

Summary Information Return 2009 (Online)



Summary Information Return 2009 Of Aims, Activities and Achievements

This return is intended to comprise a Summary of key information contained in the Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts and in other documents.

TEACH FIRST

Charity Number: 1098294

Submitted on 30 June 2010

This online version of the form shows the information you have entered through Annual Return 2009 Online and has been designed to make it easier for Charities to print.

This Summary Information Return was submitted online by MRS ANESTA BROAD on 30 June 2010. You do not need to send us a signed copy.

Question 1 - The Charity's Aims

What are your charity's aims?

Teach First's mission is to address educational disadvantage by transforming exceptional graduates into inspirational, effective teachers and leaders in all fields. Teach First is an independent charity that recruits top graduates and harnesses their talents and enthusiasm to make them inspirational and effective teachers.

Question 2 - Who benefits?

Who benefits from the charities work?

The main beneficiaries of the programme are the pupils taught by Teach First teachers in some of England's most challenging secondary schools. During the 2008/9 academic year, 485 teachers were recruited, an increase of 29% from 2007/08. As well as increasing our presence in secondary schools, our pilot in London primary schools entered its second year and grew from 10 participants in 2008 to place 26 additional Modern Foreign Language graduates in 23 schools.

How do you respond to their needs and how do they influence the charity's development?

To further develop teachers' ability to have a maximum impact on the achievement of all pupils, the Leadership Development programme has been accredited with a Masters qualification. This year, Teach First expanded into the Yorkshire region and the Midlands region (est. in 2007) divided, creating the East Midlands office. A pilot in London primary schools was launched and ambassadors placed in Further Education Colleges for the first time. Such multi-dimensional growth means that this year we have over 800 participants making a difference in 219 challenging schools across the UK. Other developments include the launch of Teach On, a network of leadership development and support for our community of almost 320 ambassadors in teaching.

Question 3 - The Charity's Strategy

What are the key elements of your charity's medium to long term strategy?

Teach First is working towards achieving sustainable growth in its intake while improving consistency and quality. The target is to recruit 1,000 top graduates per year to work in challenged schools by 2018, and to ensure they are maximising their impact on pupil achievement and aspirations. The recruitment team will work with 37 universities in 2009/10, an increase of 12 on 2008/9. Teach First will work towards building one of the most effective graduate leadership development programmes in the UK. Teach First will work towards ensuring its Ambassadors (Alumni) in all fields are mobilised, equipped and inspired to continue to tackle educational disadvantage through school leadership, becoming pupil mentors, school governors and fundraisers and establishing their own social enterprises. This includes expansion of our new initiatives and networks, such as our Higher Education Access Programme for Schools (HEAPS), our Policy First initiative and our Governance for Change scheme.

How does your charity measure the success of the strategy?

The main evaluative methods for Teach First include the following:

- An OfSTED inspection conducted in January 2008.
- An internal evaluation called "The Maximum Impact Programme" supported by The Goldman Sachs Foundation to measure the impact of teachers in schools.
- An annual survey of head teachers comparing the effectiveness of Teach First teachers compared to other teachers.
- An external evaluation of the entrepreneurship ideas developed by participants by UnLtd.
- A continuous internal evaluation of all the value-added events including each component of the leadership and development programme.
- A market place evaluation of the in-school success, measured by the proportion who achieves Qualified Teachers Status.

Question 4 - The Charity's Objectives and Achievements

What were your charity's main annual objectives and were they achieved?

Objective	Achievement
460 participants start Summer Institute	485 participants started Summer Institute
70% of participants teach priority subjects as defined by the TDA	84% of participants taught priority subjects as defined by the TDA
67% of ambassadors are engaged with the mission through ambassador initiatives	72% of ambassadors are engaged with the mission through ambassador initiatives
Teach First meets its annual fundraising target of £2million from charitable sources	Teach First received £1.7million through charitable sources

Question 5 - The Charity's Income and Expenditure

What were your charity's most significant activities during the year and how much did you spend on them?

Charitable Activities	£ 000s
Participant leadership and development	3,391
Graduate Recruitment	2,080
Ambassador programme	1,141

What were your charity's three main fundraising activities in the year and how much did each generate and cost?

Fundraising Activity	Income generated	Cost of Activity £ 000s
School fees	1,890	1,750
Corporate contributions and other grants	1,535	437
Government grants for schools	1,016	1,016
Explanatory Comments		
In addition, a £4.5m grant was received from the Training and Development Agency for schools specifically for programme expansion.		

Question 6 - The Charity's Financial Health

How would you describe your charity's financial health at the end of the period?

Review of transactions and financial position:

The results for the year show a surplus of £113,697 in unrestricted funds and a deficit of £66,059 in restricted funds.

Reserves policy:

Teach First regards its free reserves as being represented by the net current assets of its unrestricted funds. At 31 August 2009 free reserves were £226,902 representing 0.9 months of unrestricted expenditure, excluding gifts in kind. These funds are held to provide working capital to finance its day to day operations and to provide a safeguard against a downturn in support of activity that could lead to expenditure exceeding income. The longer term aim is to increase reserves over time to 3 months of unrestricted expenditure by retaining a proportion of the unrestricted income each year.

Question 7 - The Next Year

How will the overall performance last year affect your charity's medium to long term strategy?

In response to the growing need from September 2009, Teach First will aim to recruit between 560 and 620 new teachers. Expansion will continue with the charity operating in five regions: London, East Midlands, West Midlands, North West and Yorkshire. The programme will be piloting a Primary School model to widen its impact at a grass roots level.

A significant investment of resources will be injected to our Leadership Development to increase Teach First's impact in challenged schools through providing greater support to teachers during the second year in the classroom.

By 2018, Teach First is aiming to have supported 100 Ambassadors into headship roles and over 1,000 middle leaders in challenged urban schools.

What are your charity's main objectives for next year?

Teach First achieves sustainable growth in its intake and leadership development programme while improving consistency and quality, in summary, by recruiting 620 graduates to teach in challenged primary and secondary UK schools.

Teach First is a highly effective graduate leadership development programme which enables its teachers to maximise their impact on pupils' educational achievement, aspirations and access, in summary, by increasing participants' leadership abilities.

Teach First Ambassadors are mobilised, equipped and inspired to address the Teach First mission as leaders in all fields, in summary, by increasing engagement and better equipping Ambassadors to actively contribute towards achieving the mission.

Teach First is a continuously improving, professional, efficient, stable and sustainable organisation, in summary, by raising £3m in private funding and £1m towards reserves, and by improving the performance of operational support functions.

Question 8 - The Charity's Governance

How does the charity ensure that its governance arrangements are appropriate and effective?

The Teach First Board of Trustees are the directors of the charity, in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act. The Board meets at least four times a year and is responsible for directing all major strategic decisions.

The Finance Committee advises the Board of Trustees on the allocation of our financial resources, risk management and internal controls so that the charity can best achieve its visions and goals.

The Trustees, Finance Committee and Senior Leadership Team regularly monitor performance against the annual organisational plan which flows direct from the charity mission and lays out the visions, organisational goals and measures. Furthermore, reviews of risks for all activities are undertaken quarterly.

Further details on all the answers given in the Summary Information Return can be obtained from:

Teach First External Relations Department at
externalrelations@teachfirst.org.uk

DECLARATION

Your Summary Information Return was submitted online by MRS ANESTA BROAD on 30 June 2010, telephone number 0203 117 2371.

MRS ANESTA BROAD certified online that:

- the information provided was correct
- it had been or would be brought to the attention of all the trustees

Those who give answers that they know are untrue or misleading may be committing an offence.

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