

Site Visit Template



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Jan 2, 2026, 7 PM

Sakhi for Girls Education, Mulund West, Mumbai, India

1 **Sakhi for Girls Education**

Attendees: Priyanka Desai

Name of main contact at site: Aarti Naik

Number of students being served at site: 40 students, 20 fellows

Action item: Please take pictures if the site permits and attach them to this document, as well as ask the following questions and fill out this document. Also, ask for next year's funding cycle (budget proposal) at earliest ability (April 2026-March 2027).

2 **Q1: First, introduce yourself. Then, ask for an introduction to the project site (how they began, their mission, how many students they serve, age ranges of students, location details, how are grade levels and classes organized etc.)**

Notes:

The school was started by Aarti Naik, and their primary mission is to teach English to young girls ranging from 5 to 12 years old who live in the nearby slum areas. It is located on a busy street a walkable distance from where most of the students live. There are 40 young students, and 20 fellows. The fellows, ranging from 13-18, are former Sakhi students who create the teaching material as well as teach the children. The hours of the school are after normal school hours, from 6-8 pm. The classes are organized by level of English proficiency.

3 **Q2: Could you describe your curriculum to us a little bit more, as well as describe what educational goals you have for your students?**

Notes:

Their educational goals are to teach the children proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking English. They strive to create a welcoming environment where the children are excited to learn every single day. The curriculum first involves teaching the alphabet phonetically, then being able to recognize letters and speak words and sentences. The curriculum and standards are set by Aarti, but the Fellows have creativity with the way they make and teach their learning materials.

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Q3: Could you tell us a little more about your teachers and facilities? What is the student faculty ratio like? What classes do you currently offer, and do you have any upcoming changes that you'd like to make to those classes?

Notes:

There are about 10 adult supervisors who visit the school and ensure day-to-day activities are running smoothly, as well as provide help with teaching. There are 20 fellows, who are former Sakhi students and are mainly responsible for teaching English to the younger children. The facility is clean, with two floors and good lighting. Everyone leaves their shoes outside the door, and students sit in pods on the floor. The area is very cramped, with it being difficult to walk around freely when students are sitting down.

Currently, their main focus is teaching English and preparing the students for a successful career. Beyond having better teaching materials, they do not have plans to make major changes to their curriculum.

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Q4: Ask about how we can further help the school and what we can do to improve their efforts (especially any which we can help with from our work overseas)

Notes:

Although they are making strides with teaching the children English, they are still experiencing some problems with learning English. They requested online English classes and videos/online tests that could supplement/provide more structure to their learning. They also requested more physical materials (such as paper, markers, more stationary) to make their Teacher Learning Materials (TLMs). They also have a need for AV tools, as well as more cardboard (which they use heavily to help teach). Additionally, they suggested that being able to laminate their TLMs would help greatly in longevity and efficient teaching for future years.

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Concerns/Additional Questions (ask anything else at this point that you are curious about/think would be helpful)

Objective: I think that the fellows do a great job of teaching the younger students. I believe some more money for upkeep of the facility itself would be helpful (if they could expand into another larger area, it would create a more conducive environment). I also wonder if the Fellows are getting compensated, or simply volunteering their time. If it is the latter, it would be nice to see them getting a stipend, as many of them are very capable young women and have dreams of going to university or studying in America. Lastly, I do think some online course materials could be helpful, but I am unsure if they have access to computers or a projector they could use to actually use the online course.

Time

END OF MEETING