



Annual Report 2020

Developing Holistic Approaches to State Education: Nepal



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Trustees: Dr Mark Owen;; Mr Jamie Creswell; Mr Paul Kinnon

In a year of 2 halves, where our regular work was flourishing and then came to a sudden pause due to COVID-19 and subsequent restrictions both in Nepal and the UK, this report outlines the significant activities including outputs, outcomes, our team's learning from regular monitoring and

evaluation, and our expenditure report between July 2019 to July 2020 for Freedom to Learn’s programmes in Nepal:

- Act on Education
- Kushadevi Model School Programme (MSP)
- English Teaching Programme. and Teacher Training
- Sister Schools Exchange
- COVID-19 Response



Outreach meetings with Mothers at Rayale which included an interactive workshop on child safeguarding and nutrition



MSP school trip with our 9 teachers, TAs and 62 children - and healthy snacks!

Act on Education (AoE) Outputs	Act on Education (AoE) Outcomes
<p>154 AoE Workshops across 4 Schools</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An increase of confidence for 102 students aged between 13-16. Students learned team building skills and felt able to share their key educational issues from their home, community and inside the classrooms.
<p>12 days of Outreach visits to 46 families</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents demonstrated increased belief in the value of education which in turn showed a decline in the children’s workload on farms and in shops. Parents visiting the school more regularly - more that 98 in visits before April 2020.

<p>School Management Committee / Parent Teacher Associations/ And Ward Office consultations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings supported the team to sustain the support for resources for creative and fund learning environments in Kushadevi and Rayale Schools, including ensuring cleaners for toilet facilities and more sports and learning materials available at schools. • As a result Parents events were run termly by the committee in partnership with our team before April 2020. Including awareness workshops on child safeguarding and nutrition. (More than 500 School Meals were also provided to children who needed them most)
<p>4 AoE final events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resulted in improved communication and easier relations between teachers, students and their carers/parents increasing mutual understanding and the importance of school not only for education but for the wellbeing of the children. • For the first time zero corporal punishment was reported in all 4 schools. • More than 45 parents who were interviewed demonstrated a shift in towards supporting gender equality initiatives at all 4 schools have agreed to do more to ensure their child attends school consistently. • School Management Committees are more proactive on a regular basis. (With support from the FtL team in follow up and refresher workshops)



AoE games in the days before COVID



AoE snack time while planning the Balachandra School AoE event

Model School Programme Outputs	Model School Programme Outcomes
<p>8,624 lessons were taught to 312 children by 10 teachers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On average 82% of students passed their termly examination with improved marks. (Summer Exams were cancelled due to COVID)
<p>All 9 teachers recruited under MSP are local women and this year our implementing partners VP is a local woman who has trained with us and worked for us since 2012. She is also taking on MSP leadership role from July 2020.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attitudes towards girls & women improving within the community. Self confidence has increased among local girls & women in the school catchment as a result - we have still had local women approach us asking for training and employment - something that would never have happening in recent years.
<p>7 Face time live video sessions with FTL Ambassadors in Milford School in UK</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although these have been paused since COVID-19 closed schools, 124 children 'met' online with 56 Kushadevi students. They shared work, project tasks and had conversations about daily life.
<p>14 MSP staff meetings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Around 560 extra classes were delivered by 9 teachers during the academic year in their volunteer time showing their commitment to the project and the cause. Lesson plans are developed and stored for annual use. A sharing culture among teachers has continued to be nurtured, increasing the wellbeing of staff and saving on teacher planning time. Classroom management has become more systematic. Collaboration among teachers has increased.

<p>3 meetings with 4 school head teachers, 3 meetings with SMC Chairperson, 3 meetings with former head teachers on the development of MSP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An increased understanding about Model School Programme activities among school staff.
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Parents meeting November 2020 as schools returned briefly



School Trip to Kathmandu pre-COVID

English Teaching Programme Outputs	English Teaching Programme Outputs
<p>3222 lessons were taught to 600 children by 4 teachers up to March 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 72% of children in the 4 schools have reported increased confidence in spoken English.
<p>54 English Club events & 6 English Movie events across the 4 schools</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This resulted in more parents engaging in school, as they value English learning. • School head teachers, Community leaders have expressed that they appreciate the programme during public events.
<p>Knowledge Exchange and refresher training meetings increased creative learning techniques such as role-play, games and poetry.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 34 children gave a speech in English at a parents meeting or assembly. • 60% of children have taken part in role play & peer work as a result of the knowledge exchange meetings.

<p>4 Class Observations English Teachers from teacher trainer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjustments were made according to feedback – such as classroom layout, and student engagements techniques ensuring continuation of increasing quality of teaching.
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COVID-19 Response Output	COVID-19 Outcomes
<p>68 Outdoor Learning events in Panauti</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 257 children directly took part in learning workshops including COVID safety and sanitation as well as outdoor PE lessons, maths, English, Nepali and Science lessons.
<p>298 home learning resource packs delivered</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our team of 9 teachers not only delivered workshops to children who were able to safely attend but have also distribute school materials to nearly 300 children who were, as a result, able to take part in home learning and not miss out on their schools during the uncertain months of April -November 2020.



Students Diksheeta and Lakshmi learning at home in September



Some of the resource packs contents donated and distributed



The first teacher planning meeting to take place post COVID-19 in Kushadevi



Outreach PE lessons with Classes 3 and 4

Financial Review and Reserves Policy

Freedom to Learn currently has no outstanding debts or capital.

We keep enough reserves to enable us to ensure that we meet our existing obligations to pay the staff who run our existing programmes for a minimum of 3 months, including the most essential materials.

Most of our income and expenditure is through project funding, and is therefore preallocated to specific costs. We are very careful as trustees not to commit to future expenditure that we cannot afford, and for the coming financial year we foresee no problems.

The Trustees have signed off this year's Financial Statement. It has been independently checked in line with regulations for charities with an income of over £20,000 ready for filing with The Charity Commission by 30th April 2021

Governance, Organisational Structure and Trustees

Freedom to Learn is run in accordance with our Memorandum of Articles and Association and, as a small organisation, all our trustees play a very active and vital role in the running of the charity.

Dr Mark Cristian Owen, Director of the Winchester Centre of Reconciliation and Peace, continues to be Chair of Trustees. We are still grateful to draw on the systems expertise of Paul Kinnon and development and peace building expertise of Jamie Creswell on our board of Trustees.

Trustees are elected by existing trustees on the basis of a majority vote. The new Trustees are elected by a majority, and rotation of positions is done in line with our Articles. New trustees are given training and information on their legal obligations as a charity trustee, and are strongly encouraged to attend external training where possible. Our day to day operations are run by our UK based Project Manager. Since June 2018 we have employed a Fundraising and Development Manager. We also currently employ a Nepal based Project Manager. All staff are self-employed and invoice us on a monthly basis dependent on project funding.

Income and Expenditure Account 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020

Income		
Grants	£26,500.00	
Fundraising	£12,433.67	
Gifts in Kind	£11,440.00 *	
Volunteer Programme	£8,430.00	
Regular Donations	£1,672.00	
Bank Interest	£31.55	
	<u>£60,507.22</u>	
Less Expenditure		
Projects:		
Ride for Life	£6,339.90	
Kushadevi Model School	£5,574.50	
English Teaching Programme	£3,411.00	
Rural Community	£3,138.82	
	<u>£18,464.22</u>	
Freedom to Learn Wages	£23,080.00	
Fundraising Expenses	£10,348.41	
Incuhive Office Rental	£3,397.50	
Insurance and Professional Fees	£527.11	
Accountancy	£250.00	
Travel Expenses	£198.48	
Website	£50.00	
Bank Charges	£34.00	
Stationery and Printing	£30.72	
	<u>£56,380.44</u>	
Surplus of Income over Expenditure		<u><u>£4,126.78</u></u>

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2020

Current Assets		
Business Money Manager Account	£35,613.04	
Community Account	£2,733.29	£38,346.33
Current Liabilities		<u>£0.00</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>£38,346.33</u>
		<u><u>£38,346.33</u></u>
Financed by		
Accumulated Fund Brought Down on 1 July 2019		£34,219.55
Surplus of Expenditure over Income for the Year		£4,126.78
		<u>£38,346.33</u>

* Gifts in Kind broken down as follows:

Activities:		
Imogen Flatau - Project Administrator	£3,600.00	Based on 18 additional hours per month
Joanna Owen - Programme Manager	£6,000.00	Based on 20 additional hours per month
Tamsyn Beach - Bookkeeper	£250.00	Year End Fee
	<u>£9,850.00</u>	
Office Expenses:		
Incuhive - 1 Free Desk for 12 Months	£1,440.00	
Incuhive - Free Meeting Room Hire	£150.00	£1,590.00
	<u>£1,590.00</u>	
	<u><u>£11,440.00</u></u>	

Freedom to Learn

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

I report on the accounts of the charity, Freedom to Learn, for the year ended 30th June 2020, as set out in this report.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and Examiner

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 43 (2) of the Charities Act 1993) and that instead an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under Section 43 (3) (a) of the 1993 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 43 (7) (b) of the 1993 Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissions. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by Freedom to Learn and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes a consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.


Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the following requirements have not been met:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the 1993 Act;
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act.

or;

2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to reach a proper understanding of the accounts.

Signature 

Name Zita Czifra Haigh

Profession Local Business Owner

Address 70 Osbourne Road, New Milton,
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Date 10/08/2020