

Completed forms should be returned to: **Grant Awards, Programmes & Projects, British Council, Water House, 58 Whitworth Street, Manchester, M1 6BB.**

Forms of the form should be completed electronically, expanding boxes as required.

Ensure a receipt is attached for all claims.

## LOCAL AUTHORITY / AREA GROUP INFORMATION

<b>Name of Local Authority / Area Group:</b>	ONE WORLD LINK Warwick UK - Bo Sierra Leone
<b>Area Linking Reference Number:</b>	SLV2010:AL11

<b>Local Authority / Area Group Address:</b>	44 St Mary's Road, Leamington Spa		
<b>Postcode:</b>	CV31 1JP	<b>Telephone:</b>	01926 425403
		<b>Fax:</b>	07092362686
<b>Email/website:</b>	info@oneworldlink.org.uk    www.oneworldlink.org.uk		

<b>Name of visit</b>		<b>Institution</b>	
<b>Coordinator:</b>	John Myers	<b>Institution</b>	One World Link
<b>Group members supported with the grant (please list all members of the group):</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Job title</b>	
Richard Machin	All Saints Junior School	Headteacher	
Jenufa Wood	Brookhurst Primary School	Class teacher	
Mark Johnston	Budbrooke Primary School	ClassTeacher	
Jennifer Bailey	Clapham Terr. Primary School	Class Teacher	
Jane McSharry	St Anthony's R.C. Primary	Head Teacher	
Rachel Cliff	St Patrick's R.C. Primary	Class teacher	
Liz Garrett	One World Link + LEA	Language Support Teacher	

<b>Name &amp; address of partner institution / area visited:</b>	One World Link Bo
<b>Country:</b>	Sierra Leone

<b>Dates of visit:</b>	<b>From:</b>	11 Feb 2011	<b>To:</b>	21 Feb 2011
<b>Number of nights abroad:</b>	9			

## GROUP LEADER REPORT

*This report must be completed by the Area Linking Visit group leaders(s).*

*Please complete the form electronically, expanding boxes as required.*

Main objectives of the visit:

1. Individual institutions to meet to discuss future joint curriculum work and for the area co-ordinator to meet her counterparts to build the relationship, discuss future joint area activity and how to support schools within the partnership. Thereby reinvigorate, deepen, and extend the partnership
2. To develop a robust agreed plan to make various forms of communication effective and able to overcome the infrastructure challenges in provincial Sierra Leone – this applies to mail, telephone, and internet; and ensure that the people involved are confident and well briefed in carrying this out
3. To learn about the aims and constraints of partner schools and the education service in Sierra Leone and identify how this partnership can best bring real educational benefit to schoolchildren in Bo
4. To agree a joint area partnership and individual school partnership plans for at least the next two years
5. To evaluate the value of the activities in celebration of the International Day of the African Child that have taken place on both sides and to make plans for June 2011 that maximise the learning outcomes to be derived from this activity
6. To develop engaging and empathetic relationships with Bo partners and a team understanding with Warwick colleagues
7. To encompass the needs of all schools in the partnership not only those on this visit
8. To sustain the constant renewal that a long term partnership requires

To what extent was each objective achieved:

### **1. Objective achieved.**

**I spent a good amount of time with my counterpart, Joseph Boakerie (Bo OWL Teachers Coordinator) visiting 9 of the 12 OWL Linked schools, discussing ways to embed the link in the curriculum in both countries and how we as coordinators would facilitate meetings and communication with our schools. We have agreed to organise and facilitate termly meetings for the Link school teachers to meet to share ideas and plan events. We have agreed that, as coordinators, and schools we will communicate at least 3 times a year with a focus on Christmas in Term 1, FairTrade Fortnight or Easter or a chosen subject in Term 2 and the International Day of the African Child (June 16th) in Term 3. In Warwick The June 16th event will be a collaborative venture for all linked schools and aims to involve the wider school and local communities. Head Teachers will communicate twice a year minimum- June and December. Exchange of Letters by pupils and teachers is to form a collaborative focus for developing children's writing skills. Individual schools also planned activities -see Action plans.**

### **2. Objective achieved**

**Our communication plan was discussed in detail with all stake-holders. We will use the OWL centre email (bo\_warwick@yahoo.com) and copy to Maada Fobay, OWL Treasurer (alfredmaadafobay@yahoo.com), the British Council have agreed to act as courier from Freetown. When anyone mails anything they will text their counterpart in the other country to say what they have done, the recipient will then text back. UK teachers ensured their partners were familiar with texting and gave advice where needed.**

### **3. Objective partly achieved.**

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Through discussion learnt a lot more about the aims and constraints of their Education system, however we can continue to find out more. We received feed back from the Manager of the West African Examinations Council who identified a deficit in the standard of letter writing and composition. We can help improve standards by purposeful letter writing and exchange of other written materials with an emphasis on form as well as content.

#### 4. Objective achieved

Each of the 6 link partnerships and myself as coordinator discussed, wrote and signed Partnership Agreements with our counterparts. The Action Plans for the next two years were also agreed between partners.

#### 5. Objective Achieved

It was agreed that the Day of the African Child provided an excellent focus for all link schools to celebrate our partnership while considering our roles as Global citizens. It will therefore involve some form of fun, cultural celebration as well as teaching children about a more serious aspect of citizenship, eg. Water, Fair Trade, Natural Disasters, Rights & Responsibilities. It is an ideal opportunity for extending the learning from the Link into the wider school and local communities. A host school has already been chosen for the Leamington/Warwick 2011 celebration.

#### 6. Objective achieved

Both as a UK team and as partners, colleagues from both countries spent a lot of time talking, getting to know each others' lives and relaxing/socialising together with food, drinks and dancing. We gained such interesting insights into their lives - so very different from our own yet connected by our shared humanity- and our shared profession-teaching. An enthusiasm for the partnership to thrive has emerged.

#### 7. Objective achieved within limits

The five link schools in Leamington/Warwick who did not take part in the visit were all asked and encouraged to send letters/photos for us to distribute to their partners and three of them did so. I visited all these 5 link schools in Bo and our new link school with my counterpart Joseph Boakarie to share news and pass on advice about the requirements of Linking.

8. Through our time together in schools and through the workshops and other meetings we have all gained a much better understanding about the purposes, benefits, constraints and limitations of Linking. We plan to do annual (July) evaluations of how the Link is progressing in each school thereby identifying areas for improvement and renewal.

#### Day-by day account of the visit

For **each** day of your visit, please give a **full** account of the activities undertaken and how they contributed to your overall objectives. This information should not be general or vague, eg. *in school* or *discussions with colleagues*. Please add additional days if required.

Arrival Date: Sat 12 Feb 2011

Travel by minibus from Freetown to Bo. Breakdown causing 2 hour delay. 6pm Reception Party - Initial introductions and Welcome meal together at OWL Centre followed by speeches of welcome and setting hopes and expectations for the week. Gave advice about open and honest communication: don't be afraid to ask for explanation -we need to work at the language barrier!

Day 1 – Date: Sun 13 Feb 2011

Attended St Francis RC Church with my counterpart Joseph Boakarie. Greeted and took photos of Head Priest. Saw St Francis school compound. Photographed other church members- lay women (photos for Warwick OWL Resouce collection of uniforms). Went on walk around parts of Bo to see markets and visit Joseph's relatives in two homes. Met up with colleague, Mark and went with him and

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his Bo Head Teacher to visit UMC New Site School. Returned to Centre for lunch with colleagues and debrief of the morning. Met with Mr Mohamed Wuri Jalloh to discuss his role as Chair of Bo City Education Committee (he is also a teacher at Bo Secondary school) and find out about the imminent visit of the group of teachers from N. Yorks and how we can support one another. Looked together at proposed OWL Program for the end of the week and discussed changes. Evening meeting with UK Team to discuss each person's plans for the next day. Arranged plans to accompany one teacher to visit her school Monday morning. Gave OWL driver his instructions for the next day.

**Day 2 – Date: Monday 14 Feb 2011**

7.30 Arrive at Centre to ensure everyone has left OK for school.

8am Rachel and I collected by Head Teacher of St Peter's School by car and taken to school where we were introduced in the whole school Assembly -Devotions. Spent the morning talking with the Head Teacher and Deputy about how the school worked, the timetable, discipline, the assessment system, their clubs (Peace Club-CARITAS and Cultural Club), race and tribal issues, politics and the main challenges and frustrations mostly financial. Enjoyed lunch together in HT's office.

12noon-Spent afternoon at BDEC School Messima with Joseph Boakarie who is senior class 6 teacher there. Met Head Teacher who explained why school is currently in temporary accommodation, learnt about their constraints and frustrations. Taught each class about OWL and their Link school in Leamington. Spent longer in Class 6 teaching them our Link song and hearing them perform poetry and songs.

Early evening de-brief session with UK team for feed-back on first day and overall aims for the week ahead. Due to discovery of Public Holiday next day we planned the agenda for a workshop-style meeting the next day and contacted all schools to invite them. Made arrangements for a shared lunch to be provided at the Centre as part of workshop.

Evening- Bo OWL members accompanied us to 'After work' club for Valentine's Day celebration, local live music and dancing.

**Day 3 – Date: Tuesday 15 Feb 2011**

8.30am Continued planning and refining the Workshop with UK colleagues input. Used many ideas from Global School Partnerships training we had all done in January. Main aims were to explore motives for linking, get a better understanding of what is involved in having a Global partnership and how it can be sustained.

10-12.30 I facilitated the workshop. A colleague lead the SWOT analysis which enabled us to discuss many aspects and focus on communication. Discussions continued over lunch. The workshop was felt to be a very successful and useful event.

3pm Meeting at the Ministry of Education with Mr Paul Saffa-Head of Supervisory Team for Bo City Council. Somewhat difficult meeting as this was not the man we had arranged to visit so his remit was not clear. I did learn something about the way in which schools are supervised and inspected and some of the challenges and frustrations of their system.

4pm Meeting with Mr Alusine Njai from WAEC-West African Exams Council. Learnt about their exam system. (see Objective 3 above) Invited him to speak at Friday's stakeholders meeting.

Evening- de-brief session with UK colleagues to check everyone happy with plans for next few days, including lessons to be taught, equipment needed, continued work towards their Action Plans and Partnership Agreements.

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**Day 4 – Date: Wed 16th Feb 2011**

7.30 Arrive at Centre to ensure everyone has left OK for school. Meet with John Myers of OWL to plan itinerary for next few days.

9am Work on schools data on OWL Centre laptop

10am Go with John and Joseph Boakarie to visit RC Madonna School - a new link school. Observe impressive sports lessons and tour of the compound. Watch short performance (skit) by pupils about stealing. Meet whole staff over lunch in Class 6 room. Observe assembly and marching back to class followed by tour of all classes including Nursery with 6 learning 'corners', opportunities to ask questions of Head and teachers.

1pm Visit to UMC Heine Memorial school, met Head and some staff to discuss plans for communication within our partnership.

1.45pm Visit BDEC Sewa Rd -tour of school, spoke to some classes.

4pm Walk into market with OWL friends to buy resources for UK schools.

Early evening de-brief session with colleagues.

**Day 5 – Date: Thurs 17th Feb 2011**

7.30 Arrive at Centre to ensure everyone has left OK for school.

8am Typed up 6 Partnership Agreements and arranged for them to be copied ready for signing tomorrow. Sorted various logistics.

11am Visit UBC. Tour of site including the Nursery and meeting the Head of the Lower school.

12noon Visited Holy Rosary RC Primary school. Gave short presentation to whole staff about Global Partnerships. Tour of the school site and discussions about their link. Spoke to some classes.

2.30 Visit to Industrial Arts Centre to meet with artist, Alphaeus Lamin. Discussed his work and commissioned a commemorative cloth print for each teacher. Explained why we would like to maintain contact with him for UK schools art work.

4.00 Joined colleagues at St Francis School Sports Day. Witnessed this amazing, huge event as one of the special guests on the viewing platform. Felt honoured to be asked to present one of the prizes.

Early evening de-brief to ensure Agreements and Action Plans organised for tomorrows meeting.

8pm Out for meal -Countryside club outside Bo town.

**Day 6 -Date: Friday 18th Feb 2011**

Unfortunately Friday was also designated by the Government as a public holiday.

9am Spent time in discussion with teachers about what they still hoped to achieve and prepared for the meeting.

11am Meeting held at the OWL Centre for all stake-holders in the schools partnerships including Mr Swarray-Dep. Director for Education and Paul Massaquoi, his Deputy. Other speakers included Michael Dennis, the British Council Representative from Freetown, Mr Wusu Sannoh the Mayor of Bo, Mr Jo Pyne retired Head Teacher, Maada Fobay OWL Treasurer and Mr Njai, a Senior Official from WAEC the West African Exam Council. After the meeting all teachers worked together to complete their Action Plans and we took photos of each pair signing their Partnership Agreements - these will be displayed at the OWL Centre as a reminder and point of reference . This was followed by lunch together at the Centre.

**Day 7 Date: Saturday 19th February 2011**

On Saturday morning groups of ten children from each of the linked schools arrived with their teachers at the

OWL Centre to provide us with a cultural dance/theatre performance. We witnessed fantastic

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examples of traditional African costume, singing, music, acting and dancing, all of which we will be able to use to enhance the international learning of children in our UK schools. The whole event gave us an understanding of aspects of SL culture and an appreciation of SL children's performing styles and abilities as well as some very useful audio visual material for use in UK schools. The fact that this event took place was an important building block for the ethos and perceived importance of school partnership.

**Please expand to include more days as necessary.**

Departure Date: Sunday 20th Feb 2011

**What advice would you give to other authority/area co-ordinators undertaking a similar visit::**

Check well in advance whether any public holidays might occur during your visit where schools will be closed.

Make sure you brief your team thoroughly about practicalities such as having a shower out of a bucket.

On day-to-day basis write down agreed times and events for all people involved to clarify expectations.

Give your team permission to contact you at any point if there is a problem or query.

## FINANCIAL RECONCILIATION

**NB The Statement of Expenditure should be completed by the visit co-ordinator as a total amount for all participants.**

### STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE

Reimbursement for car hire can only be considered where public transport does not exist. Only receipted petrol costs will be reimbursed.

**Original tickets/receipts must be included with this report.**

**Please note that any supply cover costs cannot be reimbursed.**

		<b>Total</b>
<b>a</b>	<b>Travel costs</b>	£
<b>b</b>	<b>Accommodation costs</b>	£
<b>c</b>	<b>Subsistence costs (@ £15 per day)</b>	£
<b>d</b>	<b>Other sources of funding</b>	£
<b>Total expenditure claimed</b>		£
<i>For office use only: payment approved</i>		£
Checked by:		<b>Date:</b>
Approved by:		<b>Date:</b>

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**PLEASE ENSURE YOUR LOCAL AUTHORITY / AREA GROUP BANK DETAILS - ON LOCAL AUTHORITY / AREA GROUP HEADED PAPER - ARE ATTACHED.**

I confirm that all relevant receipts are enclosed and that all conditions of the contract have been met.

*Signature of Local Authority /Area Group Leader:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Date:* \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

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