

CAMBODIA NEWSLETTER 2025



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REGULAR EMAIL UPDATES



Dear Supporters,

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone for your support and love towards our Cambodia Project.

2025 has been a busy and exciting year! From graduation ceremonies and school pack distributions to overseas trips and corporate partnerships, we have so much to share with you. Included in this update is just a small selection of the wonderful stories we've had the privilege of witnessing this year!

As part of our Global Citizenship Programme, we are also delighted to be launching our brand new Virtual Reality (VR) lessons offering students the chance to visit Cambodia all from the comfort of their classroom!

As always, thank you for your continued love and support for the children in Cambodia! Your support is vital in helping to remove the barriers to education for children we support living in poverty.

Please update your gift aid form by scanning the QR code. Increase your donation by 25% at no extra cost to you!



Educational Materials

Every year, Edukid work closely with our in-country team in Cambodia before the start of the new school term to provide school packs and materials to all of the children in our projects, ensuring they have the tools they need to access education. A school pack consists of: school bag, uniform, educational books, writing pads, pens and pencils and a recycled white board.

These packs are personalised for each child based on gender, age, school grade and height. Although education in Cambodia is free, for many children, these basic supplies are out of reach due to financial constraints within their families. By providing these packs, Edukid help to remove the barriers to education and enable children to participate fully in their learning.



The Journey of the Backpacks



Prepare



Transport



Recieve

The Edukid team in Cambodia work together to sort and prepare the educational materials, including uniforms, bags, pencils, and writing pads. The entire packing process is completed within one week!

The materials are loaded onto tuk-tuks, motorbikes, and even cows for transport! The team ensures that each of the 1,500 children receive their education pack. This distribution process reaches even the most remote areas, bringing the materials directly to those in need.

At the end of the school term, the educational packs are handed out to the children. Each child receives their pack, filled with essential school supplies. This ensures that every student is ready and equipped for the next school year, removing the financial cost for families.

Children's Project

Throughout our projects in Cambodia we understand that simply providing school equipment isn't enough —that's why Edukid work alongside our in-country partners to offer extra learning throughout our village projects. These aim to provide support to the most vulnerable communities, and many of the children enrolled in these extra lessons come from families who struggle to afford the costs that come with education.

The programme supports the children by offering additional classes that build on what they learn in government schools. Subjects include English, Khmer, Maths, Health & Hygiene, and Technology. These sessions give children the support they need to keep up in school, build confidence, engage in extra-curricular subjects and stay engaged in their education.

Reading Club



Hygiene



Litter Picking



Technology



Keo's Story

Life at home is not easy for Keo. As the eldest of three children, she takes on the responsibility of caring for her younger siblings, helping with daily chores, and supporting her family in any way she can. Her father spends his days working in manual trades, where the work is physically exhausting, and her mother raises poultry working to provide food for the family. Despite their tireless efforts, the family continues to face financial struggles.

With the support from Edukid for school materials and extra-curriculum lessons, Keo has blossomed with the opportunity of an education. She's committed to learning and last year was awarded a certificate of achievement! It was a very proud moment that encouraged her to keep studying hard.

With access to an education, Keo has grown in confidence and improved her reading, writing, and academic performance. Thank you to our supporters who make stories like Keo's possible!

The University Scholarship

Education provides a long-term, sustainable solution to breaking the cycle of poverty and allowing students to achieve their dreams, reach their full potential and live independent lives free from poverty. Therefore, Edukid supports students all the way through from primary and secondary, up to university level education.

We decided to ask some of our university students, Chea SreyAnt and Peniel who are all currently studying degrees through Edukid's University Scholarship Scheme, some questions....



Chea SreyAnt from primary school, all the way up to university!



Chea SreyAnt's Story

What was life like when you were younger?

I am the youngest of my three sisters and I am the only one in the family to reach university. I grew up in a small, rural village where a lack of money made it hard for me to access education. I was not able to go to school as my parents could not afford school materials for me and my sisters and instead we stayed at home, missing out on our education.

How did Edukid support you?

With Edukid's support, I was able to go to school from primary level, to secondary school and then all the way to university. Their support helped with school bags, learning materials, and access to a safe learning environment. Without Edukid's support I would not have had any education.

What are you studying at University?

I am in my first year at University, where I am studying for a degree in Finance and Banking.

What do you do in your spare time?

In my spare time, I volunteer with children at one of Edukid's city projects. I help with teaching and offer support to the students. It's my way of giving back to the community and helping children access education, which I believe is so very important.

Peniel's Story

What was life like when you were younger?

I grew up in a rural village and experienced poverty from a young age. My father didn't have a stable job or much income, and he was responsible for raising three sons. Because of our financial situation, he couldn't afford to send us to school, as the costs were very high.

How did Edukid support you?

Edukid have supported me since I was a child to go to primary school, secondary school and university. I was also helped with food, school materials and shelter. Because of the support I am now studying Food Science and Technology. I have chosen this degree because I want to help improve health and nutrition in Cambodia.

What do you do in your spare time?

Soon, I will begin a three-month internship as a dietitian at the Royal Phnom Penh Hospital. I will be working with medical professionals, learning how to assess patients' nutritional needs, support meal planning, and ensure hospital food meets health standards.



Our visit to Cambodia



Every year students from UK partner schools are offered the opportunity to travel with Edukid to one of our international projects. The aim of our trips are to...

- ▶ EDUCATE pupils about global issues faced by children their own age around the world.
- ▶ INSPIRE pupils to become passionate leaders and independent thinkers
- ▶ EMPOWER pupils to be advocates for the change they want to see in the world

In October 2023, 16 students and 2 teachers from Ashville College embarked on a life-changing trip to Cambodia with Edukid after supporting for many years. During the trip they visited the children within the village they have been fundraising and supporting. The students learnt that education in Cambodia is free, however many children can't afford to attend school due to additional fees such as scholastic materials (books, stationery and school uniforms). During the visit, the students from Ashville created cross-continent friendships, hosted football matches, carried out various arts and crafts and learnt some traditional Khmer dancing.

Ed came through our UK school's Global Citizenship Programme as a former student from one of our partner schools. In October 2024, Ed joined Edukid on a trip over to Cambodia.

"On returning from our Edukid trip to Cambodia in October 2024 we were inspired to raise money to help the families we met during our Homestay.

Through fundraising from family and friends and a whole school non-uniform day -with the ever-popular chance to 'pie the teacher' – we have managed to raise a total of £1550 (\$2000). This money will cover the costs of home repairs and supplies for both families, enabling them to build a business which will provide a sustainable income all year round.

We hope this will allow their children to attend school and enable the families daughter to achieve her aspiration to become a teacher, giving the gift of education to their whole community. We feel privileged to have been given the opportunity to visit Cambodia and to play a small part in helping those families Edukid supports".



Our visit to Cambodia

Corporate Partnerships: Emily Walton from bluesoup.



"During my weeklong trip, I created some truly unforgettable experiences with the team from Edukid and all the young people I met along the way.

I had the opportunity to meet some of the rural communities supported by Edukid, which highlighted the profound difference educational funding can make. One evening, I was honoured to meet a few of the university students who are sponsored by bluesoup – we dined on frogs, beetles and crickets washed down with a green fanta!



Rathana, in particular, blew me away – she works tirelessly in her community as an intern and teaching English, and then goes to university at the weekend, where she studies full-time. Her passion and commitment were so inspiring and it reinforced the value of Edukid's work.

I am proud to be part of an organisation like Bluesoup who support Edukid in creating opportunities that empower and inspire communities and individuals. It was an experience that will stay with me for a lifetime."



Fancy travelling to Cambodia with us?

Join Edukid On A Trip To Cambodia in 2026...

This trip is open to everyone – students, adults, and anyone interested in making a positive impact! Please feel free to share this opportunity with friends and family who might be interested in joining us in Cambodia!

In October 2026 we will be leading our next Edukid trip. Come and meet the children we support and the staff that help them.

We start off in Phnom Penh learning about the history of Cambodia, by visiting the Killing Fields and Teul Sleung. There's time to visit the colourful city flower and food markets as well as a walk along the river to the Royal Palace.

Then we hire a boat to do an evening cruise through the city and we are joined by the Edukid supported students currently at university. Hear their stories of over coming adversity and their hopes and dreams of a better future.

During the week we will travel north to rural Edukid supported villages. We stay in a traditional Khmer Hotel off-grid for two days, visiting the villagers, doing activities with the children and hearing their stories. During this period we ask village leaders to take us to families in crisis, so that we can experience the issues, listen to the need and seek ways to help. They are challenging, moving experiences that provide you opportunities to help repair homes, buy food and look for sustainable ways to transform their lives. It's often described as the most challenging part of the trip, but by quite some distance the most rewarding.

Later that week we travel north to Siem Reap where we stay for 2-3 nights. There's time for another village visit and to wander round the famous night markets. Before dawn we take a tuk-tuk ride to Angkor Wat (the 8th wonder of the world), to watch the sun rise over the iconic temples. You spend the morning touring around the enormous ruins, spotting monkeys and the odd elephant.

During the evenings you can try the renowned Khmer cuisines at the various restaurants and stroll down the alleys to buy your souvenirs for home.

The trip lasts around 8 days and people of all ages are welcome. But be warned if you come on this trip, you may want to return quite soon!



Engage with Cambodian school students



Immerse yourself within the community



Experience Angkor Wat at sunrise

Fundraising Stories



Anna

"I chose to volunteer with Edukid because of its focus on education and empowerment in communities affected by poverty. Education is a powerful tool for change, and I wanted to be part of an organisation that makes a real, tangible difference in the lives of children and families who need it most.

I decided to challenge myself by taking part in a 15km fundraising run along a local trail. A highlight was learning more about Edukid's impact and seeing how the money raised translates into real opportunities for children in some of the world's most vulnerable communities".

Our in-project coordinators, Jonny and Mr. Peter, recently took on an incredible challenge to raise funds for our vital work in Cambodia—supporting children living in poverty to access education.

They did so by running a 10K race in Phnom Penh, battling intense 40-degree heat to stand in solidarity with the children and families we support. For Mr. Peter, this was his first-ever race, making the achievement all the more inspiring!

A huge well done to them both, not only for completing the race but for the heart they put into everything they do. From running daily programmes, to supporting over 1,500 children with care, commitment, and compassion, we're incredibly grateful for all that you do. Thank you!



Jonny and Mr Peter

Lennie is currently enrolled on his 3-month Duke of Edinburgh volunteering programme with Edukid. Lennie told Edukid:

"Over the next 4 weeks, I'll be walking 300,000 steps, one for each child currently out of school in Cambodia. To show the weight of their struggle, I'll be carrying a backpack filled with school supplies, representing the tools every child needs to learn and grow".

Lennie will be completing this challenge in Yorkshire and with every step he will be advocating for equal access to education for all children living in poverty.



Lennie

Immersive Learning

NEW



Edukid's core focus is education, therefore in the UK we partner with primary, and secondary schools, as well as colleges and universities with the aim of educating, inspiring and empowering pupils. We seek to educate students about global issues and further inspire and empower them to react to these lessons, applying their learning and exercising their roles as Global Citizens in order to make a difference in the world.

As part of our Global Citizenship Programme, Edukid is excited to introduce our Virtual Reality (VR) lessons which can be brought into the classroom, offering students an immersive way of learning.

THE AIMS OF THE VR EXPERIENCE



Inspire pupils to be passionate about the world and the people in it, and to empower them to become Global Citizens with the power to make a difference.



Through this immersive learning experience, Edukid aims for children to develop cultural awareness, and therefore empathy with the desire to support these communities.



The lessons provide examples of how you can embed the VR experience into your curriculum, with links to Geography, PSHE, ART and opportunities for cross-curricular learning in English.



To find out more about Edukid's VR Experience, and bring immersive learning into your class, please email christurner@edukid.org.uk

Thank You So Much!

We are really grateful for your ongoing love and support. Your contribution is making a significant impact, transforming lives and creating opportunities for children who otherwise might not have had access to education.

Thanks to your generosity, these students can now focus on their studies and work towards a brighter future. Your support is not just changing their lives, but also inspiring hope within their families and communities.

Thank you once again for your support and belief in the power of education. We look forward to sharing updates on the students' achievements and the lasting impact of your generosity.

With heartfelt gratitude and love,

The Edukid Team X

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