

<b>Name of your organisation</b>	<b>Bright Sparks School India</b>
<b>Date of TFN event which you pitched at</b>	17/5/2023
<b>Name of the project TFN funded</b>	A more sustainable future
<b>Were you able to undertake your project as you outlined in the application?</b>	Yes
<b>Can you describe and/or demonstrate the specific impact that TFN funding has had against your initial objectives?</b>	<p>We had identified a serious organisational risk because the Indian donor who had been paying the rent on the school premises had missed several payments - there were two eviction notices, one day the pupils weren't allowed to enter the school until a cash payment was made. And the relationship breakdown was serious. We felt it was becoming likely that either the Indian donor would be unable to pay the rent, or the landlord would simply end the tenancy and without a premises the future of the school and the community around it was at risk. Also our teachers were really badly paid, morale needed to improve, ability to attract talent was difficult, very limited local fundraising, and generally we lacked cash to invest in development. Well straight after the event we increased salaries by 25%, in the months that followed we employed a local fundraiser and also the Indian donor stopped paying the rent and we have taken that on. The local fundraiser is now doing quite well and fund-raising both in the UK and India is improving - this April 2024 we introduced a minimum salary of 15,000 rupees per month, a 30-35% pay rise for 5 of our teachers. With reserve funds and greater income we are now in a much stronger position to secure a sustainable future for the school. With rental payments received on time the risk of eviction has gone and the landlord is content for a long tenancy - the school is well situation next to a park, in an area where green space is rare. Also the rent is affordable and the purchase cost quoted to us when exploring options was completely unrealistic.</p>
<b>What portion of the project did TFN fund?</b>	100%

<b>How many direct beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?</b>	125 (pupils and schools sponsored in secondary in a typical year)
<b>How many indirect beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?</b>	500
<b>Were you able to leverage further funding as a result of TFN support?</b>	Yes
<b>If yes, how much were you able to raise and from whom?</b>	We estimate local fundraising in India to reach around £5k per annum in Year 2.
<b>Did you receive any pro-bono support, volunteer offers or introductions as a result of the event?</b>	Yes
<b>If yes, please can you provide details of the support you received?</b>	We met two potential trustees which haven't accepted those roles but may collaborate in other ways going forward.
<b>How important was TFN funding in helping you achieve your objectives?</b>	We wouldn't have been able to achieve our objectives without TFN funding
<b>Has the training you received from TFN better prepared you in pitching your organisation to potential funders?</b>	Yes
<b>Has TFN increased your capacity to raise further funds?</b>	Yes
<b>Can you tell us any personal stories to highlight the value of the project?</b>	For the Bright Sparks fundraising team this has been a great help - we hadn't previously created a powerpoint let alone give a presentation, the tools and confidence will now help us consider the next development steps for this small charity - where relatively small sums raised in the UK make such a huge difference for children who otherwise would face such bleak and limited futures.