



Long Distance Sponsorship - Project Description

TSHANGKHA CENTRAL SCHOOL



Tshangkha Central School is situated in central Bhutan within the Tangsibje Gewog of Trongsa Dzongkhag. The School is recognized as a pilot school for the Bhutan Baccalaureate program, an educational system that emphasizes holistic student development across five domains. The school offers a comprehensive educational curriculum spanning from pre-primary to grade twelve (the end of high school).

The public school was founded in 1983 and encompasses several facilities, including four academic buildings, a kitchen, a dining hall, a multipurpose hall, and separate hostels for boys and girls. Additionally, it provides a nursery and a small structure for special education services. The school currently serves a student body of 475 students and employs a staff of 56 individuals.

The school's notable strengths lie in its ability to offer education to a diverse range of students, spanning various age groups and including those requiring special educational services. Nevertheless, the institution encounters difficulties stemming from the absence of contemporary 21st-century teaching and learning materials (TLMs) and proper infrastructure, factors that can hinder the educational experience. Additionally, the economic backgrounds of a significant portion of the student body can serve as an impediment to effective learning, given that many originate from low-income families with limited access to sufficient learning resources. The primary issue stems from a significant portion of students who struggle to fulfill their fundamental needs, including clothing, uniforms, toiletries, and stationery.

In terms of the community surrounding the school, it primarily consists of self-sufficient farmers. This community grapples with a notable number of broken families and exhibits a relatively equal gender distribution, with a roughly balanced number of men and women. However, the school's reach extends beyond this local community, attracting residents from various parts of the country. This is partly because of its proximity to the Jigme Singye Wangchuck National Park office and the ongoing Nika Chu project.

Additionally, it welcomes students from remote villages like Jangbi, Kela, and other regions in lower Trongsa, many of whom come from low-income families, some lacking even proper housing. While these families receive support from both governmental and non-governmental organizations, and although education is offered free of charge, poverty remains a prevalent issue in the area with cumulative costs, including minimal fees, becoming burdensome for low-income families and households with multiple children.

At the moment many students are really struggling, so ASIA since 2023, following the request for help from the principal, has decided to support the school and selected students through the Long Distance Sponsorship Project.