

In 2019, we reflected on our progress to date working with colleagues in Blantyre Urban and Blantyre Rural districts. We set out a plan for 2019 to 2024. Much of this plan is still relevant, however, the global pandemic meant that we had no visits to Malawi after February 2020. These will start again in September 2022.

After consultation with our Malawian colleagues, we are planning to change the focus and approach of the training. Similar to countries across the world, Malawian learners have had their learning disrupted. Teachers and headteachers have had their work pattern disrupted and in Blantyre Urban and Rural there have been changes to the staffing. Therefore, we cannot assume that schools have received training and are building on this to improve their learning and teaching.

Positively, our partnership with Book Aid has enabled us to take delivery of 2,021 books in October 2020 and a further 3,035 books in February 2022. Another 3,100 books have been shipped for arrival later in the year. These books have been delivered to primary schools which were selected by the District Education Managers (DEMs).

The plan below will be in place for 2022 – 2025 and will be reviewed annually by the Trustees and the DEMs from Blantyre Urban and Rural districts.

**2022 – 2025**

**Background**

We have built strong partnerships in Blantyre. We have made very effective use of the government funding since 2015 to build a strong framework. There was emerging evidence that our approaches are making a difference. We had evidence of improved engagement with teachers, headteachers and primary education advisers and increased use of books through our libraries. The global pandemic means that we need to reframe our approach to ensure that we build on our strengths and start again to develop evidence of impact.

MLOL sits well within the UN Sustainable Development Goals. In particular, Goal 4 *Quality of Education* which is to ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning. When people are able to access quality education they can break the cycle of poverty. We firmly believe that education both in Glasgow and in Malawi helps to reduce inequalities and to reach gender inequality. It also empowers people everywhere to live more healthy and sustainable lives. Education is also crucial to fostering tolerance between people and contributes to more peaceful societies[[1]](#footnote-1).

We have a number of secondary schools which had built strong partnerships: Knightswood Secondary School with Lunzu Secondary School, Springburn Academy with Chichiri Day Secondary School, Rosshall Academy with a range of primary schools, St Roch’s Secondary School with CI Secondary School and Holyrood Secondary School with a range of primary schools and Stella Maris Secondary School. Bannerman High School has had a long standing connection with Masalini Day Secondary School. These partnerships impact very positively on Glasgow’s young people. They work together in Glasgow using global education to explore poverty both in their own context and in Africa. They then visit Malawi and either work alongside Malawian young people exploring issues which effect young people globally sharing their own experiences and/or they work on projects to improve the infrastructure in schools and early childhood development centres.

The schools are starting to consider trips to Malawi. St Roch’s Secondary School has plans for 2023. St Thomas Aquinas, Bannerman, Holyrood and Shawlands are all considering future trips but do not yet have firm plans.

Our teachers who have visited Malawi have built strong connections. Their evaluations provided evidence of a renewed focus on the impact of effective learning and teaching. Their experiences also influenced their teaching in Glasgow with an increased emphasis on global education permeating their teaching.

The Malawian teachers who visit Glasgow report that the experience has extended their learning, in particular, the use of books to develop literacy and the importance of physical activity to support learning. Glasgow’s children have thoroughly enjoyed having them in their schools and they have deepened their understanding of Malawi through the visits. However, it is not possible to sustain all elements of the project to date without government funding. There will not be groups of teachers going in September nor will Malawian teachers come to Glasgow.

**The Way Forward**

We will continue to have one principal objective:

***To improve education in Malawi and Glasgow***

We will achieve this through continued strong partnership working with Blantyre Urban and Blantyre Rural Districts.

We will focus on improving learning and teaching through providing increased professional development opportunities for teachers/librarians, headteachers, primary education advisers (PEAs) and, as appropriate, locally-based inspectors.

Our goals will be:

***To deliver professional learning on***

* ***leadership for learning to every primary headteacher in Blantyre Urban and Rural Districts; and***
* ***learning and teaching and effective use of a library to teachers from every primary school in Blantyre Urban and Rural Districts.***

Activities will be supported financially through the charity, Malawi Leaders of Learning and we will continue to fundraise.

**Activities**

There will be two visits per year to support professional learning. School visits will continue in June and, on occasion, in September.

In September/October and in February, a small team of education professionals will visit Blantyre to deliver professional learning. The professional learning can be delivered in Teacher Development Centres (TDCs) to reduce travel commitment for participants. This is also where training takes place when delivered as part of the zone’s or District’s CPD programme, which reinforces our goal to make MLOL sustainable.

We will develop materials for both the headteacher and teacher/librarian training. This will include material which the staff can use in their classrooms, for example, posters, library guide.

**MLOL Professional Learning Teams**

Each team will consist of between four and six people. They will work in teams to deliver the professional learning. The team will be drawn from the pool of previous MLOLs who have been to Malawi to deliver learning and teaching training. The team will have a balance of skills to enable them to deliver leadership training and training on learning and teaching, including effective use of a library. We will also promote the value of other teachers in the city becoming involved and provide them with training to enable them to be part of the team.

**Footprint of MLOL Activities**

Day 1: travel (Friday)

Day 2: arrive in Blantyre

Day 3: preparation (Sunday)

Day 4: Monday – headteacher training with link PEAs up to 30 participants – 2/3 staff delivering

Day 4: Monday – teacher/librarian training with link PEAs in attendance up to 40 participants – 2/3 staff delivering

Day 5: Tuesday – headteacher training with link PEAs up to 30 participants – 2/3 staff delivering

Day 5: Tuesday – teacher/librarian training with link PEAs in attendance up to 40 participants – 2/3 staff delivering

Day 6 – Wednesday - headteacher training with link PEAs up to 30 participants – 2/3 staff delivering

Day 6 – Wednesday - teacher/librarian training with link PEAs in attendance up to 40 participants – 2/3 staff delivering

Day 7 – Thursday – headteacher training with link PEAs up to 30 participants – 2/3 staff delivering

Day 7 – Thursday - teacher/librarian training with link PEAs in attendance up to 40 participants – 2/3 staff delivering

Day 8 – Friday – headteacher training with link PEAs up to 30 participants – 2/3 staff delivering

Day 8 - Friday – teacher/librarian training with link PEAs in attendance up to 40 participants – 2/3 staff delivering

Day 9 – Saturday – travel home

**Venues and catering for professional learning**

The professional learning will take place in Teacher Development Centres (TDCs). The Coordinating PEAs from each district will arrange the scheduling of the training ensuring that the venues are booked and participants are invited. A record will be kept of all those attending (Coordinating PEA)

The MLOL team will provide the refreshments and snacks for the training. Bottles of water for all participants along with biscuits can be bought at Shoprite or another supermarket.

Each participant will be provided with MKW4000 to cover travel. No per diems will be paid.

The training will start at 9.30 and last up to 4 hours, including refreshment break.

**Transport**

Transport will be provided through the MLOL car. MLOL will provide funding for a daily driver allowance and fuel. There may be a need to access another car if we do not have funding for a new minibus.

**Travel Insurance**

Those staff who are GCC employees will be covered by GCC insurance if the names of all participants and dates are given to Fiona Ross who will pass to the insurance section.

Others will need to take out world-wide travel insurance. This company does allow for voluntary work as part of their insurance. Note for this one the lead traveller must be over 50.

[Details (saga.co.uk)](https://www.saga.co.uk/insurance/travel-insurance/get-quote/Details)

Comparison sites also provide good value. You may wish to check whether the policy covers voluntary work.

**Additional information**

Gifts should be taken, such as pens and badges from Glasgow City Council. Fiona Ross can assist with this. All course material will be provided along with training, as appropriate.

Flights and accommodation (bed and breakfast at Kabula Lodge) will be paid for by the MLOL charity. MLOLs will be expected to pay for their own meals beyond breakfast. MLOLs will be encouraged to contribute a minimum of £300 towards the costs. This could be done through fundraising.

The coordinating PEAs in Malawi will organise the participants and this information will be provided in advance.

We are continuing to pursue a donor(s) to support the continued development of libraries. Our positive relationships with Anglia Books mean that we can provide culturally-appropriate books as part of a recognised African reading scheme.

We will also continue to keep Scottish Government informed as our work will continue to contribute to the overall contribution of Scotland to Malawi. Their international development team continue to be supportive of our work, for example, in March 2019, we were offered £4,000 to support the development of libraries.

As a charity, MLOL will continue to raise funds to support all aspects of the project.

Maureen McKenna

Chair of Trustees, Malawi Leaders of Learning

**Finance 2022**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Costs for MLOL |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Flights | £1,250.00 | 5 | 6,250.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kabula  (7 nights) | £35 | 5 | £1,225 | $40/night |  | HTs | teachers | MKW |  |
| travel for HTs | £1,120.00 |  | £1,120.00 |  | MKW4000 | 150 | 200 | 1,400,000 | £ 1,120.00 |
| posters/copying | £500.00 |  | £500.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| driver (day x 2) | £25.00 | 16 | £400.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| petrol | £200.00 |  | £200.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Visas | £61.00 | 5 | £305.00 | $70 each |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | total | £9,695.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

1. Drawn from UN Sustainable Goals [www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)