

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022 - 2023



EDUBRAIN

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## 1. Abbreviations

ANBI	Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling (Institution aiming for General Benefit)
DoE	Department of Education of Ghana
GHC	Ghana Cedis (currency)
JB	Junior Board EDFGh
NatCo	National Coordinator EDFGh
JHS	Junior High School
SHS	Senior High School
EDFNL	EdubrainFoundation
Netherlands	EDFGh Edubrain Foundation
Ghana	
UBA	United Bank of Africa
BECE	Basic Education Certificate
Examination WAEC	West African Examinations
Council	
WASSCE	West African Senior School Certificate Examination

Over the years sponsored by many individuals and corporate organisations:



## 2. GENERAL

### a. Structure of the foundation: EDFNL en EDFGh

The structure of the EdubrainFoundation is based on two separate Foundations. One in the Netherlands:

EDFNL and one in Ghana: EDFGh.

In principle EDFNL is the original foundation. It generates and provides the majority of funding required to sponsor highly talented but underprivileged children in Ghana. The foundation in Ghana "EDFGh" coordinates the education of the Edubrain and takes care of the financial consequences thereof. The National Coordinator is accountable for financial reporting to the treasurer in EDFNL on a monthly basis using a standardized monthly Treasurer Report.

All education-related matters are addressed in Ghana and monitored out of the Netherlands.

### b. Composition of both Boards of Management plus the Board of

#### recommendation Board Members Edubrain Foundation

##### Netherlands

Name	Function	Phone	E-mail
W. Hazenberg (Wouter)	Chairman	+31 685275433	<a href="mailto:info@edubrainfoundation.org">info@edubrainfoundation.org</a> <a href="mailto:netherlands@edubrainfoundation.org">netherlands@edubrainfoundation.org</a>
R. Koning (Rieke)	Secretary and Vice president	+1 215-6788968	<a href="mailto:info@edubrainfoundation.org">info@edubrainfoundation.org</a>
R. Hazenberg (Rob)	Board Member Coordinator Education	+31 620166421	<a href="mailto:netherlands@edubrainfoundation.org">netherlands@edubrainfoundation.org</a>

##### Board Members Edubrain Foundation Ghana

Name	Function	Phone	E-mail
S. Yakubu-Aziah (Samuel)	President and National Coordinator	+233 (0)243055672	<a href="mailto:info@edubrainfoundation.org">info@edubrainfoundation.org</a> <a href="mailto:samuelyakubu2005@yahoo.com">samuelyakubu2005@yahoo.com</a>
William Kwasi Ofori Atta	Secretary and Vice president	+233 (0)597397995	<a href="mailto:ghana@edubrainfoundation.org">ghana@edubrainfoundation.org</a>
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J. Anane-Antwi (Joshua)	Junior Board Member IT Coordinator	+233 (0)591935882	<a href="mailto:joshuaanane578@gmail.com">joshuaanane578@gmail.com</a>
L. Cudjoe	Edubrainoverseas Representative	+233 (0)249733050	<a href="mailto:lordcudjoe554@yahoo.com">lordcudjoe554@yahoo.com</a>

## ANNUAL REPORT 2022 /

(Lord)		+44 (0)742837201	
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### Board of Recommendation

- **Dr. Navanethem Pillay**

Dr. Pillay was a judge at the International Criminal Court in The Hague. As of 2008 until 2014, Navanethem Pillay was the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Navanethem has a personal “Edubrainstory”, as was shown in an interview in the Dutch newspaper “De Volkskrant”, December 2003: “Her dad was far from rich. He was a bus driver. They lived in Clairwood, a slum without pavement or sewerage. Neighbours collected money in their neighbourhood to send bright Navi to university.”

Dr. Pillay is now chair of the UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory.



- **Annemarie Jorritsma**

Mrs. Annemarie Jorritsma was Mayor of the city of Almere in the Netherlands from 2003- 2015, which is the fastest growing city in the Netherlands. Before becoming mayor, she was the first female deputy Prime Minister of the Netherlands and the Minister of Economic Affairs for the Dutch Liberal party VVD. She was a member of parliament, First- and Second Chamber, from 1982 till 2023. She also has a Ghana connection, as Almere is twinning with Kumasi in Ghana.



- **Roué Verveer**

Roué Verveer, born November 17<sup>th</sup>, 1972 in Paramaribo, Suriname, a comedian, entertainer, author, actor, and above all a human being! After studying (1992 – 1995) in the Netherlands returned to Surinam to build his future and that of Surinam. April 1999 Roué returns to the Netherlands to debut as comedian in the well-known Comedy train. He produced more than six theatre shows and can be seen on Dutch television on a regular basis.



- **Michael Mensah**

“Pay back to Community in Ghana.”

As a Ghanaian I want to help children in Ghana develop their capabilities. Thanks to the opportunities granted to me by benefactors, growing up in Ghana I have been able to develop as an opera singer. In my profession it is not about my own fame or honour, but about returning the service to society by encouraging children and helping them with their development. I know the needs in Ghanaian society and want to help improve society from within. Edubrain Foundation spends 95% of the money raised on highly qualified education, uniforms and books and food and shelter for underprivileged and talented children in Ghana. That is why I was eager to join the Edubrain Foundation as an ambassador.



c. General data

Contact data

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BIC: INGBNL2A  
Attention: Penningmeester  
Stichting Edubrain Nederland  
Landsmeer

Bank account Ghana

United Bank of Africa: 02265733302430 (EUR account)  
02216516602511 (GHC account)  
BIC: STBGGHAC  
Attention: Edubrain  
Foundation POBox  
YB 426  
Asuoyeboah-Kumasi  
Ghana

Chamber of Commerce

Registration number: 04067316  
Enlisted since May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2002 at  
Chamber of Commerce Noord-Nederland

ANBI

The Edubrain Foundation has an 'ANBI'-status.

ANBI-status is a status awarded by the Dutch tax and revenue organization. This means that gifts to our foundation are tax deductible.

ANBI: (Algemeen Nut Beoogende Instelling, it means: Institution Aiming for General Benefit)

d. Acknowledgment

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Hazenberg' with a stylized flourish at the end.

New York, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Chairman Edubrain Foundation  
Wouter Hazenberg

### 3. APPENDICES: Reports of EDFNL and EDFGh

#### 1. Report: Chairman

##### a. EDFNL (=Wouter Hazenberg)

The Academic Year 2022-2023 was a positive year for the Edubrain Foundation, as major milestones were achieved in the Foundation's key priorities: i) continued transition of responsibilities from EDFNL to EDFGh, ii) raising funds, thereby securing the means necessary

to continue sponsoring high quality education for talented but underprivileged kids, iii) success stories of increasing self-reliance, and iv) community building through a well-attended Annual Meeting, each of which will be discussed in more detail below.

i) Transition of responsibilities from EDFNL to EDFGh: Both Boards spent a considerable amount of time on virtual calls during this Academic Year. In line with the Edubrain Foundation's guiding principle for the Foundation to be self-sustainable in the long run, we have over time transferred responsibilities from EDFNL to EDFGh. A good example of this is the selection of a new group of SmartKids, which is now coordinated fully out of Ghana, whilst still being supported in terms of selection criteria, standardized tests and otherwise out of the Netherlands. Another initiative has been to abolish the "Junior Board" and instead set up a Ghana Board, emphasizing the importance of the Ghana Board and its roles and responsibilities. During the 2022 Annual Meeting, the EDFNL and EDFGh Boards have spent a full day, both virtually as well as in person (as illustrated in the picture below) determining key initiatives to be executed in the coming academic years by the EDFGh Board, including but not limited to:

- 1) Organizing 3 annual events, to create a stronger sense of Community for the Edubrain in Ghana
- 2) Visiting local Edubrain that live in different regions to make sure they stay connected
- 3) Allow younger Edubrain to enter the Ghana Board, thereby ensuring cross-pollination of thought and increased connectivity across different age groups
- 4) Set up a Edubrain WhatsApp Group for each academic year
- 5) Set up Mentorship Programs where graduated Edubrain can coach Edubrain that are still actively in school
- 6) More activity on social media such as Instagram, Facebook, TikTok, etc
- 7) Career Guidance Counselling for Edubrain currently at school – timely planning and coaching on what jobs can be attained with what schooling path are key
- 8) Office Space to facilitate easier local fundraising – subject to this initiative largely requiring no budget as >95% of Edubrain Funds need to go to the direct benefit of the SmartKids' education





- ii) Fundraising: In 2022, with the help of many Rabobank colleagues, we were able to deploy a number of activities, such as concerts, a 6-day bike ride and the Florida Iron Man, all of which were intended to maximize the amount of funds raised for SmartKids. In total, we were able to raise almost EUR 25,000 in 2022 by organizing charitable fundraising events, which is a record for the Foundation. As large corporate sponsors have reduced their charitable spending over the years, this has proven to be a helpful venue to at least partly fill the fundraising gap.
- iii) Self-Reliance Success Stories: The Edubrain Foundation is proud to share the stories of our SmartKids. Each story is unique and brings a different perspective to the short- term and long-term impact the Edubrain Foundation is making in Ghana and beyond. One particular success story comes to mind for the year 2022-2023. While Edubrain have always signed a “Pledge” stating that once they started earning an income, they would give a small portion (~3%) of that income back to future generations of SmartKids, that concept has not always held true in practice. In this academic year however, we both noticed an increase in “Pledge donations” in general, but also had a very specific example of Francis Addai, a graduated Edubrain who now lives and works in Germany, and decided to fully pay for the University Education of 2 SmartKids. This means Emmanuel Awuah Asamoah and Joshua Anane are now in the process of obtaining a University Diploma, fully paid for by the Edubrain Community itself. This is a first for the foundation and hopefully a model that inspires other graduated Edubrain to do the same as they become older and their earnings power increases. In addition to this one success story, we also spent some time this year to collect success stories and testimonials from other SmartKids, which can now be found on our website via the following Link: <https://edubrainfoundation.org/>
- iv) Annual Meeting and Community Building: The 2022 Annual Meeting was a success, with Edubrainat times traveling many hours to be reunited with the rest of the Edubrain community. Attendance including accompanying parents was solid, and the EDFGh Board had spent considerable time coming up with a detailed agenda for the Annual Meeting, including guest speakers such as

Prince Osei Tutu, who spoke to the audience about the importance of vocational training and obtaining a job that way. He

was eager to work with Graduated SmartKids; creating a higher degree of job certainty for Edubrain while bringing Prince in contact with talented Kids. As always, our National Coordinator did a great job making sure that all the Edubrain had transport options to get to the Annual Meeting, and did an excellent job in hosting the Annual Meeting itself by lining up each speaker and their topic. Most importantly, the Annual Meeting was a great way for everyone to see each other again and to connect, which brought a lot of positive sentiments to all participants. On a personal note, I was inspired to see 6 of the 8 Edubrain my father and I had selected during the Edubrain Selection Day in 2016 again. They had grown from 11–12-year-old, shy kids to spontaneous, energetic, confident adults who had all passed their exams with exceptional grades, truly inspiring to see. And since a picture says more than a thousand words, I believe this picture below demonstrates this sentiment well.

### b. EDFGh (=Samuel Yakubu-Aziah)

#### 2023 Situational Report by the National Coordinator

As we end the 2023 academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Netherlands Board management for their numerous supports for running the activities of the foundation in Ghana. I also thanks the Junior Board for their immense support, I thank the potential organisations donors, individual donors and the well wishes of all supporters.

In 2023, Edubrain Foundation experienced a year of significant progress as the school, the community, the board and students worked together in striving meet the needs of our Edubrain at the various Secondary schools.

We are aware of our challenges and opportunities for further development. We are committed to making a difference. The year is considered as the most tasking and tiring year. This is because a lot of things were needed to be prepared and accomplished for the smooth and success opening of the academic year since everything is changed from the old to new round educational set up due to the effect of Covid-19. I involved myself in acquiring school materials for students into the first term in the secondary school.

We started the school year with enrolment of 6 students into the various first-class secondary schools. With immense pleasure, I would like to place on record that our 2019-year group currently at SHS 2 are academically good and 2 out of the 6 Edubrain are part of their schools Quiz competition team.

There's a great saying " Real education fetches you more than a job. It teaches you to live. It cannot be measured in any tangible way".

### Succession plan 2023

1. That we hire an expert in proposal writing to aid us send to cooperate Organisations in Ghana and elsewhere to seek for financial sponsorship to support future selection of Kids.
2. That the Junior Board (JB) and older Edubrain in their own strategic ways and commitment start giving their 1% or more contribution towards the financial status of the foundation. Again, they should also seek for prominent personalities and philanthropist in their various localities to share the stories of Edubrain and look for assistance.
3. As National coordinator, a contact has been made with a powerful politician and industrious man who is willing to be part of the Foundation activities and seek ways to support us.
4. Tasks have been given to Edubrain overseas who are into further studies to promote the success stories of Edubrain with their friends and institutions overseas to help raise funds for the Foundation. And the Edubrain overseas are to also support the foundation when they start making income after their studies.
5. Various roles have been given to older Edubrain for the successful running of activities.
6. The great measurable achievement chalked in 2023 is the Senior Edubrain in Overseas (Germany) supporting 2 Edubrain education in the tertiary education.

### Challenges so far

1. We were not able to organise annual meeting 2023 due to economic crisis in Ghana. It is very expensive to organise this meeting and it will even be more in that economic crisis season. Fuel charges were increased making transportation fares and prices of goods and services high. Since generated funds are meant for tuition and other educational purposes, the Ghana board decided that funds for that season must be used in catering for the educational needs of the children. Also, most of the smart kids were selected from regions far away from the place where this event is organised and it has to take extra cost within this season for them to attend such event.
2. There was no selection of new smart kids because we received no sponsorship.

## 2. Report: Treasurer

### a. EDFNL (=Ruud Nassette) SKF overall

#### Income 2022-2023

The income in 2022-2023 has mainly been generated by a number of individual sponsors, who donate on a monthly basis. In addition, Rob Hazenberg, our Coordinator Education, organises, on an irregular basis, musical concerts, where he promotes the foundation and generates incidental donations. And finally, Wouter Hazenberg, our chairman, is a fanatic triathlon athlete, who runs mostly in the USA, where he presently works with the Rabobank in New York. His effort is being sponsored by relatives, friends and colleagues. And the Rabobank will most of the time double the resulting amount sponsored by RaboBank employees.

The total income of the foundation in 2022-2023 was € 20,451.19

#### Expenses 2022-2023

The finances to cover the expenses in Ghana are provided by the EDFNL to be used by EDFGh. The EDFGh has two accounts with the United Bank of Africa [UBA].

A EUR account and a GHS account. Both accounts are managed by EDFGh and monitored by EDFNL.

The total expenses in Ghana were: € 5,009.41 or GHS 56,344.89 based on an average exchange rate of GHS 11.24781 per EURO.

For more details, please refer to the Financial Report 2022-2023 available on the Edubrain website.

### b. EDFGh (=Ibrahim Aliu Alhassan) EDFGh specifically

#### EDFGh 2024 Financial Report on Pledges Contribution

The Edubrain who have graduated from school and are currently working and as part of their pledges to the Edubrain Foundation have contributed five thousand and forty-five cedis (GHS 5,045) as at September, 2024.

The following individuals Dr Elizabeth ATULLEY, Dr Rashid ABDULAI, Aliu ALHASSAN-IBRAHIM, Smith BAIDOO, Marcus PARLEY, Ernesto PARLEY and Antwi ANANE made these contributions.

Yearly contributions.

YEAR	GHS
2021	1,300
2022	1,600
2023	2,145
2024	
TOTAL	5,045

No expenditure is made out of these payments.

Francis Addai is also a member of the Edubrain and currently sponsoring two individuals for their undergraduate education at the university in Ghana.

Most of the Edubrain are furthering their education and have no source of income. We hope that the pledge contributions will increase as they find jobs to do.

## 3.Report: Coordinators Education

a. EDFNL (=Rob Hazenberg)

b. EDFGh (=Samuel Yakubu-Aziah)

## Academic results third grade Junior High School 2022-2023

**ANGLICAN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, KUMASI**

  
 P.O. BOX KS 292  
 KUMASI-GHANA  
 Email: anglicankumasi@ges.gov.gh

**STUDENT'S TERMINAL REPORT**

NAME: MISAEI GYASI ACQUAH		YEAR: 2022/2023	TERM: 3
CLASS: GENERAL SCIENCE ISI		VACATION DATE: 22/12/2023	
PROGRAMME: GENERAL SCIENCE		NEXT TERM BEGINS: 6/01/2024	
HOUSE: KONTOKYI		POSITION IN CLASS: 5 <sup>TH</sup>	
STATUS: BOARDING		NUMBER ON ROLL: 57	AGGREGATE: 10

SN	Subjects	Class Score (30%)	Exam Score (70%)	Total Score (100%)	Position in subject	Grade	Remarks	Subject Teacher's Initials
<b>(CORE SUBJECTS)</b>								
1	ENGLISH LANGUAGE	21.0	53.0	74.0	7 <sup>TH</sup>	B3	GOOD	EOB
2	INFO. COMM. TECH. (ICT)	26.0	55.0	81.0	5 <sup>TH</sup>	A1	EXCELLENT	ACW
3	INTEGRATED SCIENCE	26.0	57.0	83.0	1 <sup>ST</sup>	A1	EXCELLENT	MAG
4	MATHEMATICS	21.0	55.0	76.0	6 <sup>TH</sup>	B2	VERY GOOD	SOA
5	SOCIAL STUDIES	22.0	51.0	73.0	19 <sup>TH</sup>	B3	GOOD	EG
<b>(ELECTIVE SUBJECTS)</b>								
1	BIOLOGY	21.0	56.0	77.0	10 <sup>TH</sup>	B2	VERY GOOD	JAS
2	PHYSICS	26.0	55.0	81.0	8 <sup>TH</sup>	A1	EXCELLENT	ET
3	MATHEMATICS(ELECT)	20.0	56.0	76.0	19 <sup>TH</sup>	B2	VERY GOOD	RHK
4	CHEMISTRY	28.0	54.0	82.0	8 <sup>TH</sup>	A1	EXCELLENT	FAT

Attendance: .....65.....out of .....68.....

Form Master's Remarks: .....Very good and serious student.....

Form Master: MR. ERIC AGYEKUM

Headmaster/Mistress' Remarks: .....Good performance.....

Headmaster: 

Grades Interpretation:  
 80 - 100 = A1 EXCELLENT; 70 - 79 = B1 VERY GOOD; 60 - 69 = C1 CREDIT; 50 - 59 = C2 CREDIT; 40 - 49 = D1 PASS; 30 - 39 = D2 PASS; 20 - 29 = D3 PASS; 10 - 19 = D4 PASS; 0 - 9 = F1 FAIL.



"Our" six Kids, three girls and three boys, started at Junior High School in 2019 and have been performing as expected for three years! They are all in the top 5th to 7th in their classes. The teachers' comments are positive; "very good and serious student", "calm and obedient student", "good performance". Their attendance in class is almost 100%. The Kids are also involved in school activities outside of class. The Ghanaian board (EDFGH Board) has been provided by the Dutch board (EDFNL Board) with a method for guiding the choice of subjects for Senior High School. There were no funds in 2022-2023 to hire a new group.

## Present EDFGh group:

Id.	NAME, First name	M/F	Birthdate
201	ACQUAH, Misael Gyasi	M	15-Jul-2007
212	DERRY, Rebecca	F	30-Jun-2006
214	FRIMPONG, Fredisca	F	16-May-2007
215	FRIMPONG, Theophilus	M	19-Feb-2007
221	OWUSU, Vera	F	4-Apr-2007
223	SARFO, Wilberforce Osei Tutu	M	9-May-2007



## THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON THE GHANA EDUCATION, THE Edubrain FOUNDATION CALENDAR, AND BENEFICIAL STUDENTS

The COVID -19 pandemic significantly impacted Ghana's education sector, causing widespread disruptions and challenges for students, teachers, and the education system as a whole.

- CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS:

The sudden shutdown of schools in March 2020 calendar, curriculum activities and extracurricular activities like sports and cultural festivals.

During this period, the foundation had 6 Edubrain students enrolled at Joy Standard School in the Junior High school level while they were in the 2019/2020 academic year in the JHS 1 of term 2.

- DISRUPTION OF LEARNING:

The pandemic disrupted teaching, learning, and examinations, leaving students uncertain about their academic future. The Edubrain students stayed at home for a period more than 1 academic calendar which enacted them to enrol on e-learning method to enable them complete the syllabus while at home. As a result, it also impacted the foundation in extra financial cost in fulfilling the students' online subscription studies. The school management charged extra fee in addition to motivate teachers whilst at home to conduct online teachings for students at home. Students were to get furnished ICT centres with internet in their localities or in their various homes with internet access to participate in the e-learning method organized by their school management with the teachers involved. The shift to online learning exposed the digital divide in Ghana, leaving many students without access to digital resources and technology. But thanks to the NL Board and donors, financial resources were available for our Edubrain in fulfilling their academic talent. In September 2021/2022 academic year, school resumed for them to start the face-to-face classes in school for their JHS 3 preparations for the Basic education certificate examination (BECE).

- EDUCATION SECTOR REFORM:

The pandemic prompted stakeholders to consider reforms, including the rollout of full e- learning systems and integrated learning approaches.

Instead of formal academic calendar starting in September, the corona virus impact reversed it into January as beginning of the academic year. As a result, the Edubrain started their Senior High school 1 (SHS) in January, 2023 and ends in December instead of starts in September and ends in August.

Currently, Edubrain started SHS 2 in January 2024 and are now in the 3rd term of the calendar which ends in December, 2024.

In the meantime, they will continue with this calendar format till the completion of SHS 3 in October 2025.

Due to the education sector reforms caused by corona virus, the stakeholders were able to reverse the academic calendar to the normal or previous calendar this year starting September 2024. And it started with the Primary and JHS level, of which the next Senior High school (SHS 1) will start in September, 2025.

Overall, the COVID-19 pandemic presented significant challenges to the Ghana's education sector, but it also brought opportunities for the growth, innovation and reforms.

HERE'S A SAMPLE EXPERIENCE OF COVID-19 IMPACT ON Edubrain STUDENT:

CASE STUDY:

Name: Sarfo, Wilberforce Osei-  
Tutu Grade: SHS 2(Senior High  
school) School: Prempeh  
College High school.

- Wilberforce was an excellent student, consistently scoring high grades in the early stage of his JHS 1 education.
- He was an active member of his JHS School's debate team and science quiz club.
- He had aspirations to study General science program at the senior High school.

COVID-19 IMPACT:

School closure in March 2020 disrupted Wilberforce's final year of Junior High school certificate examination and as a matter he couldn't obtained the highest grade to read General science program in Senior High school.

He struggled with online learning due to limited access to digital resources and unreliable Internet connectivity.

Wilberforce's debate team activities ceased, affecting his extracurricular development.

CHALLENGES FACED:

- Difficulty adapting to online learning
- Limited access to digital resources
- Loss of social interactions and peer support.

POST COVID-19 REFLECTIONS:

- Wilberforce realized the importance of resilience and adaptability.
- He appreciated the value of technology in education.
- He recognized the need for equitable access to quality education.

STATISTICS:

- 71% of Ghanaian students reported difficulty accessing online learning materials (Sources: Ghana education services)
- 55% of students experienced increased stress and anxiety due to covid-19 (Sources: WHO/Ghana).
- 30% of students dropped out of school temporarily or permanently. (UNESCO/Ghana).
- This sample experience highlights the challenges and opportunities faced by Edubrain student and Ghanaian Students as a whole during the COVID-19 pandemic.