-	23,231	6,966
Funds of the Charity						
Endowment funds (Note 27)	B17	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted income funds (Note 27)	B18	-	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted funds	B19	23,231	-	-	23,231	6,966
Revaluation reserve	B20	-	-	-	-	-
Fair value reserve	B21	-	-	-	-	-
Total funds	B22	23,231	-	-	23,231	6,966

The company was entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

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

Print Name	Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy
SUSAN LEWIS	18-11-22

Signature of director authenticating accounts being sent to Companies
House

Signature	Date dd/mm/yyyy
<i>Susan Seiv</i>	15.11.22
	Print name