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educo

gifting education



2017 annual report

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*Educo is registered in Ireland (CHY17147),
UK (XT21610) and India (Bombay Public
Charitable Trust Number E- 25425)*



60_m
children
not
attending
school

key
pillars

educos is a charity, founded in Ireland in 2006. It's **aim is to educate children in India out of poverty**. A fully registered charitable trust in India since 2009, educos India is run by volunteers who oversee seven programmes throughout the country, which in total provide education for some 2,500 underprivileged children.

Even though literacy figures have increased in recent years, India still has the largest number of uneducated children of any country in the world - two-thirds of whom are girls. Just under 40% of the country is illiterate with 37% of all primary school children dropping out before Standard 5. Government reports indicate that some **60 million children between the ages of 6-14 do not attend school at all**.

educos's 4 Key Pillars:

- 1) Education is given through **English**. This gives the students the best chance for economic and social mobility.
- 2) educos puts great emphasis on keeping girls in full-time education. We help redress the **female education** gender imbalance. This is proven to be the most important factor in a country's economic development.
- 3) educos undertakes the **training of teachers** from the areas local to its schools, thus providing direct investment back into the local community.
- 4) **Computer training** is actively promoted. This ensures that the most underprivileged children are given the skills necessary for modern employment environments.

educo projects

TOTAL: 2,654



District	Project	Pupils
Mumbai	Saibaba Path	626
	Muskaan	90
	Sahar	400
Assam	St. Stanislaus	123
	St. Xavier's	747
	Bogapani	198
West Bengal	Tangra, Kolkata	229
	Life-Skills, Kolkata	181
	St. Conleth's English School, Jalpaiguri District	50
	St. Peter & St Paul's, Malbazar	50
	St. Thomas's, Chamurchi	50



executive summary 2017



Grattan Boylan

- 1) **New School Builds:** Educo donated €5,200 to Trinity Foundation and €158,767.50 to Chakra: All these funds went to West Bengal, to fund the first phase of 3 schools, namely:
 - a) St Thomas School, Chamurchi; (currently 35 pupils, 4 teachers, 2 staff)
 - b) St Conleth's School, Chalsa, (currently 15 pupils, 3 teachers, 1 staff)
 - c) St Peter and St Pauls School, Temsimla, Malbazar (currently 12 pupils, 2 teachers, 1 staff) all in West Bengal. These schools will all be run by Chakra Society, headed by Fr Sebastian Martis, in W Bengal.
- NB Educo received funds from Educo France and disbursed these to part-fund the building of St Peter and Pauls School, Malbazar.
- 2) **School Running Costs:** Educo donated €5,000 to fund the ongoing annual running costs of Tangra school in Kolkata. This is the shortfall between school fees received and teacher & school outlays.
- 3) **Educo-donated Panditya Road "Life Skills" Building in Kolkata:** The Hope Foundation (which runs this) gave vocational training to 183 people in 2017. Beneficiaries are typically aged 19-25 years, who need support to get their career started.
- 4) **Educo-funded Sahar School in Mumbai:** Sr. Paulette (who runs this with the Handmaids of the Blessed Trinity) continues to educate 400 nursery to primary school children each year.
- 5) **Child Sponsorship:** Educo gave two donations (€4932.85 and €4304) to support the pupils in these following schools in Assam:
 - a) St Xaviers, Pengaree,
 - b) Tara Star, Bogapani and
 - c) St Stanislaus in KonapatharThis was to fund the education of approx. 40 rural pupils in extreme poverty. These schools are all

run by the Jesuits in Assam. This child sponsorship covers the food, accommodation (boarding at the school), education, clothing, books and extra-curricular activities of these most marginalised children.

- 6) Educo has c €180,000 remaining in funds, which we plan to disburse next year, as follows:

2018 Plans

- a) In 2018 we plan to spend €90,000 to build the next floor (Phase 2) at St John's School Nagrakata, W Bengal.
- b) We also plan to build Phase 1 (12 rooms) of an English–Medium School in Kalchini, W Bengal. Chakra Society already owns the land so this will cost €101,000, including school bus.
- c) In 2018 we plan to spend €40,000 to buy 3 school buses to service the 3 recently completed schools. Depending on Fundraising during the year, we expect to start building these additional 2 schools:



- d) We plan to build Phase 1 (12 rooms) of an English–Medium School in Silliguri, W Bengal. This will cost c €120,000, including school bus and land.
- e) We plan to build Phase 1 (12 rooms) of an English–Medium School in DamDim, W Bengal. This will cost c €120,000, including school bus and land.

Educo will need to fundraise over €300k if we are to keep on course for our new school developments.

A review of our Indian supported projects

Tangra, Kolkata

Shazia & Arvind are running the school well. Parents of the 229 pupils are all happy and use this low cost school for its convenience, as a feeder school to bigger, more established schools.

The 1800 sq ft of rented space is at capacity, so we should be moving them into a bigger rented unit eg 3,500 sq ft.



Tangra, Kolkata



Tangra, Kolkata

Hope Life Skill Centre, Kolkata

This appears to be run fine, now with 181 pupils getting vocational training each year. It is run by Hope Foundation.



Hope Life Skill Centre



Prabhat Tara School

Prabhat Tara School, Bogapani, Assam

The new Principal here seems fully engaged.

We opened the new computer lab, and look forward to it being connected to the Internet.

The parents seemed very enthusiastic and happy with the school, which is good.

However, there is a fairly major issue now with the road access: for 6 months of the year it is too dangerous for small children (they can easily fall into the deep water troughs on either side of the narrow walkway).

The solution - to fix the road- was shared with the Panchayat. But he says there are no funds, and so the local parents fixing the road is the best solution.

We got involved with Bogapani as a greenfield site 5 years ago: 229 pupils is fine - but actually we feel the school, had it been managed properly, should/could have had 400 pupils by now.

St Xaviers, Pengaree, Assam - 747 pupils

Fr Roshan is the new principal since September 2016. heed and act on).

Roshan seems to have a clear direction and plan. He aims to improve teaching quality (by adding 5 new, more qualified teachers). However his communication with educo is totally lacking.

He's looking to increase tuition fees by 50inr to about 270inr per month to cover this cost.

However, the proposed increase in teacher salaries AND the need to reduce class sizes (some classes had 79 pupils). Both of these issues mean that it will probably be near impossible to run a breakeven, no less a surplus, at this school. He will need serious, astute financial guidance to avoid the school becoming loss making.

Educo is concerned that the number of pupils has already dropped from 800+ to 747. **A drop in pupil numbers indicates that parents are not happy with teaching quality.** This is an alarm bell that we should

New admissions in January 2018 may again be lower (due to the proposed tuition fee increase) unless active promotion is done in the community in December- to get more new pupils.

le Now is the time for Fathers, Sisters and teachers to be actively recruiting more pupils to the school, ie ahead of the January new term.

Quality of teaching:

Education quality is ultimately measured by the pupils' success at state board exams after 10th standard.

The failures (1) last year and the worse ones this year (9) in 10th Standard state exams seem to be due **to failing Assamese subject**: so this clearly needs to be addressed now, even if only to give the students in 9 & 10th standards a fair chance.

New Kindergarten at Pengaree School, Assam

This was opened in November 2016. Educo will consider funding the boys hostel above the kindergarten

- if the costs and details are got to us promptly.



St Stanislaus School, Konapathar, Assam - 123 pupils

The access road has become too bad...(It takes people maybe 60-90 minutes to go just about 15k – as the dirt track roads are getting progressively worse: school need to pressure the gram panchayat to get them fixed). There are now just 123 pupils in this large, expensive 2 story building.

Many reasons or excuses have been given:

- 1) eg: the 88% of pupils are Adivasi that do not have money (2 tea garden pickers earn about 3,000 inr a month - so maybe they do have funds to pay 250 INR)
- 2) Konapathar can't compete with government schools which are free and give food. All Jesuit schools have competition with other government and NGO schools: if Konapathar cannot compete, why not close the school now?
- 3) Parents need to be educated to the benefit of education. Parents need to be persuaded by priests, teachers and sisters actively advocating these benefits, and highlighting the success of 5 recent students who did very well.
- 4) Educo offered (a few times) to fund a free pig/goat for each new parent who pays & sends new pupils

to Konapathar for a year. This offer was never enacted by the school management.

- 5) Perhaps parents do not perceive a **good education** - that is why they do not currently send their children there.

If Konapathar cannot be run feasibly, let's admit defeat and close it down.

- 6) Alternatively, why not make the top floor a boarding school?- and attract more pupils from further away, and receive good tuition/boarding fees.

Konapathar is the weak sibling: ignoring it certainly won't improve it. Currently it is not getting the attention it needs and so it will probably get smaller again in January. This is wasting the educo donation and also costing the Ranchi Jesuits to make up the income shortfall. We want this to work and to reach 400 pupils.

Educo believes it needs 1 capable, driven, **local Champion**, with the instruction that less than 150 pupils in 2017 and 300 pupils in 2018 is unacceptable.....

le For the person to be based at Konapathar and to Use whatever means to make this a success.



All sites in W Bengal are run with Chakra (Fr Sebastian Martis's FCRA registered charity).

St Johns School, Nagra Kata, W. Bengal - 220 pupils

This is run by Sebastian Martis. This shows he can run a well organized permanent school. It has a good reputation. They have 2 school buses and a jeep which brings students safely from afar to the school. (this could/should be used in other schools.). Educo may, in 2018, fund the 2nd floor of this building.

St Conleths School, Chalsa, W. Bengal - 15 pupils

This school is nearing phase 1 completion. We expect 100 pupils to attend when the new academic year starts in March 2018.

St Thomas' School, Chamurchi, W. Bengal - 35 pupils

This school is nearing phase 1 completion. We expect 100 pupils to attend when the new academic year starts in March 2018.

St Peter & St Paul's School, Malbazar, W. Bengal - 12 pupils

This school is nearing phase 1 completion. We expect 100 pupils to attend when the new academic year starts in March 2018.



Saibaba Path, Mumbai, Maharashtra

This school is flying: now heading for 700 pupils, with a staff of 60. The bulk of the €130k of costs a year is now covered directly by generous Indian donors.

Meenal Srinivasan who heads this, is now focused on making about 15 pitches a year to corporates to get their CSR donations. Ideally Educo India wants 3-5 corporate donors tied in with 3-5 year commitments. Educo India also wants to build up a **corpus fund** / rainy day fund, but whose annual yields fund the school. This will take 5 years of good work to put in place, if at all. Current sponsors are Tech Mahindra and Delhi Airport (50% owned by DAA).

Pupil/Teacher ratio is an excellent 17 to one teacher.

HBT Sahar, Mumbai

Sr Paulette and the Handmaids of the Blessed Trinity run this slum school adjacent to the grounds of Mumbai airport. Educo made its initial commitment to her in 2008. That funding is still helping 400 pupils get an English Medium education each year.

Signed,

Grattan Boylan, Educo CEO
December 2017



*St. Thomas' School
W. Bengal*



*St. Peter & Paul's
School, Malbazar,
W. Bengal*

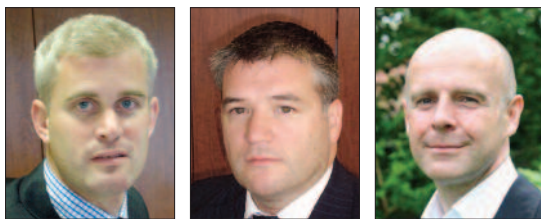


*St. Clonleth's
School, Chalsa*





founders



educu was founded by Grattan Boylan,
Declan O'Donnell & Juerg von Geitz in 2006

ceo



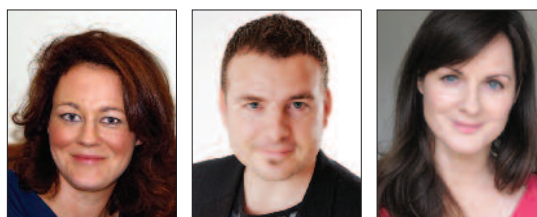
Tom McGovern

trustees



Ann Flannery, Declan O'Donnell, Eoghan Jay Hynes & Conor Mulhall

committee



Kitty Walsh, Jason Berry & Catherine Forrest

educu elders



Jim Boylan & Mary Boylan

educu france



Ann Mesnard, Xavier Mesnard, Louisa Mesnard and Théau Mesnard
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educu india



Meenal Srinivasan, Vibhakar Kelkar

Educo has signed up to follow Dochas Code of Conduct:

The Dochas Code of Conduct on Images and Messages

The Code of Conduct's guiding principles stipulate that "choices of images and messages will be made based on the paramount principles of:

- Respect for the dignity of the people concerned;
- Belief in the equality of all people;
- Acceptance of the need to promote fairness, solidarity and justice.
- Accordingly, in all our communications and where practical and reasonable within the need to reflect reality, we strive to:
- Choose images and related messages based on values of respect equality, solidarity and justice;
- Truthfully represent any image or depicted situation both in its immediate and in its wider context so as to improve public understanding of the realities and complexities of development;
- Avoid images and messages that potentially stereotype,

sensationalise or discriminate against people, situations or places;

- Use images, messages and case studies with the full understanding, participation and permission of the subjects (or subjects' parents/guardian);
- Ensure those whose situation is being represented have the opportunity to communicate their stories themselves;
- Establish and record whether the subjects wish to be named or identifiable and always act accordingly;
- Conform to the highest standards in relation to human rights and protection of the vulnerable people.

Signatories to the Dochas Code of Conduct on Images and Messages are obliged to ensure that: the materials and communications they produce are in-keeping with the principles as set out in the Code; and to provide the public with a facility to feedback, both positively and critically, on these communications.



Educo Board of Trustees is guided by the Code of Conduct for Trustees:

Code of Conduct for Trustee (UK)

Trustees of organisations that are charitable companies are subject to the same statutory duties as directors of private sector companies. Under the Companies Act 2006, directors have a duty to:

- Avoid conflicts of interest
- Not accept benefits from third parties
- Declare interest in proposed transactions or arrangements with the organisation
- Act within powers
- Promote the success of the organisation to achieve its purposes
- Exercise independent judgment
- Exercise reasonable care, skill and diligence

These are all duties that can be incorporated into a code of

conduct, but trustees may wish to consider whether the statutory nature of these duties has any further implications for the governance of the organisation beyond the code of conduct. For example, persistent non-attendance at meetings (or failure to participate in meetings) by trustees who are also company directors could constitute a breach of their duties, that is, a breach of the duty of care. They must act carefully and responsibly or they may be considered negligent, and this could potentially lead to disqualification as a company director.

Guidance on the Companies Act 2006 and the statutory duties of trustees who are also directors are available from the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators at www.icsa.org.uk.



The Educo Board of Trustees seeks to follow the Governance Code:



The Governance Code

The Governance Code is a resource to assist community, voluntary and charity (CVC) organisations develop their overall capacity in terms of how they run their organisation. It is a voluntary code provided free to all boards/committees/executives of not-for-profit groups to encourage them to check themselves against best practice in the management

of their affairs.

The Code has been put together by people with extensive experience in the CVC sector and it takes account of the different types of organisations which exist in the diverse world of volunteering across the country.

Educo Philanthropic Fund (NI) follows, and is audited in compliance with, The Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)

Charities SORP

SORP, the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2005) was developed, in accordance with Accounting Standards Board guidelines, by the Charity Commission for England and Wales, and by the Scottish Regulator.

While Charities SORP has no jurisdiction outside UK, most Irish charities have voluntarily adopted it in order to follow respected practice in relation to accounting and reporting, and most particularly to satisfy their stakeholders in this regard. The Accounting Standards Board is satisfied that the Charities SORP does not conflict with accounting standards or with current accounting practices.

Adopting Charities SORP voluntarily is prudent, therefore, for Irish NGOs, because it provides a best practice approach in respect of accounting and reporting. Development NGOs generally have critical stakeholders who are expecting this level of accounting and reporting as a prerequisite of remaining in such a stakeholder relationship.

For an Irish NGO, therefore, it is an issue of determining the extent to which it should comply with the Charities SORP standards. This judgment rests with the directors as constituting the board, which must determine how much of Charities SORP is appropriate and warranted in respect of the

accounting approach, and the subsequent annual financial statements and annual report.

In general terms Charities SORP requires, inter alia, the following in the financial statements and annual report:

- The Financial Statements (and particularly the Statement of Financial Activities) to be presented in a specified layout that distinguishes, for example, between specific categories of income and specific categories of expenditure
- Details of the **objectives**, aims, strategy and major activities undertaken by the entity
- Reports on achievements and performance in an informative and meaningful manner, pertinent to the affairs of the specific NGDO
- **A statement of directors' responsibilities** regarding the financial statements, in compliance with accounting practices
- A clear **statement and details in respect of the NGDO's reserves policy**
- A **risk management statement**, outlining what the board has undertaken in respect of identifying and understanding its risks, what steps have been put in place to quantify and rank risks, and what initiatives are imbedded at board level to oversee the most highly ranked risk exposures.

Signed and approved on behalf of the Board of Educo: _____

*"If you think in terms of a year, plant a seed;
If in terms of 10 years, plant a tree;
If in terms of 100 years, educate people"*

Confucius



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