

## **Public statement for our donors**

We thank you for your support to date.

As of the end of May 2017, Happy Kids Cambodia Inc. will no longer be providing funding through our partner recipient in Cambodia (Jimmy's Village School). This decision has not been made lightly, and our charity is incredibly saddened that this partnership has ended within circumstances, which were unforeseeable to our organization.

For years we have been inspired by the mission and goals of our partner school/organization, and have witnessed first hand the impact that an English education can have for young people in a developing country like Cambodia. By developing our charity, we had hoped to relieve some financial burden that placed pressures on the ongoing operation of this school as well as eventually expand to the point where our work could help facilitate the offer of free English education for a wider community of children. We began implementation of a project on our May trip to Cambodia that would see potential for this expansion to begin.

We went to Cambodia in May with great hopes for the success of our project. We gave the project our priority. Despite the time and effort we dedicated to the project and this being the sole reason for our visit to Cambodia, it soon became apparent in May that Jimmy's Village School was no longer interested in assisting us with the project. It appeared that the relationship with Jimmy's Village School had become unworkable. We took this into account and the reluctance of Jimmy's Village School to introduce protocols for transparency, accountability and screening of volunteers (for child protection purposes). In the circumstances, it is no longer possible for us to continue to support Jimmy's Village School.

With regards to the 'Drive Cambodia's Future' project, we as a charity remain committed to facilitating English education to as many Cambodian children as possible. We are working in consultation with our Australian governing bodies, the NGO sector in Cambodia and a range of professionals to ensure the project continues to be rolled out in line with our above mentioned values and goals. Our organization will not in anyway persuade any supporters to cease their financial or moral support of Jimmy's Village School from here forth, however we naturally advise you contact the school directly to engage in such arrangements.

An immense amount of time, effort and dedication has been contributed by our organization as a whole since the charity was born. No words can describe how disappointed and saddened we are with the breakdown in this partnership. We hope that despite this outcome, all parties involved continue to share the belief that all Cambodian children are deserving of access to education and they are the ones who will ultimately make a difference in their country. We will continue to support access to education for Cambodian children.