



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025

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.

The cost of running SAGT is minimal. The charity meets the travel expenses of ECDA members in carrying out their duties in The Gambia. SAGT trustees carry out all of their work on a voluntary basis.

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 four times a year (every 3 months) for the stipend and usually once a year for college fees.

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

Achievements and Performance

At the 31st March 2025, SAGT was sponsoring 24 teachers. Of these:

- 1 teacher is studying for the Early Childhood Development (ECD) Certificate / Diploma;
- 17 teachers are studying for the ECD Advanced Diploma;
- 0 teachers are studying for the Primary Teachers (PTC) Certificate / Diploma;
- 5 teachers are studying for the PTC Advanced Diploma;
- 0 teachers are studying for a Higher Teaching Certificate (HTC);

1 teacher is studying for the HTC Advanced Diploma Teaching Certificate (Secondary);

- 21 are women and 3 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.

We expect to sponsor around 10 new teachers each year, selected by the ECDA, in addition to those we are already committed to sponsoring to complete their training. A number of teachers we sponsored to achieve basic teaching qualifications, have later been supported to achieve more advanced qualifications. This has meant that around 153 individuals have been supported by SAGT in total, since it started in 2012.

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 2024-2025, SAGT spent a total of £8,694 all on charitable activities to enable teachers to be trained. This breaks down as:

Monthly living allowance (stipend) for all teachers in training	£5,082	58%
College fees paid for all sponsored students	£3,612	42%
ECDA - to reimburse travel and other	0	0%

expenses incurred in visiting students		
TOTAL	£8,694	100%

In 2024-25 SAGT received donations amounting to £8,703

We brought forward £17,388 from the previous financial year, 2023-2024

We carried forward £17,397 to the next financial year, 2025-26.

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

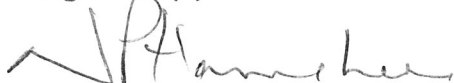
	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Date appointed	Term of appointment
1	Nigel Hamshire	Chair	May 2022	4 years
2	Susan Lewis	Secretary	September 2023	4 years
3	Stephen Lewis	Founder	January 2025	4 years
4	Peter Lewis		October 2021	4 years
5	David Lewis		October 2021	4 years

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s) Nigel Hamshire



Susan Lewis

Position Chair

Date



SPONSOR A GAMBIAN TEACHER (SAGT)		1191072	
Annual accounts for the period			
Period start date	01.04.2-24	To	31.03.2025

Section A Statement of financial activities

Recommended categories by activity	Guidance Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year funds
		£	£	£	£	£
		F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
Incoming resources (Note 3)						
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	S01	8,703	-	-	8,703	7,475
Charitable activities	S02	-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities	S03	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	S04	-	-	-	-	-
Separate material item of income	S05	-	-	-	-	-
Other	S06	-	-	-	-	-
Total	S07	8,703	-	-	8,703	7,475
Resources expended (Note 6)						
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	S08	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	S09	8,694	-	-	8,694	9,710
Separate material item of expense	S10	-	-	-	-	-
Other	S11	-	-	-	-	-
Total	S12	8,694	-	-	8,694	9,710
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)						
	S13	9	-	-	9	2,235
Net gains/(losses) on investments	S14	-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)	S15	9	-	-	9	2,235
Extraordinary items	S16	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	S17	-	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	S18	-	-	-	-	-
Other gains/(losses)	S19	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	S20	9	-	-	9	17,388
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward	S21	-	-	-	-	-
Total funds carried forward	S22	9	-	-	9	17,397

Sponsor a Gambian Teacher (SAGT)		Charity No	1191072
		Company No	
Annual accounts for the period	01.04.2024	31.03.2025	
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		-	-	-	-	-
Investments	(Note 17.4)	B08		-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	(Note 24)	B09		17,397	-	-	17,397	17,388
Total current assets		B10		17,397	-	-	17,397	17,388
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(Note 20)	B11		-	-	-	-	-
Net current assets/(liabilities)		B12		17,397	-	-	17,397	17,388
Total assets less current liabilities		B13		17,397	-	-	17,397	17,388
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	(Note 20)	B14		-	-	-	-	-
Provisions for liabilities		B15		-	-	-	-	-
Total net assets or liabilities		B16		17,397	-	-	17,397	17,388
Funds of the Charity								
Endowment funds (Note 27)		B17		-	-	-	-	-
Restricted income funds (Note 27)		B18		-	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted funds		B19		17,397	-	-	17,397	17,388
Revaluation reserve		B20		-	-	-	-	-
Fair value reserve		B21		-	-	-	-	-
Total funds		B22		17,397	-	-	17,397	17,388

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

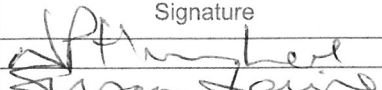
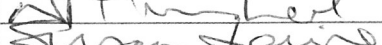
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

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
Nigel Hamshere	21-1-26
Susan Lewis	21-1-26

Signature of director authenticating accounts being sent to Companies House

Signature	Date dd/mm/yyyy
	21-1-26
	
Print name	