

EducAid Sierra Leone

**Trustees Report and Accounts for the
Year Ended 31st August 2011**

Charity Number 1048012

Trustees Report for the year ended 31st August 2011

Significant Information

The Trust was established under a constitution dated 12th February 1995.

The Trustees are:

Title	Name	Occupation	Home
Chairman	James Boardman	Paediatrician	Edinburgh
Secretary	Swithun Mason	Accountant	Jersey
	Mark Wallace	Vicar	Guildford

Country director

Mrs Miriam Mason-Sesay (MM-S) is the country director and an employee of the Trust. She has overall responsibility to the Trustees for curriculum design and quality, teacher training, project management and administration in Sierra Leone.

Volunteer fundraisers and administrative assistants

Mrs Janet Broadhurst, Miss Stephanie Broadhurst, Ms Anne Hewlett, Ms Ann Beatty and Mr Peter Boardman work in the UK. Dr Sean Higgins contributes to staff training and materials development in Sierra Leone. There have been a number of British short-term volunteers who have worked in the schools. We are extremely grateful to all of them for their invaluable contributions to our work.

Advisors

Bankers	Barclays PLC, Bloomsbury and Tottenham Ct Rd Branch
Accountant	Simon Burrow, ACA
Principal Office	PO Box 27143, Edinburgh, EH10 9AW

Trustees responsibility for the accounts

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year. In addition the trustees are responsible for keeping proper records, which are sufficient to show and explain the Trust's transactions and disclose the financial position of the trust with reasonable accuracy at any point in time.

The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Aims of EducAid Sierra Leone

1. To provide Christian education for Sierra Leoneans through permanent Christian establishments wholly funded by the charity.
2. To make education available to people who cannot afford it themselves.
3. To encourage personal and societal responsibility for development.
4. To recruit, train and employ Sierra Leonean staff.
5. To be financially efficient, transparent and accountable to donors and beneficiaries for all resources.
6. To spread awareness of poverty issues in West Africa among its donors and contacts.

Progress, Achievements, Financial Activities and Affairs

Year Ending August 31st 2011

EducAid provides free education, food, medicine and shelter, when needed to over 1500 under-privileged young Sierra Leoneans.

EducAid runs four secondary schools in the Western Area and the Northern Province: one junior and senior secondary school in Freetown (WA), one junior and senior secondary and two junior secondary schools in the Port Loko District (NA). EducAid also runs a primary school in the Port Loko District.

On 18th September 2010, EducAid school celebrated its 10th anniversary. Shortly after, we opened our fourth junior secondary school, funded by British run 'A Call to Business' in Rogbere on the edge of the Western Area just inside the Port Loko District. Subsequent to this we opened a senior secondary section on the Rolal junior secondary site. This was important because it meant that students would no longer have to transfer to Freetown to attend senior secondary schools: this transfer away from home was difficult for some students, girls in particular. We believe this will overcome a significant access problem for many of our students.

At the end of junior secondary education students sit public exams (BECE, Basic Education Certificate Examination), and then again at the end of senior secondary education (WASSCE, West African Senior Secondary Certificate Education). The national pass rate for BECE is 40%, and it is 10% for WASSCE. In 2011 we maintained our high standards by students returning 100% pass rates at both levels in all sites. In fact EducAid came second in WASSCE in the whole country, competing successfully with the most privileged private schools.

In 2010 the fourth EducAid student gained an international tertiary scholarship: Balla Turay started Information and Communication Technology studies in Venezuela. He

joins Kema Gondo (medicine, China), Issa Fowai (engineering, China), and Musa Koroma (engineering, Russia) in a line of successful Educaid graduates studying overseas. In addition a number of EducAid students are performing strongly in Sierra Leone's tertiary institutions.

We believe these academic successes are attributable to the personalised learning system we use, a considerable investment in staff training, and a high degree of motivation among students and staff. Our system empowers students to take responsibility for, and manage their own learning with teachers serving as skilled facilitators and guides.

Twenty-one of our past pupils are currently working as junior staff and are undergoing a distance teacher-training course. Most of them are due to finish training in the autumn of 2012.

The differences between EducAid schools and other schools in Sierra Leone lie in a number of key elements that make up the EducAid ethos. We continue to work in these areas and see their positive effects:

Community service – to build into students' consciousness an awareness that they have something to offer, and a responsibility to contribute to the reconstruction of their communities.

Women's Project (WP) – many girls are not allowed to go to school at the correct age or fully attend even if they are registered. Many drop out before completing their primary education. The WP provides opportunities for secondary age girls in such circumstances to re-enter education and catch up so they can function competently in the secondary mainstream.

'Holistic' clubs – most students lack access to the usual means to build their general knowledge and life skills. EducAid's daily clubs enable students to explore, research and present their discoveries and opinions on a range of issues. This provides general knowledge and equips them with generic skills for use in the workplace or tertiary learning.

Positive behaviour management – in line with most traditional education systems, the Sierra Leonean model typically relies on corporal punishment for discipline. EducAid refuses to use physical or corporal punishment and manages behaviour from the perspective of emphasising the positive and motivating the students to do the correct thing rather than from relying on harsh punishments as a deterrent. We are consistently praised for the mature and responsible conduct, attitude and self-control of our students both in and out of school. Peer mediators are trained to use restorative methods for conflict resolution amongst the students and sometimes between students and teachers.

Free education – EducAid's fees are excellent attendance, excellent behaviour and excellent effort. In Sierra Leone, there is only very poor quality, theoretically free primary education and no free secondary education. EducAid provides the only free secondary education targeting the poor and seeking to remove all the usual barriers which prevent students from attending school: uniform (we don't have one), lunch (we provide free food at lunch time), learning materials (our text books have been written by our staff and are designed for our personalised learning methods and are provided free for all

students), transport costs (where students are struggling to pay for their daily transport costs, there is the opportunity to live in the school – in each location nearly one third of the students are resident and fully provided for on the school site).

Capacity building. In almost all work environments in Sierra Leone initiative is frowned upon, and signs of initiative by an underling tend to be read as the attempt by that person to take the boss's job. In EducAid, the leadership team have been empowered to take over the day to day running of the programme from the Country Director. This attitude is passed on through all tiers of the administration of the schools.

International volunteers. A number of visiting volunteers have contributed to the quality and richness of the EducAid projects.

Plans: September 2010 – August 2011

- 1 To continue building the citizenship education aspect of our work with voter education and debate training.
- 2 To reinforce the literacy training provision in all schools.
- 3 To deepen the quality of teaching and learning through on-going staff monitoring, mentoring and training.
- 4 To continue building up the ICT provision for all EducAid staff and students.
- 5 To support students in developing their Christian faith.
- 6 To establish the EducAid professionals body to support ex-EducAid students in their professional development in the workplace.
- 7 To strategise further to improve female recruitment and achievement.
- 8 To open the Girls' Safe House in Maronka for the protection and support of our primary level residential girl pupils.
- 9 To start a junior secondary level teacher training centre to make outreach possible to support teachers from rural Port Loko schools.
- 10 To construct a primary level teacher training centre to support the quality of teaching in rural Port Loko primary schools.
- 11 To build up a key team of early years specialists in the Maronka school
- 12 To provide development opportunities for junior staff to be partnered by EducAid leaders who will mentor them as potential leaders.

The above report was approved by the Trustees on:

23rd June 2012

And was signed on their behalf by:



Dr James Boardman
Chairman

Section A**Independent Examiner's Report**

Report to the trustees/ members of	EducAid Sierra Leone		
On accounts for the year ended	31 st August 2011	Charity no (if any)	1048012
	Set out on pages Pages 1 to 9		

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *)

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
 have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

27/06/12

Name:

Simon Burrow, ACA

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body:

Associate of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Address:

47 Leslie Road

East Finchley, London N2

Receipts and Payments Account

Currency - £ Sterling

	Year ended 31.08.11	Year ended 31.08.10
RECEIPTS		
Donations and grants		
Gift Aid (inc. Income Tax Recoverable) <i>Note 1</i>	76,193	63,528
Other donations	145,385	205,824
	221,578	269,353
Investment income		
Bank interest received	1	1
Total Receipts	221,579	269,353
PAYMENTS		
Direct charitable expenditure		
On work in West Africa	258,655	257,924
Other expenditure		
Fund raising	282	7,357
Total Payments	258,937	265,282
NET RECEIPTS/(EXPENDITURE)	(37,358)	4,071

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Currency - £ Sterling

	As at 31.08.11	As at 31.08.10
Fixed Assets	0	2,650
Bank Accounts	63,023	103,516
Debtors		
Income tax recoverable	60,740	54,955
NET ASSETS	<u>123,673</u>	<u>161,121</u>
Trust fund movements		
Balance brought forward	161,121	157,050
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(37,358)	4,071
Balance carried forward	<u>123,763</u>	<u>161,121</u>

10 Year Summary: Key Indicators

Currency - £ Sterling)	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<i>Revenue</i>	32,827	49,401	88,219*	74,818	106,898	155,180	149,563	224,054	269,353	221,578
<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(11,639)	13,813	26,361	(17,104)	34,117	38,977	12,063	43,049	4,071	(37,358)
<i>Net Assets</i>	5,752	19,565	45,926	28,822	62,972	101,948	114,011	157,050	161,121	123,763

Accounting policies

The accounts are prepared on the historic cost basis of accounting.

Revenue is recognised in the accounts when it is received, with the exception of Income Tax recoverable on income received under the Gift Aid scheme, which is recognised when the relevant receipts are received.

Gifts in kind, which consist of second hand books, teaching materials and second hand computers, are not ascribed a financial value in these accounts as value is negligible.

Plant, machinery and vehicles are capitalised as fixed assets to be straight-line depreciated over 3 years to a prudently estimated residual value.