



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023

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 (stipend) 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 Committee.

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 2023, SAGT was sponsoring 26 teachers. Of these:

- 14 teachers are studying for the Early Childhood Development (ECD) Certificate / Diploma;
- One teacher is studying for the ECD Advanced Diploma;
- Four teachers are studying for the Primary Teachers (PTC) Certificate / Diploma;
- Four teachers are studying for the PTC Advanced Diploma;
- One teacher is studying for a Higher Teaching Certificate (HTC);
- Two teachers are studying for the HTC Advanced Diplomagher Teaching Certificate (Primary);
- 20 are women and 6 are men.

The sponsored teachers work in around 20 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 much 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 126 teacher sponsorships have been funded by SAGT between March 2012, when SAGT started, and March 2023. Over one hundred individual teachers have received sponsorship and some have gone on to be supported to achieve more advanced teaching qualifications.

Students are now accepted onto courses at different times of the year according to the course they are on, rather than in the standard academic year. This can be complex to track, and is being well-managed by the ECDA Committee. They maintain contact with the University and ensure that the varying timescales are met, selecting students at the appropriate times.

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 2022-2023, SAGT received donations amounting to £7,022. We brought forward £23,169 from the previous financial year, 2021-2022

We carried forward £19,623 to the next financial year, 2023-24.

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.

SAGT is also a member of Hub Cymru Africa, which supports charities working across Africa and Wales. With their advice SAGT has adopted a Code of Conduct, and a Safeguarding Policy.

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

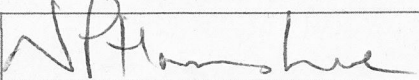

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Date appointed	Term of appointment
1	Nigel Hamshire	Chair	01/05/22	4 years
2	Susan Lewis	Secretary	September 2023	4 years
3	Stephen Lewis	Founder	August 2020	4 years
4	Peter Lewis		October 2021	4 years
5	David Lewis		October 2021	4 years

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

Position

Chair

Secretary

Date

29 / 9 / 23



Sponsor A Gambian Teacher – SAGT			1191072		CC17a
Annual accounts for the period					
01.04.2022		To	31.03.2023		

Section A Statement of financial activities

Recommended categories by activity	Details of own analysis	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total this year	Total last year
			F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
Incoming resources (Note 3)							
Incoming resources from generated funds			7,022	-	-	7,022	19,258
Voluntary income		S01	-	-	-	-	-
Activities for generating funds		S02	-	-	-	-	-
Investment income		S03	-	-	-	-	-
Incoming resources from charitable activities		S04	-	-	-	-	-
Other incoming resources		S05	-	-	-	-	-
Total incoming resources		S06	7,022	-	-	7,022	19,258
Resources expended (Notes 4-8)							
Costs of Generating Funds			-	-	-	-	-
Costs of generating voluntary income		S07	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising trading costs		S08	-	-	-	-	-
Investment management costs		S09	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities		S10	10,568	-	-	10,568	-
Governance costs		S11	-	-	-	-	-
Other resources expended		S12	-	-	-	-	-
Total resources expended		S13	10,568	-	-	10,568	-
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		S14	- 3,546	-	-	- 3,546	19,258
Gross transfers between funds		S15	-	-	-	-	-
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)		S16	- 3,546	-	-	- 3,546	19,258
Other recognised gains/(losses)							
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use		S17	-	-	-	-	-
Gains and losses on investment assets		S18	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		S19	- 3,546	-	-	- 3,546	19,258
Total funds brought forward		S20	23,169	-	-	23,169	-
Total funds carried forward		S21	19,623	-	-	-	23,169

Section B

Balance sheet

	Note	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total this year £ F04	Total last year £ F05
Fixed assets						
Tangible assets (Note 9)	B01	-	-	-	-	-
	B02	-	-	-	-	-
Investments (Note 10)	B03	-	-	-	-	-
Total fixed assets	B04	-	-	-	-	-
Current assets						
Stock and work in progress	B05	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors (Note 11)	B06	-	-	-	-	-
(Short term) investments	B07	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	B08	19,623	-	-	19,623	23,169
Total current assets	B09	19,623	-	-	19,623	23,169
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Note 12)	B10	-	-	-	-	-
Net current assets/(liabilities)	B11	19,623	-	-	19,623	23,169
Total assets less current liabilities	B12	19,623	-	-	19,623	23,169
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year (Note 12)	B13	-	-	-	-	-
Provisions for liabilities and charges	B14	-	-	-	-	-
Net assets	B15	19,623	-	-	19,623	23,169
Funds of the Charity						
Unrestricted funds	B16	-			19,623	23,169
	B17	-			-	-
Restricted income funds (Note 13)	B18		-		-	-
Endowment funds (Note 13)	B19			-	-	-
Total funds	B20	-	-	-	19,623	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval