



Educate for Life is an England and Wales registered charity, number 1114271. Our mission statement is as follows. 'Educate for Life is committed to providing useful education to under-privileged children around the world, creating social capacity and empowerment in the areas in which we work. We hope to form a socially, financially and environmentally self-sustaining model that is accessible to all, so that international, humanitarian and individual development may follow a more enhancing and sustainable path.'

That is how we exist in the eyes of the law. But to be useful, we also have to exist in the eyes of the world at large. What follows is our 'demystified' mission statement; 6 goals to which we are dedicated.

Educate for Life will,

- 1) Build schools that provide a worthwhile education for children in parts of the developing world where there aren't enough or any schools already.
- 2) Use these schools as hubs in villages from which we provide the tools, skills and services needed to empower our children and the wider community to make positive changes that help both themselves and the wider populus.
- 3) Do all of this in a sustainable way i.e. all our energy will be from renewable carbon neutral sources, our food will primarily be grown on site and each school should work towards financial independence and some form of autocracy within a few years of starting, no longer relying on hand-outs.
- 4) Be innovative and pioneering in our approach to global social, economic and welfare issues, questioning the norm and ourselves at all times to see how things can be improved.

5) Ensure all the information about our work, how we do it and what we have learnt is open to all, so that other international development workers, as well as individuals, can take the best parts from our work and use them as a model on which to build a better and more fulfilling world for all.

6) Make everyone feel that they can be involved; make charity more accessible and less mistrusted.

The current stage in the development of the charity is awareness raising of the charity (substantially internet based to minimise paper consumption) and its work and fundraising through the requisition of donations. This has been highly successful largely due to the '2p Plan', our request of 2p from 1 million people. This generated intense interest in the charity, global awareness of our work, and indeed a very many 2ps (in the region of 400000, and counting). The 2p Plan was also indicative of Educate for Life's dogma, getting as many people as possible to chip in and help us out, we are much more interested in the donation of time than money. This has manifested itself in 100% voluntary giving of; the school plans, the multi-lingual website, the professional advice, and the team of architects and engineers, teachers and artists and many more that now work with Educate for Life in the drive for a greater global equality.

The next stage in Educate for Life, which we are now entering, is to rendezvous with appropriation organisations already in action in India, the acquisition of property and its development, and the development of alternative sources of funding which will be built to replace the current donation dependence.

Educate for Life is entirely student driven, young people working together to help young people across the globe. 100% of every donation goes where it is intended, to the children. Our admin costs are minimal, all of which are absorbed by Ed and Ash, the founders.

Ash and Ed set up Educate for Life in September last year as a result of the realisation of a common dream of building a school in India. Ed has just graduated with a degree in Biology from University College London, Ash is also at UCL and continues to study Medicine, now being in his third year and doing clinicals. They have been running the charity at its current capacity since December, including through periods of exams and other obligations.

Both their inspirations for the school come from exposure in India to poverty and children lacking education, and seeing the positive impacts associated with education in these areas. This ranges from children going to school and so avoiding begging, or adults learning better water management and so increase food production in dry areas and thus reduce malnutrition and starvation. This was both on the apparent level that anyone will see on a trip to India, and also from spending time with various charities from across the sub-continent.

A basic two room school in Rajasthan, a desert state in Western India, costs in the region of £1200, and for £400 per annum can provide two teachers for 40 children. However, Educate for Life want to take their schools beyond that to create vital hubs of the

community, providing adult as well as child learning, clinics and workshops. We hope to show the benefits of sustainable living through demonstration, and provide training for the propagation of methods used. Our open-source policy provides an adaptable and evolving model in sustainable poverty alleviation, one which anyone can apply. We emphasise that anyone can do charity and can make a difference, it is in no way a reserve of the rich or privileged.

Educate is humble in its beginnings and makes no premise but to be a catalyst for change in areas where it is most needed. As Ash states, 'Basically we are just a couple of guys that have a deep caring for the people that we have met along the way, and an abhorrence of the injustice that so many face, thus decided to do our bit against it.'

Want to know more? Well then, get on to www.educateforlife.co.uk or write to or call us directly on edandash@educateforlife.co.uk, 07859 009 179.