

educate for Life

ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL 2023 - MARCH 2024



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Educate for Life would like to express profound appreciation to our partner organisations in Rajasthan, India. The impact that Educate for Life has would not be possible without the expertise, passion, commitment and hard work of the incredible individuals working in the schools, community, and offices of our partner organisations.

We would also like to acknowledge the children and families who are at the centre of everything that we do and thank them for putting their trust in us and our programmes. It is an immense privilege to be able to work in this community, for which we are very grateful.

Thank you to all of our donors who provide the funds essential to continuing to run the education and health programmes that are making a positive difference to the lives of so many living in the area in which we work. Educate for Life is grateful to the generosity and kindness of our supporters who continue to donate and put their trust in Educate for Life and our partners in Southern Rajasthan.

Thank you for all you do for Educate for Life and the communities that we support.

In gratitude,

educate for Life

Our Mission & Vision

Educate for Life is a UK registered charity. Our aim is to support community-led, long-term socio-economic transformation of indigenous Adivasi communities in Southern Rajasthan. We have two main areas of work:

- 1) strengthening the provision of education to improve life skills for children and young people
- 2) providing community health programmes to support healthy pregnancies and childhoods.

Educate for Life works in partnership with local organisations in rural India to achieve this.



**A Rural India of Happy and Healthy
Children and Young People**

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023/24

APRIL 2023



Community Health Worker visited a newborn baby and their family to check the baby's growth and health and provide care advice.

MAY 2023



Secondary school students enjoying fun, engaging activities organised during their school holidays at summer camp.

JUNE 2023



The mobile clinic visited the community twice, providing affordable formal healthcare advice to 115 people living in five hamlets.

SEPTEMBER 2023



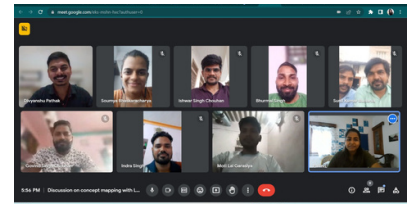
Students took newly-designed tests to determine foundational literacy and numeracy levels, to tailor teaching to the students' needs.

AUGUST 2023



Diganth team members visited the homes of students who hadn't returned to school after summer vacation to encourage re-enrollment.

JULY 2023



The Project Diganth team in their weekly team call to discuss plans for the week, share learning, and identify challenges.

OCTOBER 2023



Government healthcare workers visited the community to provide check-ups and vaccinations to babies and young children.

NOVEMBER 2023



40 parents attended a parent-teacher meeting at Mandwa secondary to discuss attendance, child learning, and parental engagement.

DECEMBER 2023



In December the mobile clinic visited the community twice, providing affordable, accessible health care to 140 patients.

MARCH 2024



Women receiving vaccinations to support a healthy pregnancy. By the end of the year, 82% of pregnant women in the programme received their full recommended vaccinations.

FEBRUARY 2024



Secondary students took part in a workshop organised by Jatan Sansthan looking at issues around gender, positive masculinity, and sexual and reproductive health.

JANUARY 2024



Akshay (Founder and Chair) and Jess (Programme Manager) visited India to spend time with partner teams and see the impact of the programmes in Southern Rajasthan.

Community Health Outreach Work

The **Safe Motherhood Programme** continued to support women through **healthy pregnancies**. The team identify pregnancies in the community and provide one-to-one **advice and support**, ensure access to the recommended **vaccinations** and formal **check-ups**, and encourage delivery with a trained **medical professional** present. Throughout the year, there were **147 livebirths**. Of these, 76% took place with a skilled attendant and **87% received full antenatal care**, including vaccinations, supplements, and home and health centre visits. These positive outcomes show **consistency in the impact** of this well-established programme.

Through the **Safe Childhood Programme**, **508 children** under the age of five and their families were supported through healthy infancy. The team regularly visit the children in their homes to track their **development** and provide advice on **age-appropriate care**. For any identified concerns, children are referred to the **health centre** for professional advice. The health team also ensures that all children receive their **recommended vaccinations**.

The **mobile clinic** visits the community to provide **affordable, accessible healthcare** in more remote communities. The doctor present **prescribes medication** for regular ailments or **refers patients** to a health centre for more serious conditions, encouraging formal health-seeking behaviours. The mobile clinic visited **16 times** last year, providing **1,330 appointments**.



“The vaccinations and tablets are very good, they are supporting us. We wait for the mobile clinic to give us the syrup for children.”

Mobile clinic patient



A story from the Safe Motherhood Programme

During their first pregnancy, one woman had complications and struggled with her health. For her second pregnancy, she enrolled in the Safe Motherhood Programme. She accessed regular health check-ups, blood tests, and was prescribed supplements. This pregnancy and delivery were much easier and without any major problems. This new mother is thankful for the support received through the programme because of the difference it has made to her and her baby's health and well-being.

COMMUNITY HEALTH OUTREACH WORK

COMMUNITY MEMBERS BENEFITTING FROM HEALTH PROGRAMMES
IN 2023/24

IMPACT

137

supported through
their pregnancies

WOMEN



147

new babies delivered
through our Safe
Motherhood Programme

508

pre-school children
benefitted from our Safe
Childhood Programme

87%

of pregnant women in the Safe
Motherhood Programme received
full recommended antenatal care
and support

76%

of women in the Safe Motherhood
Programme gave birth with a
skilled attendant present

16

mobile clinic visits took
place

1,330

community members
attended the mobile clinic
service, receiving
professional healthcare and
free medication

PROJECT PARTNERS



Global Hospital & Research Centre



www.educateforlife.org.uk

Improving Secondary Education

The secondary education programme, **Project Diganth**, supports two under-performing secondary schools in the project area. A team of Facilitators work with students, teachers, parents, education officials, and other organisations to improve the outcomes for the young people, in terms of **academic results**, **life-skills**, and understanding of **career options**.

Facilitators support students in the classroom, providing **subject teaching** alongside a strong focus on improving foundational literacy and numeracy skills to give students a strong basic understanding from which to build and **improve their exam results**, as well as better equip students for **life after school**. This year, partners trialed a new, comprehensive test to better **map students' levels** in foundational learning and understand which areas are weaker to provide tailored support.

A focus of this year has been community engagement; improving the links between the school, parents, and others living in the area. Regular **home visits** take place for students with low or irregular attendance to understand the barriers to coming to school more often. Events take place on holidays and public **celebrations to invite family members** to engage with the school and their children's education. **Parent-teacher meetings** allow discussions and updates on students' progress and sharing of ideas for school improvement. In addition, WhatsApp groups have been created with **parents living close to one another** to encourage attendance and link up students with different levels of attendance.

A key outcome of the project is to give students more **opportunities after secondary school** to continue their education, understand what career options are available, and make informed choices. Older students **visited nearby vocational colleges** and took part in sessions to support thinking about their next steps after graduation. A handful of students were able to travel to Ahmedabad, the capital of Gujarat state, to **sit entrance exams** for a prestigious university. Unfortunately none were successful in securing a place, but the **experience of travelling** and participating in the process were valuable. In the coming year, career guidance will continue to be a focus, looking at the **range of opportunities** available.



“This was the first time I stepped out of Kotra to give an entrance examination. It was the first time ever I gave an exam on a computer. It was a great experience for me!”
Student sitting entrance exam for university in Ahmedabad



“The summer camp for students is good. I give gratitude to entire team.”
Community member

“If a teacher like you had come to teach us earlier, we would not have faced so many problems in studying today.”

Class 10 student to Digantth facilitator at Mandwa School

IMPROVING SECONDARY EDUCATION

SUPPORTING SECONDARY AGE STUDENTS IN 2023/24

IMPACT

2

understaffed government secondary schools benefitted from wide-ranging support



7



additional teachers facilitated remote and in person learning opportunities

325



students directly benefitted from contact with additional teaching staff

>77%



final year students passed compulsory end of secondary school exams

2



career guidance session to discuss post-secondary options with students

5



students took entrance exams for undergraduate and masters programmes in prestigious universities

1



summer camp with a variety of academic and extra-curricular activities including sport, photography, and dance

9



parent-teacher meetings conducted across both secondary schools

PROJECT PARTNERS



www.educateforlife.org.uk

Supporters

We are extremely thankful to our amazing supporters, which include individual donors, trusts and foundations. You make all that we do possible. It is a privilege to share details of our projects and their impact with you. You have made an incredible tangible difference to many people's lives. Your collective support has helped underserved rural communities to access education and healthcare services. Your help ensures that children growing up in these communities have happier and healthier childhoods and can reach their full potential in life.

- H and H Popat Charitable Trust
- Maharashtra Foundation
- Manglibai Haridas Khiara (UK) Charitable Trust
- Sisi and Savita Charitable Trust
- The Women's India Association UK

*Not all our supporters have given permission to be publicly acknowledged.
If you are not named, our gratitude is no less heartfelt.*



Governance

Educate for Life is a charitable trust registered with the Charity Commission of England and Wales on 16 November 2005, with registration number 1114271. We have one member of staff and an active board of voluntary trustees who support our overseas partners and staff to ensure ongoing quality improvement of our projects and governance. We also have a number of pro-bono advisors based in the UK and India.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Dr Akshay Patel, *Co-founder & Chair*
- Bijal Patel, *Treasurer*
- Rosie Frost, *Monitoring and Evaluation Lead*
- Neha Limaye, *Health Interventions Lead*
- Julie Ridge, *Education Lead*
- Andrea Roach, *Data Management Lead*

STAFF

- Jessica Whitaker, *Programme Manager*

ADVISORS

- Jiten Kotecha, *HR & Governance Advisor*
- Rajan Amin, *Fundraising Advisor*
- Aditya Trivedi
- Kavita Anand, *Education Advisor*
- Madhu Sareen, *Education Advisor*
- Amrita Nair, *Education Advisor*
- Professor Rajeev Sharma
- Steven Berkeley, *Health Advisor*
- Dr Partap Midha, *Health Advisor*

Our Partners in India

We work in partnership with carefully selected Indian organisations to ensure the operational success of our projects. We are committed to continual quality improvement of our programmes. We invest in our key implementation partners. We work with other expert organisations in India to develop project team members' skills and knowledge.

JATAN SANSTHAN

Jatan Sansthan is an Indian not-for-profit organisation working with rural and resource poor communities in Rajasthan. They develop and implement initiatives to support children, young people and women in the areas of health and education. Our secondary school programme (Project Diganth) is run in partnership with Jatan Sansthan.



KSHAMTALAYA

Kshamtalaya is an Indian non-profit organisation founded to support school children in disadvantaged settings so that they can realise their true potential and develop into socially and economically active young adults. We have partnered with them and Jatan Sansthan to create a programme designed to improve the quality of education provided by two secondary schools. Kshamtalaya provides operational support to Jatan Sansthan within Project Diganth.



THE GLOBAL HOSPITAL AND RESEARCH CENTRE

The Global Hospital and Research Centre (GHRC) based in Mount Abu provides a mobile clinic service, which stops in at least three locations in and near Bakhel. This ensures regular free access to professional healthcare and advice. GHRC accepts referrals for diagnosis and treatment.



RATI FOUNDATION

The RATI Foundation for Social Change primarily works to create spaces & communities both in onground & online ecosystems where children and women are safe from sexual violence. The RATI Foundation provided technical support to EFL and Kshamtalaya to develop and implement robust child protection policies specific to the unique context in which we work, using local knowledge and expertise.



The Next Chapter

In 2022, plans for a dam to be built in the project area came to light. This dam will sadly submerge the whole project area in which Educate for Life works, meaning the whole community will have to move. The exact plans and timeline for this devastating project remain unclear, although it has now become more certain that it will happen.

Educate for Life is working closely with partners to monitor the situation and begin to think about what will happen to the projects that we support once the dam is constructed. There is not yet a clear plan, but discussions and options are being discussed and will be confirmed as more information surrounding the project are known.

Until displacement begins, Educate for Life is committed to continuing to support the community through the secondary education and community health programmes. We will continue to work with secondary students, teachers, and their families to equip young people with the life skills, academic results, and knowledge to build resilience for their lives post-displacement. Pregnant women and new mothers will be given advice and support for healthy pregnancies and early childhood, providing knowledge and behaviours that will continue to benefit families once they are moved.

We remain flexible and are ready to adapt to the needs of the community as plans become clearer. Alongside partners, we are working to understand the community's needs and plans, including where they plan to move and why. We are looking into ways we can better support the community to prepare for displacement and to give them the best chance of future success.



**If you have any questions or would like to make a donation please contact:
ash@educateforlife.org.uk**