



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

To ensure an exceptional standard of education for our students, we have sought qualified local teachers and teacher assistants, with all staff working on minimal local salaries.

Our teachers have very heavy academic workloads and their responsibilities are to their pupils, their academic colleagues and leaders. As such, we do not encourage our teachers to communicate with their sponsors because we do not want to add to their workload. We believe it is the responsibility of the school manager to keep the sponsors updated about their sponsored teachers. Please keep us informed of your correct email address at:

info@englishaliveacademy.org

What does a sponsorship of a teacher include?

Sponsorship of a teacher covers the teacher's wage, teaching gown and stationary for a whole year as well as covering teacher training costs.

Can I write letters/emails to my sponsored teacher?

You can communicate with your sponsored teacher. To send a letter by post, use our postal address with the teacher's first and last name.

Dawit Hailu
English Alive Academy (teachers name)
PO Box 170222
Addis Ababa
ETHIOPIA

If you would like to send an email to your sponsored teacher, please send it to info@englishaliveacademy.org. However, we do not have internet access at the school and have to go to a local cafe so posted letters are preferred.

Can I send a present to my sponsored teacher? To which address?

You are not expected to, but you can. Please send it to the following address by normal airmail:

Dawit Hailu
English Alive Academy (First and Last Name of your sponsored teacher)
PO Box 170222
Addis Ababa
ETHIOPIA

To make sure parcels arrive and incur no expenses for the school:

- Please do NOT register or insure any mail as it costs the school at least US \$ 25 in taxes at our end.
- Mark all parcels as being "second-hand goods" or "personal gifts".
- Ensure the description of goods written on the parcel matches the actual items inside as customs and postal staff frequently inspect contents of parcels.
- Please label all parcels clearly with the first and last name of the teacher and your full name.
- Please put the value of the package at no more than US \$5 (the lower the better).
Tax-free items



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- Books
- Personal goods
- Anything that is used. Used goods, used clothes, etc... (please remove labels/packaging from all items before sending them)

Keep in mind that parcels sent by airmail can take up to a month to get here (sea mail takes even longer), so don't worry if it takes a while for us to let you know the parcel has arrived. In any case we will let you know by email when the parcel has been given to your teacher.

What can I send to my sponsored teacher?

Again, this is not required at all nor is it expected, but some suggestions include;

- stickers for their students (particularly those with encouraging words, such as "well done", "try again", etc);
- teaching aids relevant to the subjects your teacher teaches – for example: wall charts with times tables, alphabet, solar system, human anatomy;
- teacher training/development literature.

Should/can I send a Christmas present?

Christmas presents are generally discouraged. Please keep in mind that your teacher may be Muslim and therefore he/she will not celebrate Christmas.

Can I meet my sponsored teacher?

You are always welcome to visit the school to meet your sponsored teacher. Please contact us well in advance to make sure we can accommodate you at the school. Our email is info@englishaliveacademy.org

What does half and full sponsorship mean?

Sponsors have two choices when sponsoring a teacher. Full sponsorship means the donation is US\$676 / £420 per year (for other currencies visit www.xe.com). If you choose this option, you will be the sole sponsor of one teacher. For half sponsorship, the gift is US\$ 338 / £210 per year and the sponsor will share one teacher's sponsorship with another sponsor who the school will find.

When are my next sponsorship fees due?

Your sponsorship renewal fees are due 12 months after commencement of your sponsorship. A reminder email will be sent to you at least two weeks before the next fees are due. This email will remind you of the methods of payments as well as the amount of the sponsorship fee.

Can you please explain the classes and semesters at English Alive Academy?

The Ethiopian school year is from September (after Ethiopian New Year) to July. We have two semesters a year, with a week's mid-semester break. During the long summer holiday (July – September) English Alive Academy runs an intensive English programme which is run by foreign volunteers and is open to all children in the town.



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- Kindergarten Primary School (located in the central area of the town) This school accommodates: two nursery classes, two KG 1 classes, one KG 2 class.
- Grade School (located in the centre of the town) which accommodates a single class for each of the four grades – 1 to 4.
- Kindergarten and Grade (located on the outskirts of the town) catering for pupils aged 3 – 12

Are my sponsorship fees tax-deductible?

YES – although currently only for UK tax payers. If you are a UK taxpayer, the value of your gift can be increased by 25% under the Gift Aid plan at no extra cost to you. This means that a donation of £10 could be worth an extra £ 2.50 to us.

Simply tick the GIFT AID box when making a donation and / or email us telling that you wish to apply Gift Aid at info@englishaliveacademy.org.

For more information about Gift Aid see our information sheet – [Gift Aid FAQ](#)