



“making a real difference” in

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Kankalay School, Port Loko



The 4 new classrooms, office staffroom & store are completed & ready for the start of the new term. The majority of the desk & bench sets have been made, by local carpenters, and the rest will be ready soon.



The aim initially was to build 4 classrooms, but we decided to add on a staffroom, office and storage area. At that stage, I was unaware about the total lack of toilets for the 200+ Junior Secondary children and this became the number one priority. I remember saying at the end of a talk in the first week of February that I would be disappointed if we hadn't completed the toilet block and the first 2 classrooms by the start of the rainy season. To have achieved the building and equipping of all 4 classrooms, the ancillary rooms and the building of the toilet block in just seven months, at a final cost of **£21,100**, is testament to the fantastic support that I receive from a vast network of supporters - individuals, organisations & businesses and to **EVERYONE** who has made this possible, please accept my sincere thanks on behalf of the Kankalay community. The cost of raw materials in Sierra Leone have increased dramatically in the last few months and this makes what **WE** have achieved even more remarkable and **TOGETHER** we have **“Made A Real Difference”**.

Banbury International Community School

One of the last things that Fayia, my “man on the ground” arranged before his sudden passing was to arrange quotes for the installation of a solar panel system to supply electricity to the school. This project was delayed, for obvious reasons, but under the supervision of Solomon, the Head at Liverpool School, the work has now started and will soon be completed and will provide another big step forward for this school community.



Fayia and I had agreed that the next major project would be the construction and equipping of 2 additional classrooms at the school, and the week before he died, I received an estimate from him for this project. In order to keep the costs down, we will utilise two of the compound walls, as we did at Liverpool School, and will therefore only have to build two exterior walls and a partition wall between the 2 classrooms.

When I was first introduced to this junior school in January 2013, they were operating in a small, dark church hall with 80+ children crammed in (3 age groups being taught at the same time), very little furniture and not a good environment for learning. I committed to build an initial 2 classrooms when funds permitted. Due to the e-bola outbreak, projects were put back and it was December 2015 before we started to build. The school now has 6 classrooms, two toilet blocks, a well and is enclosed within a secure compound. They have also started Junior Secondary classes (equivalent to our Middle Schools) and once again they are oversubscribed, hence the need for the additional 2 classrooms. Every time we provide better facilities at a school, it attracts more pupils and you realise that you have become a victim of your own success.

After the Port Loko project is completed, I will look at starting the 2 classroom project, in memory of Fayia. I am currently looking at supporting Tewah, Fayia’s widow, to help her fund the school fees for her children. More details should be available shortly, but if you are interested in helping, please drop me an e-mail .