



2020-2021

E3 OMAGH & CASTLEDERG

ANNUAL REPORT

DISTRICT CHAIRPERSON



What a strange year it has been for everyone due to the impact of Covid-19. We thank God that He is all-powerful and that He is greater than the impact of the pandemic.

While schools have been closed, Sarah and the other E3 workers have prepared online assemblies and resources and these have been used by primary, post-primary and special schools. Sarah has even been able to join in with online Teams and Zoom school SU meetings and has recently been able to enter some primary schools and work with SU pupils at Castlederg High School. We do appreciate and need the financial and prayer support of individuals and churches. If you would consider supporting the work financially we would be very grateful as so many of our traditional fundraising methods – the formal, coffee mornings, etc – have not been possible. The last sixteen months have had frustrations, but we look forward with confidence in our God as He guides Sarah and the District Support Team into the future.

Geoff Bingham, Chair, Omagh & Castlederg District Support Team.

E3 SCHOOLS' WORKER



'And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.'

Mark 16v15

This year, the role of an E3 Schools' Worker has looked rather different but the heart of the role and the Project has remained the same. The SUNI Schools' team have aimed to continue to engage, equip and empower and most of this has been through virtual means. I have missed being out and about in the district, meeting with pupils, teachers and local people and enjoyed getting to reconnect with some over the last few weeks of the summer term.

This year, God has continued to bless the work of E3 in Omagh & Castlederg and we are now connected with more schools than before the pandemic which is so exciting.

I am looking forward to the 2021/22 academic year and all that God has in store!

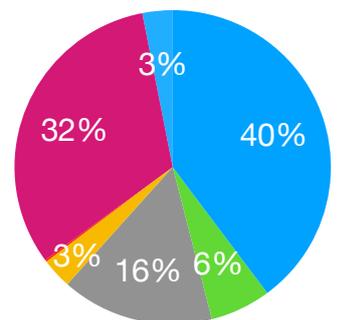
Sarah Emerson, E3 Omagh & Castlederg Schools' Worker

DISTRICT FINANCES

The E3 schools project in Omagh and Castlederg is usually funded entirely by the ongoing generosity of individuals and churches in the area. However this year's figures also include 'income' from HMRC's Job Retention Scheme. Therefore, the total income for the financial year April 2020-March 2021 was £20,456.

Our Expenditure was £26,112 leaving us with a deficit of £-5657 for the year. It should be noted that HMRC's Job Retention Scheme has enabled us to retain some of our reserve funds as we move into the future however we need to continue to seek new supporting churches and individuals for the Project to ensure its longevity - there are many ways to give and no amount is too small. The NowDonate figure signifies donations (both regular and one-off) that have been given via online means (by visiting www.suni.co.uk/donate). For more information please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mark Moorhead (mark@suni.co.uk) or Ian McAvoy (ianmcavoy@suni.co.uk)

On behalf of SUNI, THANK YOU for giving so generously this year! We are so aware of God's continued provision for this work.



- Churches
- Individual one-off donations
- Individual regular Standing Orders
- NowDonate
- Misc donations
- HMRC
- Gift Aid

E3 SCHOOLS' WORKER'S HIGHLIGHTS 2020-2021

ENGAGING

It has been a year like no other in so many ways, and my school engagements have looked very different due to the challenges that Covid-19 has brought.

However, there is so much to celebrate! Online assemblies & RE lessons for primary, post primary and special schools have led to a growth in the number of schools connected to the E3 project in the Omagh & Castlederg District.

"The pupils and staff always looked forward to seeing Sarah come into school in previous years. This year was a very different one for schools as we moved through the pandemic of COVID-19 but we looked forward to SU's assemblies and RE lessons. We really appreciate the work and dedication that Sarah and her colleagues put into the lessons. They were fun and interesting while spreading God's Good News."

K Atchison - Principal Cooley PS



After over a year of engaging online, in the last couple of weeks of the Summer Term, the easing of restrictions has allowed me to visit some schools in the area to deliver the P7 transition programme, 'It's Your Move'.

Reconnecting with the pupils after over a year has been such a joy, and being able to chat through the changes, choices and challenges facing them as they move to their next school and encourage them with God's Word is such a privilege. I am looking forward to September and, God willing, more face to face school engagements.

EQUIPPING

SU groups are a key tool in equipping pupils to live out their faith in God and be salt and light in their schools.

Some post primary groups met online throughout this year and I was able to 'come along' virtually to share encouragement from God's Word. The Summer term allowed for some face to face visits with SU pupils from Castlederg High School which were a real highlight!



"Having Sarah is great as we learn helpful and relevant things that we may find difficult in our lives and shows us how God can help. Of course she makes it fun and engaging for us to learn."

Castlederg High School Pupil



This year 'Shine' which is an event focusing on equipping

Christian pupils to shine for God in their school community became 'Shine Online' which was a UK-wide event. I was greatly encouraged to see a number of pupils from the Omagh & Castlederg area joining in with the games and most importantly, sharing about why they want to share their faith and to hear some tips of how they can do that!

This has been a particularly difficult year for teachers. I have missed the conversations which happen during school visits or over a cup of coffee. However, we have been able to pray for and with teachers through our Zoom Prayer meetings. We are so grateful for our Christian teachers and the influence they have in their schools.

EMPOWERING

With many church buildings being closed for a high percentage of the last year, my usual visits to churches have been restricted. However, there have still been opportunities to share about the work of E3, pray with churches and for local churches to get involved with schools ministry.

This year, we launched the 'Fist Pump 5' which are 5 online lessons for Key Stage 2 pupils focusing on mental health. It was brilliant to include input from 4 local churches in these and to enable voices and faces from Omagh and Castlederg to speak into classrooms.

The 'It's Your Move' programme is a great opportunity for churches to partner with the E3 project. This year, pupils from 9 schools in the area were gifted 'It's Your Move' books from local churches. I also had the opportunity to deliver the lessons alongside a couple of local volunteers and I'm excited to work alongside more churches in the future! If you or your church would like to get involved, please get in touch!



"Seskinore and Edenderry Presbyterian, are two small congregations who love to share the good news of Jesus with the children of our community."

"For us, supporting and working with our Scripture Union E3 worker has provided a wonderful opportunity to maintain this throughout the pandemic year, beyond our ability or means."
Rev. Bobby Orr

**IN 2020 -
2021 SUNI...**

physically visited schools **40** times, completed **4** series of RE lessons for national distribution, produced **112** online assemblies for PS, PPS and SEN, disseminated material to **318** schools, **78** of which were 'new' contacts.



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