

Twinkle Junior School

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When JET first started working with Twinkle, the school was a collection of ramshackle huts on a rented piece of land, their corrugated iron roof making it almost impossible to hold lessons in a downpour due to the sheer volume created by the rainfall. Despite the setbacks, the school usually achieved good exam results, in large part thanks to the dedication of the teachers and the leadership ability of the Head Teacher and Director. They also directed their scarce funds to making small improvements to the existing structures and adding a makeshift kitchen so they could prepare meals for the children.



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With a strong working relationship with Twinkle in place, we were able to put the wonderfully generous donations from a highly successful fundraising dinner to excellent use by completely rebuilding the primary section. We constructed a 7-classroom block and office plus a water tank on an adjacent site belonging to the school. The area in front was landscaped and planted with trees.

Twinkle continued to increase in size while at the same time going from strength to strength academically. We then set our sights on building new dormitories and bathroom facilities for the ever-growing number of children coming from further afield and needing to board. They were sleeping in cramped and unsanitary conditions at the school, the overflow having to spend their nights in unsafe accommodation in the village next door.

Following the even bigger success of our 2019 fundraising event, we started construction. As the 2020 school year started, we completed a boarding house and bathroom for girls and one for boys. Another donation allowed us to furnish the dormitories and matron's bedrooms as well as buy mosquito nets for all the children. The schools being closed during lockdown gave us an opportunity to carry out landscaping and additional work to improve the water supply.

The future is certainly looking extra bright for Twinkle. We will soon be installing solar power and have project management support to set up an IT hub and connect it to the internet. All that remains for us to achieve our vision for Twinkle is to create the optimal learning environment for the nursery children by moving them to a new facility on the same site as the primary children. We are already looking at designs and are keen to develop our plans further and put them into practice just as soon as we can.

Last year saw Twinkle move to a 100% pass rate for its primary school leaver exams.

