

www.educo.ie | www.educo.in

**educo**  
gifting education



**gifting  
education**

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



60m  
children  
not  
attending  
school

key  
pillars

ceo

educo is a charity, founded in Ireland in 2006. It's **aim is to educate children in India**. A fully registered charitable trust in India since 2009, educo India is run by volunteers who oversee several programmes throughout the country, which in total provide education for some 3,000 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**.

### educo's 4 Key Pillars:

- 1) Education is given through **English** – providing the students with the best chance for economic and social mobility.
- 2) educo puts great emphasis on keeping girls in full-time education – helping to redress the **female education** gender imbalance – proven to be the most important factor in a country's economic development.
- 3) educo 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 – ensuring the most underprivileged children are given the skills necessary for modern employment environments.



Tom McGovern

Tom McGovern became CEO of Educo in 2017, following 2 years of significant fundraising. Tom has visited the Educo sites in Kolkata, Assam and West Bengal - where the recent and future schools are planned. He is planning a further visit later this year.



# educo projects

Total pupils:

3,000+



District	Project	Pupils
Mumbai	Saibaba Path	779
	Sahar	400
Assam	St. Stanislaus	75
	St. Xavier's	642
	Bogapani	277
West Bengal	Tangra, Kolkata	229
	Life-Skills, Kolkata	215
	St. Conleth's English School, Jalpaiguri District	212
	St. Peter & St Paul's, Malbazar	152
	St. Thomas's, Chamurchi	180
Total		3161





# Saibaba Path

Central Mumbai

**Leader:** Ms Meenal Srinivasan  
**Principal:** Ms Nita Desai  
**Location:** Saibaba Path Mumbai Public School, Lalbaug,  
Central Mumbai  
**Started:** June 2009  
**Teachers:** 45  
**Pupils:** 779 [Junior, Lower & Senior Kindergarten,  
Standards 1 -6]



Ms Meenal Srinivasan

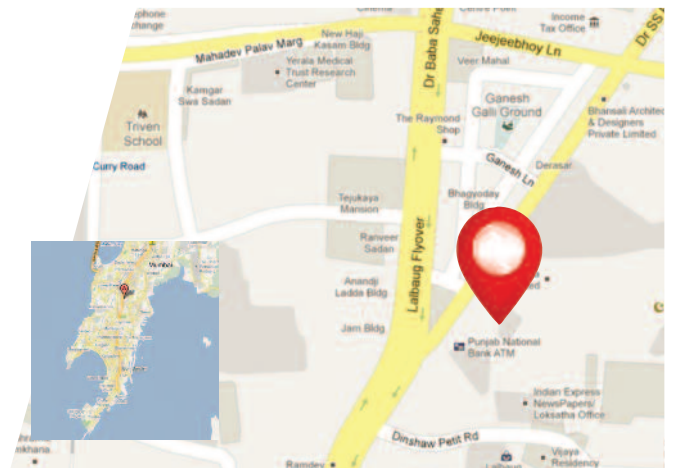


Ms Nita Desai

Saibaba Path Mumbai Public School is located in a large but somewhat underutilised school building in Lalbaug, owned by the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM). The MCGM, under a public private partnership, has permitted educuo to run an English medium school, in which we are currently educating pupils from Lower Kindergarten to Standard 6.

Educo has extensively renovated and furnished the classrooms provided by the MCGM, including laying new floors and painting colourful murals on the walls. We also provide additional teaching materials and class supplies, including books, games and musical instruments. Our aim is to expand our school by one classroom each year as the children progress all the way to Standard 10.

Educo fully manages and funds the running of the school while the basic infrastructure is provided by the MCGM. Our teachers are recruited from the local slum areas and we provide them with an intensive year's teacher training, in partnership with the Mukhtangan organisation. Central to the Mukhtangan method is the impressive teacher-pupil ratio – **one teacher for every 17 pupils**. This encourages close tuition and remedial education to the children who need it.







Lalbaug also has especially high rates of unemployment due to the closure of the local textile mills on which the local community depended for work. The children attending the school all come from the local slum areas. We employ a fulltime Community Liaison Officer who works closely with the local community to identify new children to join the school and to ensure the parents of those children are fully committed to the education of their children. Our CLO also ensures that children attend school regularly and will work to resolve any issues that arise within the home which are preventing the child from coming to school.

Educo pays for **3rd Party testing of pupils** (by Educational Initiatives), which gauges the level of each pupils comprehension, in chosen subjects. We do this for all pupils, and benchmark them nationally. This so we can see where we as a school can improve our teaching.



## Goals:

Saibaba Path has huge potential for growth. It's costly to run and fund our staff of 60+ teachers and administrators so we depend on international and local support. We aim to keep expanding our school into the available space to meet the need for a good quality free English medium school for local underprivileged children.



# Prabhat Tara School

North East Assam

**Leader:** Fr. Telesphore Lakra  
**Principal:** Mr Abraha Hasa  
**Location:** Bogapani, Digboi, (near Dibrugarh), North East Assam  
**Started:** June 2011  
**Teachers:** 9  
**Pupils:** Currently 277 [Lower Kindergarten - 5th Standard]  
**Partner:** Jesuit Order

Educo is currently working with the Jesuit mission on building a large new school on land donated by the community and one of the local tea companies, in the midst of tea gardens. The school will be laid out over 4 acres and will be built in 3 phases, with the aim of accommodating 1,000 pupils up to Standard 10.

Currently educo has funded the ground floor concrete structure, English-medium school. At the moment, this school has 198 pupils.

59% of pupils are from the 'untouchable' Adivasi tribes - so a good education will have a major impact here. There is great demand for this new English-medium school amongst the local Community, with children in the Digboi area currently having to travel for an hour to get to other schools.



Fr. Telesphore Lakra



Mr Abraha Hasa



## Goals:

*Motivate the partents, students and teachers.*

*Get qualified teachers*

*Make collections for teachers payment*

*Get pupils to talk English outside class*

*Creating civic consciousness among the people around the school*



# St. Stanislaus School

North East Assam

**Leader:** Fr. Telesphore Lakra  
**Principal:** Mr Anith Billung  
**Location:** St. Stanislaus School, Konapathar, Tinsukia, North East Assam  
**Started:** January 2007  
**Teachers:** 9  
**Pupils:** 75 [Lower Kindergarten to 6th Standard]  
**Partner:** Jesuit Order



Fr. Telesphore Lakra



Mr Anith Billung

Educo partners with the Jesuit order to run this English-medium school for the children of the impoverished local tea pickers. St. Stanislaus is a primary school which acts as the feeder school for the secondary St. Xavier's school in neighbouring Pengaree (18km away). It is in a very remote village in North East Assam - there is no town nearby and children come from many miles away to attend the school.

Educo and the Jesuit priests saw the great need to found a school in this area to educate the children living in the local community. Most of the parents of these children are illiterate tea-pickers, whose priority is to satisfy their basic everyday needs of having food, shelter etc. There are no government-run schools available to these children in this remote area of Assam, leaving these children with no other means to lift themselves out of this poverty.



## Goals:

*To improve parental commitment*

*To grow the number of pupils*

# St. Xavier's School

Pengaree, North East Assam

**Leader:** Fr. Telesphore Lakra  
**Principal:** Fr Roshan Bage SJ  
**Location:** St. Xavier's School, Pengaree, North East Assam  
**Started:** January 2003 in mud building; 2007 in new building  
**Teachers:** 18  
**Pupils:** 642 [Lower Kindergarten - Standard 10]  
**Partner:** Jesuit Order



Fr. Telesphore Lakra



Fr Roshan Bage SJ

As with the St. Stanislaus School in nearby Konapathar, educo partners with the Jesuit order to run this English-medium secondary school for the children of the impoverished local tea-pickers.

In this very remote part of North East Assam, educo funded the building of a large brand new school with a capacity for 1,000 to educate local children up to Standard 10. educo recognised the need to build this school after witnessing the success of the original Jesuit school which was run out of a mud building.

The children who attend this school come from families of originally migrant workers from other states in India or from Nepal or Bhutan. As such, they have minimal rights in Assam because they are neither Assamese nor a recognised minority. This means they are excluded from state-run schools, and local private schools are too expensive for the parents of these children who typically only earn 1,500RS per month.

The Jesuit order has a long proven track record of providing high quality education in India. In all three (non-denominational) schools we jointly run in Assam, they fully share our







commitment to teaching through English, equipping the students with computer skills, and ensuring female students stay to complete their education.



## Pengaree School Kindergarten

Opened 2017

**Leader:** Fr Roshan Bage SJ

**Capacity:** 160

The kindergarten schooling facility has become necessary as the main school at Pengaree has grown, with many other schools in the greater region (10 mile radius) now becoming feeder schools to Pengaree. Feeder schools are good to establish that there is demand for education, but it does mean more travel for those transitioning pupils. Having a 4 class kindergarten within the Pengaree school grounds is a great move forward for this school. This kindergarten was substantially funded from funds raised and donated by Clonkeen College, Dublin.



### Goals:

1) To improve quality of teaching

To get parent and pupil buy into the idea that pupils only progress to the next year on the basis of their academic ability

2) To ensure some students go on to graduate from college, to provide much needed rolemodels for the children

3) To fully develop the sports facilities – the school is on a 4-acre plot & has many under-used playing fields



27 01 2017



# Tangra

East Kolkata

**Leader:** Mr Arvind Sinha  
**Principal:** Ms Shazia Khatoon  
**Location:** 35 B/1 Christopher Road, Tangra, East Kolkata  
**Started:** August 2010  
**Teachers:** 9  
**Pupils:** 229 [Crèche, Junior & Senior Kindergarten, Remedial, Teenage & Adult Education Classes]



Mr Arvind Sinha



Ms Shazia Khatoon



This project was born from a comment Shazia made when Arvind filmed her for a documentary about living in the slums of Tangra. Shazia, then 17, said she dreamed of one day running a school. educo partnered with Arvind to make that dream a reality and now the school in Tangra educates over 200 pupils.

Tangra, a predominantly Muslim slum in East Kolkata, is an area with one of the lowest literacy rates in Kolkata. Our school is non-denominational, and whilst many of the pupils are Muslim, there are also Hindu and Christian children enrolled. The pupils come from families earning a combined monthly income of between 2,500RS - 4,000RS, with parents working as auto & manual rickshaw drivers, shoe-makers and cleaners etc. Most children in this slum area generally do not get the opportunity to go to school and certainly most don't get the opportunity to be educated in English and computer skills, so there has been a huge impact so far on the

local community from our school. Shazia, our Head Teacher, and all the other teachers and helpers come from the local community and therefore understand the issues the pupils and their families face on a daily basis.

educo has funded the rental of the school building until such time as we are able to buy or build a more permanent structure in the area to be able to accommodate Standards 1-10. In the long term, our aim is to make this school self-sustaining by charging parents a nominal fee of 200RS per month per child. Currently the school includes a crèche, Kindergarten classes (which use the Montessori teaching method), and remedial classes for children aged 5-6 who are finding it difficult to get admitted into Standard 1 in local schools. Additionally the school offers teenage and adult education classes, in English, Computer Skills and Tailoring.



## Goals:

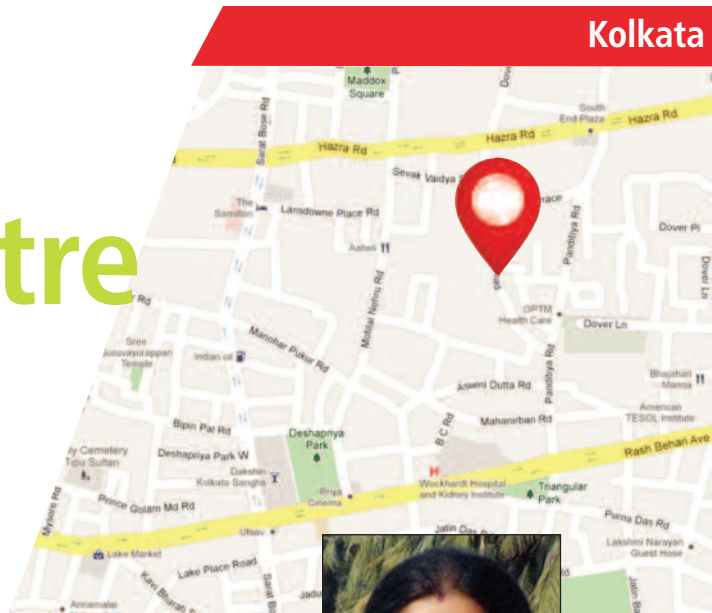
- 1) To locate a nearby building to buy or plot of land where we can build a larger school to accommodate the demand for Standard 1-10
- 2) To actively encourage the enrolment of girls to redress the lack of female education in the area
- 3) To encourage more adults from the local community to avail of our adult life-skills education programme, with English, computer and tailoring classes



# Life-Skills Training Centre

North East Assam

**Leader:** Ms Geeta Venkadakrishnan  
**Location:** Panditya Road, East Kolkata  
**Started:** August 2008  
**Teachers:** 4  
**Pupils:** 215  
**Partner:** The Hope Foundation



Ms Geeta Venkadakrishnan

Educo partners with the NGO The Hope Foundation to run this life-skills training centre in Kolkata. The aim of this is to provide quality and professionally designed **vocational training** to adolescent and adult males and females, who are living below the poverty line and are unable to access vocational training from state-run institutes.

The majority of workers in the informal sector in India have had limited formal education and typically have never received vocational training. Current state-run skills training courses, because of their educational entry requirements, exclude the underprivileged. The main objective of this project therefore is to enable trainees to become more employable and to therefore break the cycle of poverty in which they have found themselves.

The majority of the trainees come from the slum areas local to this part of East Kolkata. The centre consists of three training units (Food & Beverage, Pattern Making & Garment Construction, Computer Training) which allow the students to learn various life-skill activities, all through the medium of English. **Such skills include culinary and waitressing, craft-making and garment construction**, as well as of course the **English language** itself and **computer skills**.

After completing their training, the students (under professional supervision) run each production unit, which includes a restaurant and clothing shop. The production units secure orders from the market and are also responsible for the delivery of goods. In the long term, the goal is for each production unit to be self-sustainable and to be run as a cooperative.



## Goals:

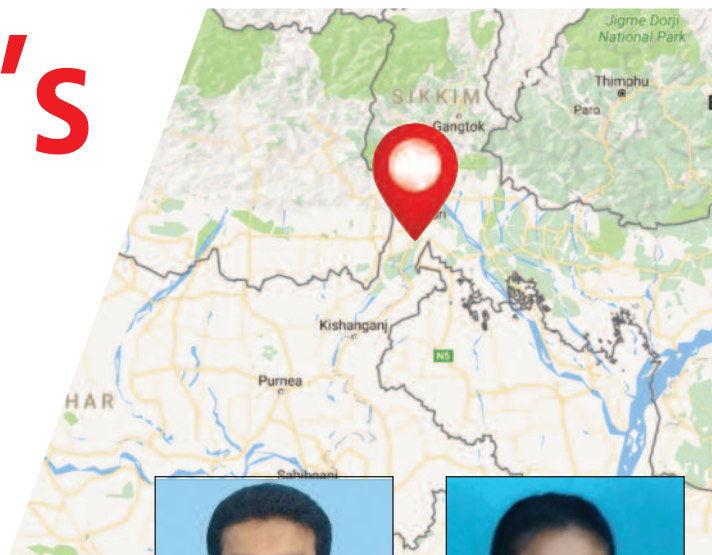
- 1) To continue to develop contacts between the centre and local businesses to generate a higher level of income for the goods and services produced by the Production Units.
- 2) To continue to provide the necessary training to underprivileged girls allowing them to generate a decent level of income when they leave the programme.



# St. Conleth's English School

West Bengal

**Leader:** Fr Sebastian Martis  
**Principal:** Ms Pinkey Kerketta  
**Location:** St. Conleth's English School, Chalsa,  
Jalpaiguri District, West Bengal  
**Start:** March 2018  
**Pupils:** 212  
**Partner:** Chakra Society



Fr Sebastian Martis



Ms Pinkey Kerketta

Educo has fully funded the building of phase 1 of this primary school. It is located in the tea gardens in West Bengal, near the boarder of Bhutan and Sikkim. Only 15% of children in the area are enrolled in the Indian educational system. Our schools will improve these statistics in the coming years.

This school opened its doors in March 2018. The uptake in admissions has been extremely positive with 212 students enrolled to date.

In 2019, Educo plans to build phase 2 of this project, which will add an additional floor to the existing building. Educo has partnered with the The Chakra Charitable Society run the school.

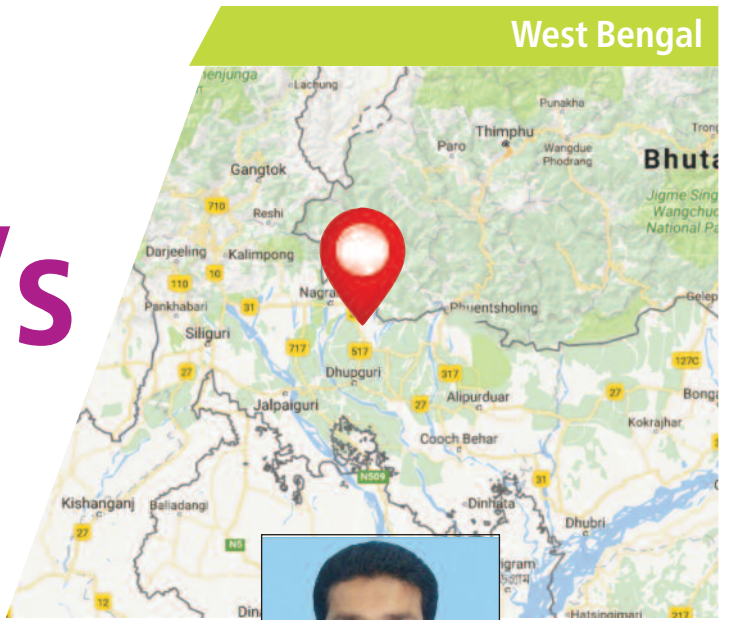




# St Peter & St. Paul's School

West Bengal

**Leader:** Fr Sebastian Martis  
**Principal:** Anita Toppo  
**Location:** St. Peter & St. Paul's School,  
 Malbazar, West Bengal  
**Start:** March 2018  
**Pupils:** 152  
**Partner:** Chakra Society



*Fr Sebastian Martis*

Like its sister schools St Conleths and St. Thomas, this school is located in the tea gardens in West Bengal. Educo has fully funded the building of phase 1 of this project and partnered with the Chakra Charitable Society to manage the school. In 2019, Educo will build phase 2 of this project by adding an additional floor to the existing school building. Our aim is to add a third floor in 2020, which will bring the student capacity to 750 pupils. Our aim in this region is to increase the number of children in education as the number is currently at an extremely low 15%.





# St. Thomas School Chamurchi West Bengal

**Leader:** Fr Sebastian Martis  
**Principal:** Noor Mohammad  
**Start:** March 2018  
**Pupils:** 180  
**Partner:** Chakra Society



*Fr Sebastian Martis*

Like with St. Conleths, Educo has fully funded the building of phase 1 of this project. It is located in tea gardens 20km from St. Conleths, We have partnered with the Chakra Charitable Society to manage the school. Only 15% of eligible children in this area are enrolled in any school. This school opened its doors in March 2018 and student enrolments are increasing weekly. Most children attending this school are from the refugee Nepali community. In 2020, Educo plans to build phase 2 of this project, which will increase the school's capacity to 400 students.





# Monkstown English School

## Washabari West Bengal

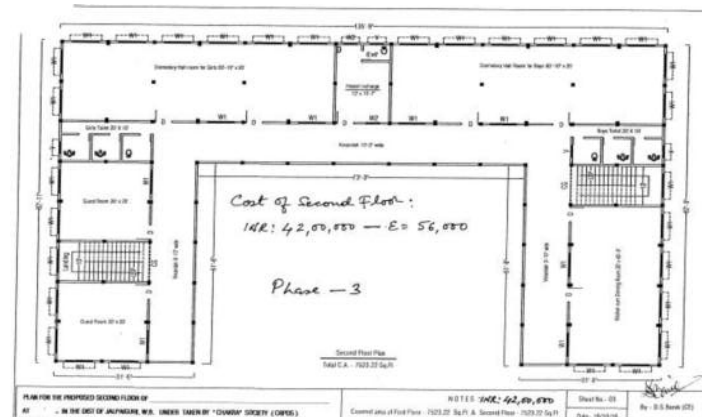
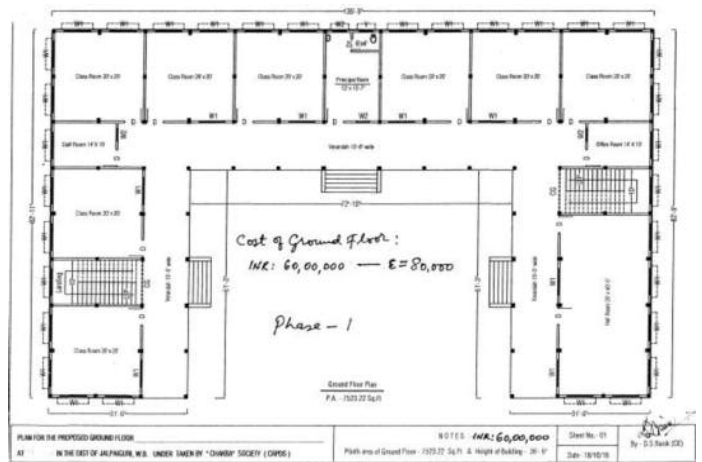
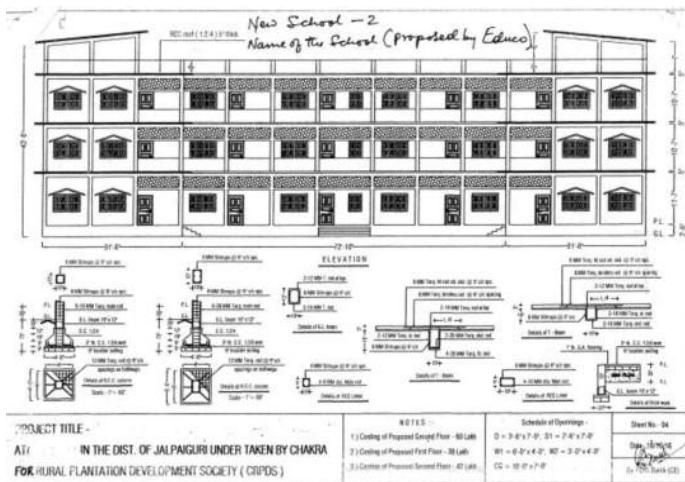
**Leader:** Fr Sebastian Martis  
**Principal:** TBC  
**Start:** 2019  
**Capacity:** 500  
**Partner:** Chakra Society



In 2019, Educo plans to build phase 1 of this school. Educo has partnered with the Chakra Charitable Society to manage the school. The school will be surrounded by 5 tea estates and 4 villages with 20,000 families living in close proximity to the school. Many of the population are Nepalese refugees.

Fr Sebastian Martis

## Proposed drawings





# Silliguri

West Bengal

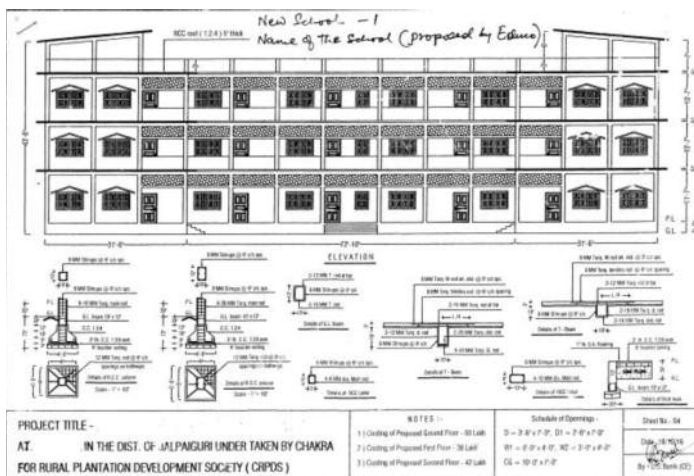
**Leader:** Fr Sebastian Martis  
**Principal:** TBC  
**Start:** 2019  
**Capacity:** 500  
**Partner:** Chakra Society



Fr Sebastian Martis

In 2019, Educo plans to build phase 1 of this school. Educo has partnered with the Chakra Charitable Society to manage the school. This area has a diverse population with Tribal, Nepalese, Rabhas, Islamic, Rajwanshi, Bengalis, Bhiraais and Marwaris living in the area. Like all Educo schools, Silliguri will be non-denominational with children from all backgrounds welcome. This school is closer to the city that has a population of 513,264 - so uptake in enrolment is expected to be strong. We already have plans to build an additional floor to this school in 2020.

## Proposed drawings





# Muskaan School

Central Mumbai

**Leaders:** Chris Way & Krishna Pujari  
**Location:** Muskaan, Kumbharwada, Dharavi, Central Mumbai  
**Started:** June 2009  
**Teachers:** 8  
**Pupils:** 90 [Junior & Senior Kindergarten]  
**Partner:** Reality Gives

Educo runs a Kindergarten school jointly with the NGO Reality Gives in Dharavi, the largest slum in Asia and one of the most deprived areas of Mumbai. The school is run out of a building provided by the local community, who recognise the need for a quality Kindergarten in their area.

We use the Mukhtangan method of teaching in this school, which encourages children to think for themselves - teachers facilitate rather than teach. Central to the Mukhtangan method is the low teacher- pupil ratio: typically there is 1 teacher for every 15 pupils, thus encouraging an excellent level of tuition. The teachers all come from the local community, we facilitate their training with the Mukhtangan centre and are committed to maintaining the high standards of teaching within the school. As well as this quality teaching, we provide the children with a nutritious meal every day.

When the children graduate from the Muskaan school, we plan for them to join our school run out of the Kala



Chris Way

Krishna Pujari

Kila school, which is located on the nearby Mahim Sion Link Road, Dharavi. educo and Reality Gives plan to recreate the model of the Saibaba Path school in nearby Lalbaug, which has proven so successful. This involves engagement with the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (formerly the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation or BMC) to allow us to use classrooms in their underutilised Kala Kila school. We already have a good relationship with the management of the school where our teachers from Muskaan assist the BMC teachers with their English classes. We plan to have our first class of Standard 1 ready to start in Kala Kila by June 2012.





# Kerala Region

West India

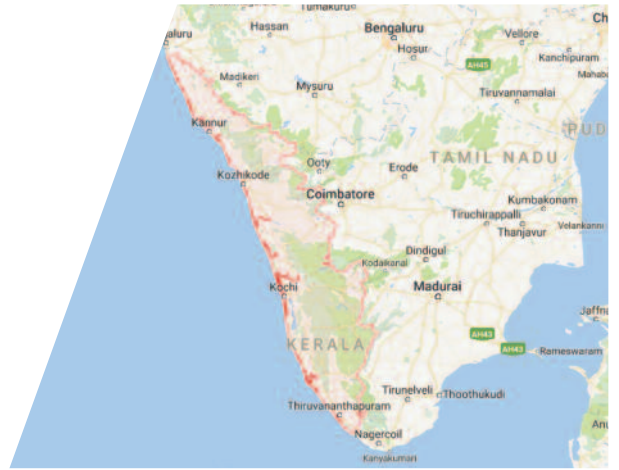
**Leader:** Tom McEnaney

**Year:** 2009

**Project:** In 2008 IODP (International Orphanage Development Programme) and Educo placed a library of 100 books and English language courses into 450 orphanages across Kerala. The books were chosen by librarians and teachers from Kerala, were in the local Malayalam language. They were primarily aimed at the most disadvantaged children in Kerala to promote a love of reading.

In all, two copies of 49 books and a cassette-based English-language course were presented to each school, along with clear plastic to allow the orphanages to cover and thus protect each book. The books chosen were a selection of Indian and western classics. They were mainly works of fiction and poetry with a few dictionaries and other language-based reference books.

The books and their distribution was funded by Educo. IODP administered the project. The books were supplied by DC Books, a local publisher (founded by D.C. Kizhakemuri, a well-known writer, activist, freedom-fighter and book publisher).



# Sahar Vasai School

Mumbai

**Leader:** Sr Paulette

**Principal:** Sr Eliza Baretto

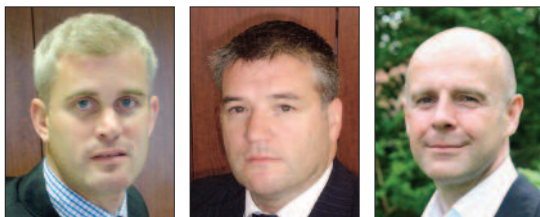
**Capacity:** 400

**Project:** This school is run by the handmaids of the Blessed Trinity which is led by Sr Paulette.  
[www.handmaidsorphanages.org](http://www.handmaidsorphanages.org)





## founders



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

## ceo



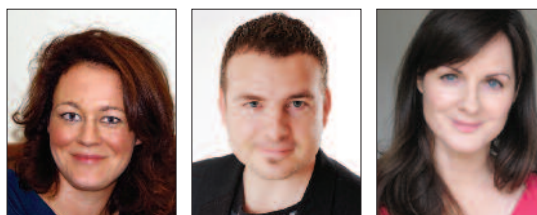
Tom McGovern

## trustees



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

## committee



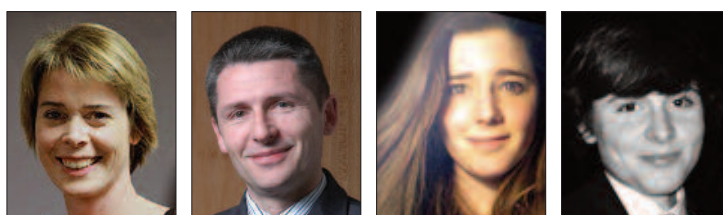
Kitty Walsh, Jason Berry & Catherine Forrest

## educoco elders



Jim Boylan & Mary Boylan

## educoco france



Ann Mesnard, Xavier Mesnard, Louisa Mesnard and Théau Mesnard  
E: educocofrance@gmail.com

## educoco india



Meenal Srinivasan, Vibhakar Kelkar



# How YOU can help:

## Volunteer: Fundraise in Ireland

- 1) **Personal Collections:** Collect for Educo. If you have a group willing to collect for Educo, we would be delighted to make a 30 minute presentation (5 minute video, 15 minute talk and 10 minutes Q & A)
- 2) **Corporate Donations:** ask your company to donate to Educo: Some companies give a percentage of their profits to a charity such as Educo.  
Other companies will match whatever their staff raise for a particular charity.  
Why not make Educo your company's longterm CSR partner?
- 3) **Sponsorship:** Get Sponsored e.g. run a mini-marathon and raise funds for Educo.
- 4) **Teach:** Teach some of our classes from your own home, using Skype to help children improve their English pronunciation. It only takes 2 hours a week. Contact Jim Boylan
- 5) **Teach in India:** Educo has opened half a dozen schools in Mumbai, Kolkata, and Assam. While we pay neither volunteers nor their costs, we are delighted to have them share their infectious enthusiasm, goodwill and knowledge.





# Donate:

## Donation Packages:

Package Per Annum	INR	US Dollars	UK Pounds	Euro
Exchange Rates - INR per unit currency		\$45.45	£67.75	€61
Annual Educational Expenses per Child - Preschool	10,000	\$225	£150	€165
Annual Educational Expenses per Child (Grades: I - III)	13,000	\$300	£200	€225
Annual Education Expenses per Child - Middle School (Grades: IV - VI)	15,000	\$325	£225	€250
Annual Educational Expenses of a Special Child (Differently Abled)	15,000	\$325	£225	€250
Annual Educational Expenses per Child - Secondary	20,000	\$450	£300	€325
Annual Expenses for Training a Teacher	25,000	\$550	£375	€425
Annual Salary of a Teacher - Preschool	48,000	\$1,050	£700	€800
Annual Salary of a Teacher - Primary	72,000	\$1,600	£1,075	€1,200
Annual Salary of a Teacher - Secondary	84,000	\$1,850	£1,250	€1,400
Cost of setting up a Resource Centre comprising of library, computers and audio-visual equipment	200,000	\$4,400	£2,950	€3,300
Furniture for a Classroom	225,000	\$4,950	£3,325	€3,725
Playground Equipment for a School	300,000	\$6,600	£4,425	€4,950
Fund an entire school in your name				€200,000



## Legacy

Educo is trying to build a Fund or 'Corpus' to invest so that the running costs of our schools can be maintained long into the future. If you wish to leave a tax efficient legacy to Educo, please contact us.



*"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*









# educo



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