EWA Principles for Support

Education West Africa exists to make a difference in the lives of children in Sierra Leone. We have a number of principles that explain how our support is provided:

1. Local Craftspeople

Work should be done by local craftspeople. Furniture should be made as close as possible to the school where it will be used, using sustainable wood sources. Carpenters from one area can advise those elsewhere. Furniture must be marked EWA. Uniforms should be made by local tailors. School repairs should be carried out by local workers. This will provide employment for local people, who should receive a fair wage for their work.

2. Community Involvement

Local communities must provide some of the labour and/or materials for building work at their school. This will help to reduce costs so that more schools can be helped. It will also help communities value their school and give them a sense of ownership and pride.

3. Approval of Costs

EWA must agree the cost of every project before it is started. Costings are sent to EWA by the Diocesan Education Secretaries or the Bishops. Money will not be sent until this has happened. If a project is very big, the money may be sent in more than one instalment, with the second instalment not being sent until the first stage of the project has been completed.

4. Monitoring of Work

Work in each Diocese will be monitored and checked by the Diocesan Education Secretary and/or the Bishop. They will send photographs to EWA so the Trustees can see the work has been completed. Photographs of a completed project must be sent to EWA to prove it is finished before any more projects will be funded in that Diocese.

5. EWA Priorities

Our priorities are furniture, uniforms and buildings. We only fund wells or toilets in exceptional cases. We do not fund salaries. We provide some funding to schools in emergency situations (e.g. Ebola, landslides).

6. Local Responsibilities

Once work has been completed, the local community must take care of their furniture and their school as we cannot keep funding repairs at the same schools.

Our supporters in the UK expect us to use their donations wisely, and provide evidence of how their money has been used. We put information and photographs on our website [www.educationwestafrica.org.uk](http://www.educationwestafrica.org.uk)