



Rehmat Educational Foundation

Charity Registration No: 1203124

Trustees' Annual Report & Statement of Financial Activity for the period 18 May 2023 to 5 April 2024

July 2024

1. Introduction

According to UNICEF, Pakistan has the world's second-highest number of out-of-school children, with around 22.8 million children aged 5 to 15 not attending school. Furthermore, over 13 million children in Pakistan are engaged in child labour, depriving them of education and fundamental rights. Pakistan lacks a social security system to provide care and support for these vulnerable children.

The Rehmat Educational Foundation is a UK-registered charity dedicated to providing quality education to underprivileged children in deprived areas of Pakistan. Founded by British-Pakistanis and supported by a broad community across the UK, the foundation collaborates closely with Rehmat School located in Pakistan. Both organisations share a unified set of values, goals, and objectives, working together to educate and provide vocational training to street children and those engaged in child labour, helping them assimilate into mainstream society.

Charitable Objectives

The advancement of education particularly but not exclusively through the provision of grants, donations and scholarships to poor children in Pakistan as the Trustees may decide from time to time.

Mission:

To transform the lives of street children and children engaged in child labour by providing free, high-quality education and vocational training, equipping them with the skills necessary for a brighter and self-reliant future.

Core Values:

- 1. Compassion:**
We demonstrate empathy and kindness in all our efforts, ensuring that every child feels valued and supported.
- 2. Education:**
We are committed to providing high-quality, free education and vocational training to these unprivileged children that lays the foundation for lifelong learning and personal growth.
- 3. Empowerment:**
We equip children with the skills, knowledge, and confidence needed to overcome challenges and achieve their full potential.
- 4. Integrity:**
We adhere to the highest standards of honesty and transparency, ensuring trust and accountability in all our endeavours.

2. Activities & Achievements

Project Overview:

Our project aims to provide comprehensive education and vocational training to street children and those engaged in child labour in deprived and unprivileged areas in Pakistan. Our goal is to rehabilitate and reintegrate these children into mainstream society by equipping them with the necessary skills and knowledge to break free from the generational cycle of poverty. By fostering a supportive learning environment, we offer formal education, vocational skills training, counselling, and mentorship, thereby empowering these children to pursue meaningful, productive lives.

Rehmat Educational Foundation: Transforming Lives Through Education

The Rehmat Educational Foundation has made a significant impact on the local community in Pakistan through its dedicated support of Rehmat School, a charitable institution founded in Ahmed Pur East, Pakistan, in 2023. The school's mission is to offer free, high-quality education to street children and those who have been deprived of education due to child labour and other challenging circumstances. In a short period, Rehmat School has achieved remarkable progress. It has transformed the lives of children who had never attended school by offering them a unique opportunity to learn. The Foundation ensures these vulnerable children have access to free education, providing them with their first step towards a brighter future.

Key Benefits to the Public:

Educational Opportunities

- **Enrolled Students:** 63 street children and those involved in child labour.
- **Programmes Offered:** Comprehensive educational programmes fostering literacy, numeracy, and critical thinking skills.

Free School Supplies

- **Beyond the Classroom:** Rehmat School ensures that every student receives essential stationery, school bags, uniforms, and shoes. This removes financial barriers to education and fosters a sense of equality among the students.
- **No Cost Supplies:** Provides textbooks, uniforms, shoes, and stationery at no cost, alleviating financial burdens on families.
- **Full Participation:** Ensures all children have the necessary tools to participate fully in their education.

Nutritional Support

- **Meal Programme:** The school's free meal program addresses the basic nutritional needs of the children, ensuring they receive at least one warm meal daily. Without this, many children would go to sleep hungry.
- **Daily Meals:** Provides daily meals to combat malnutrition, ensuring students receive essential nutrients for their physical and mental growth.

Monthly Stipend

- **Financial Support:** Families living in poverty often rely on their children to contribute to the household income. The school provides a monthly stipend to prevent children from needing to work or beg. This ensures that families receive the funds needed to keep their children in school and create a pathway for continued education.

School Library

- **Resource Development:** A library has been established at Rehmat School to foster intellectual and mental development alongside providing curricular education for children.

- **Encouraging Reading:** To cultivate a love for books and encourage reading among students, the library offers a diverse collection of books.

Health Checkups

- **Healthcare Access:** Recognizing the limited healthcare access for disadvantaged children, the school takes on the responsibility for their medical needs.

- **Medical Check-ups:** Arranges regular medical check-ups and provides complimentary medication when needed.

- **Expert Visits:** Dr. Zulfiqar Haider, a UK-based paediatric consultant, visited in April 2024 to conduct health assessments, identifying undiagnosed conditions like epilepsy, asthma and other health issues.

- **Life-changing Intervention:** The foundation organised additional tests and lifelong medications for these children. This intervention has had profound, life-changing impacts on them.

- **Further Care:** Coordinated with local doctors for follow-up care.

Eid Gifts for Children

- **Spreading Joy on Special Occasions:** Recognising that disadvantaged children often miss out on the joy of receiving presents during celebrations. Ensures that every child experiences the joy and excitement of special occasions.

- **Eid Gifts:** Provides clothes and gifts to the children on Eid to bring happiness and joy.

Sahiba, Ansar and Jabbar's Story:

They are siblings from the same family. Their father is suffering from kidney failure and is unable to work. Their mother works in a tobacco processing yard, earning very meagre wages. During desperate times, when she couldn't earn enough to provide a meal for her family, she even had Sahiba (11 years old) and Ansar (9 years old) work in the tobacco processing yard alongside her, just so they could have food.

While Sahiba and Ansar working in the yard, their younger sibling, 7-year-old Jabbar, used to wander in the streets and get into fights with other children. Much like his sister and brother he never attended school.

All three children were given the opportunity to enrol in Rehmat School. When they first started attending, both Ansar and Jabbar came to school barefoot, lacking even basic shoes. All three siblings were placed in the prep class since none of them had ever attended school before. Enrolled in February 2024, they have shown significant improvement and have gradually started integrating with other children. They are interested in studying and are progressing well.

Rukhsar's Story

Rukhsar, aged 10, comes from a financially disadvantaged family. Her father works as a rickshaw driver, and she is the eldest among her two sisters and two brothers. Despite her parents' desire to send their children to school, financial constraints prevented them from doing so. Rukhsar, a reserved girl with a thirst for knowledge, couldn't attend school initially. However, when Rehmat School opened its doors, she was granted admission.

Initially lacking basic literacy skills, Rukhsar's self-confidence has significantly improved at Rehmat School. Previously quiet, she now actively participates in school assemblies, displaying a newfound enthusiasm for learning. Her academic performance has been remarkable, earning her third position in her class in the annual assessment.

Asim's Story

Asim, aged 11, was forced to abandon school due to poverty, and instead, his parents sent him to work at a motorbike workshop. Lacking manners and etiquette, he often used rough language. However, when his parents discovered Rehmat School, they enrolled him for admission. After spending a few weeks in Class 1 and undergoing an assessment, Asim progressed to Class 2 at Rehmat School. Through his schooling, he learned how to speak respectfully and with manners, significantly improving his language skills. His transformation has been remarkable; a boy who once lacked manners can now confidently deliver speeches on stage during school programmes.

3. Broader Societal Impact

- Reduced Child Labour:

The initiative provides a safe and nurturing environment, reducing the number of children engaged in hazardous and exploitative work.

- Empowered Families:

By relieving some financial pressures, the Foundation indirectly supports the families of these children, enabling parents to focus on other aspects of their livelihoods.

- Community Development:

Educating these children fosters a more informed and capable future generation, which can contribute positively to the community's social and economic development.

In summary, the Rehmat Educational Foundation's efforts through Rehmat School are creating longstanding positive changes. By addressing educational and nutritional needs, the initiative not only improves the lives of individual children but also uplifts their families and, by extension, the wider community.

The Rehmat Educational Foundation is committed to enhancing educational opportunities for the unprivileged children. To achieve this, the foundation is planning the following initiatives:

4. Future Plans

- Upgrading Primary Education:

We are dedicated to supporting the transition of the Rehmat School from a primary to a secondary school, ensuring a continuum of quality education.

- Vocational Training Programmes:

In addition to academic education, we have a plan to introduce comprehensive vocational training programmes for both boys and girls. These programmes will be designed to equip students with practical skills and knowledge, preparing them for various vocational careers.

For these initiatives, we will support Rehmat school, which will offer both academic education and vocational training, playing a pivotal role in shaping the future of our students and community.

Grant Making Policy of the Rehmat Educational Foundation

Purpose:

The Rehmat Educational Foundation is committed to advancing its Objects effectively through strategic grant-making.

Primary Beneficiary:

- Rehmat School, Ahmad Pur East, Pakistan: The Foundation will continue to support this school, with a review every three years to ensure alignment with the Foundation's Objects.

Additional Beneficiaries:

- Other Charities/Organisations/Schools: Grants will be provided subject to fund availability and must align with and further the Foundation's Objects.

Exceptional Grants:

- The Trustees may award grants outside the stated priorities if they believe the grant will further the Objects and is an appropriate use of funds.

Annual Review:

- The Trustees will review grant-making priorities and principles annually to ensure alignment with the Foundation's mission and effective use of resources.

The Roles & Contributions of Volunteers

The Rehmat Educational Foundation is deeply grateful for the tireless efforts and unwavering support of our dedicated volunteers. Their selflessness and dedication have significantly contributed to the success of our mission to provide education to underprivileged and deprived children.

- We extend our heartfelt thanks to Ms. Briony McNeilly for her continued support and remarkable efforts in raising awareness for the neediest children. Ms Briony has been instrumental in collecting books for the Rehmat School Library, ensuring that our students have access to valuable learning resources. Moreover, her initiative in starting a pen pal project has opened a world of new experiences and learning for our children, connecting them with peers from different backgrounds and cultures. This project not only enhances their writing and communication skills but also broadens their horizons. Briony's commitment to raising funds for the charity through spellathons and other activities has been vital in sustaining our educational programmes.
- We also recognise Umar Javaid, our dedicated Rehmat School ambassador, who has tirelessly worked to collect books for our library and actively participate in the pen pal project. His passion and enthusiasm have made a significant difference in the lives of our students.
- Omer Shahbaz's crucial assistance in the IT department and his exceptional organisational skills in fund-raising events have played a pivotal role in supporting our initiatives. Omer's efforts ensure that our operations run smoothly and that we can effectively reach out to supporters and donors.
- Ayesha Shahbaz's expertise in monitoring and evaluating our school projects and her meticulous preparation of reports have been invaluable. Ayesha's work helps us understand the impact of our programmes and identify areas for improvement, ensuring that we continuously provide quality education.
- Dr. Muddassir Javaid has been a cornerstone in our fund-raising efforts, bringing his wealth of experience and dedication to every event he participates in. His contributions have been crucial in securing the resources necessary for our educational initiatives.
- We are equally grateful to Iqtedar Ahmad for his diligent work in collecting and shipping donated clothes and books to the Rehmat School. His efforts ensure that our students receive essential supplies, fostering a conducive learning environment.
- Furthermore, Rehana Rizwan has greatly helped in setting up the library at the Rehmat School. Her dedication and hard work have created a welcoming space for our students to read and learn, greatly enhancing their educational experience.
- Shahzad Rehmat oversees the charity's school project in Pakistan and facilitates smooth operations on the ground. His commitment ensures that our initiatives are effectively implemented, providing stable and quality education for all our students.
- Chaudhry Rasheed Ahmed, the school coordinator, looks after the day-to-day issues of the school. His efficient management and problem-solving skills keep the school running smoothly, allowing both students and teachers to focus on education.

Lastly, we extend a huge thank you to all our donors and supporters. Your contributions have made our efforts a success, enabling us to provide educational opportunities to those who need them the most. The value of charity lies not only in monetary donations but also in the spirit of giving and support that you have shown us.

Together, we continue to make a significant impact in the lives of countless children, providing them with the tools and knowledge to build a brighter future. Thank you for your kindness, generosity, and unwavering support.

Financial Review

Financial Summary

Rehmat Educational Foundation continues to empower underprivileged students through quality education, reflecting robust financial health and sustainable growth over the fiscal year 2023-24.

Financial Position:

The charity received donations totalling £36,040 and incurred expenditure totalling £13,976 leaving a surplus for the year of £22,064. All income received related to unrestricted funds.

Independent Examiner's Report

The independent auditor, Smailes Goldie - Accountants, issued a report, confirming that the financial statements accurately reflect the foundation's financial position.

Future Financial Outlook

We anticipate a 20% growth in revenue next year. Our strategic goals include organising more fund-raising events and expanding our donor base.

Monitoring and Evaluation

We have implemented a robust monitoring and evaluation framework to track progress and assess the impact of the project. We regularly review and adapt strategies based on feedback and outcomes.

Transparency and Accountability

Our governance structure ensures rigorous financial oversight. This year, we implemented additional financial controls and reporting mechanisms.

Conclusion

Thank you to all our donors and volunteers for their unwavering support. Together, we are making a significant impact on children's lives. We look forward to your continued support in the coming year.

Details of Any Funds Materially in Deficit

The Charity has no funds which are materially in deficit.

Principal Sources of Funding

The foundation garners financial support through voluntary donations and Zakat from friends, British Pakistani families, and the broader community residing in the UK. It is important to note that the Rehmat Educational Foundation does not receive any financial support from governmental bodies or international donor agencies. All funds are raised exclusively through charity events and direct donations, predominantly contributed by the British Pakistani community.

Reserves policy

The trustees do not consider it necessary for the charity to hold long term reserves. Reserves are held on a short-term basis with the view of making grants when suitable projects arise.

Remuneration of Trustees

All Trustees act in a voluntary capacity and receive no remuneration or other material benefits from their services to the Charity. Out-of-pocket expenses necessarily and reasonably incurred by Trustees in promoting the purposes of the Charity are reimbursed at cost.

4. Reference and Administration Details

4.1 Charity Name & Registration

Name of the Charity: Rehmat Educational Foundation
Charity No: 1203124
Registered with HM Revenue & Customs: Yes

4.2 Charity's Principal Address

9 Lea Drive, Grimsby, Lincolnshire, DN32 9FB, United Kingdom
e-mail: rehmat.foundation@outlook.com

4.3 Names of the Trustees Who Manage the Charity

<i>Name</i>	<i>Office</i>	<i>Appointed</i>
Dr Muhammad Shahbaz	Chair	01 February 2023
Muhammad Shahzad Rehmat	Trustee	27 April 2023
Muhammad Waqar Khalid	Trustee	27 April 2023
Muhammad Omer Shahbaz	Trustee	27 April 2023
Yamin Butt	Trustee	27 April 2023
Dr Shumaila Shahbaz	Trustee	01 February 2023
Muhammad Shahid	Trustee	01 February 2023

4.5 Bank

Bank of Scotland

4.6 Independent Examiner

S.T. Bramall, Smailes Goldie Chartered Accountants Regent's Court Princess Street Hull East Yorkshire HU2 8BA, United Kingdom

5. Structure, Governance & Management

Structure

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

Type of Governing Document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, its constitution that follows the CIO Foundation model.

Statutory Declaration

The Trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Trustee Selection Methods

There must be at least three Charity Trustees. If the number falls below this minimum, the remaining Trustee or Trustees may act only to call a meeting of the Charity Trustees or appoint a new Charity Trustee. There is no maximum number of Charity Trustees that may be appointed to the CIO. In accordance with the Constitution, Trustees are appointed or re-appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. In appointing Trustees due consideration is given to ensuring that the Trustees have, between them, the skills and experience necessary to manage the charity effectively and in accordance with charity law.

Approved by the Board of Trustees

15 July 2024