



## Child Sponsorship Programme

### **Sponsor Welcome Pack**



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## Introduction

Thank you so much for sponsoring a child through OSCAR International. The OSCAR family is delighted to have you onboard and will work hard to ensure you have a rewarding and positive experience. Of course, child protection is key and it is a legal requirement to ask you to do a little paperwork!

Sponsorship enables the poorest children from the slum communities to take part in all aspects of the OSCAR programme. Participation creates the foundation for change, not only for their lives but that of their family and the wider community.

OSCAR children live challenging lives, which can make them vulnerable to negative external influences. At all times, Child Protection is our highest priority.

The Sponsor Welcome Pack gives you, the sponsor, a clear idea of how the programme works. If you have any questions please email: [sponsorship@oscar-india.org](mailto:sponsorship@oscar-india.org)

A UK Charity, OSCAR International, partners with the OSCAR Foundation in India to deliver this sponsorship programme.

As an organisation, we take the protection of your data seriously and will only use it in relation to activities relating to sponsoring a child with OSCAR. We will never sell it or share it with other organisations. For a copy of our full data protection policy or to change your data preferences, please email us on [sponsorship@oscar-india.org](mailto:sponsorship@oscar-india.org)

## Child Sponsorship - How it works

The OSCAR Child Sponsorship programme ensures all OSCAR children benefit from the sponsorship money. You will be allocated a named child, receive an outline of their life and achievements so far, family details, a video message and photo. He or she will be very proud to have you as their sponsor.

Once a year, OSCAR will send you an update on the child's welfare and achievements. You can choose if you would like this via email or WhatsApp. Sponsors are invited to send messages back, via OSCAR, by email or WhatsApp, but there is no obligation. We guarantee they will always receive them.

If you are planning to visit Mumbai it is possible to meet your child. This is a very rewarding experience and OSCAR will be delighted to host you. Please make contact with Lucinda (at [sponsorship@oscar-india.org](mailto:sponsorship@oscar-india.org)) to make arrangements. Please note you will be hosted and accompanied by OSCAR.

Sponsorship money is used to support the whole OSCAR community. A sponsored child plays a key role in the OSCAR programme and failure to participate will be followed up immediately. Occasionally, for family reasons, children leave OSCAR; if this is the case you will be informed and another child offered for sponsorship.

Sponsored children are VERY proud to know their sponsor's name and your support is highly valued by the entire family. If you provide family photos, they will pin them on the wall!

We would of course love you to continue to sponsor your child over a number of years. The most effective method for us, is for you to set up a monthly direct debit. If however, you would prefer to sponsor your child on an annual basis, we will contact you after 10 months to discuss the renewal of your annual sponsorship. It would really help us if you could let us know if you are happy to set up a monthly direct debit payment or prefer to do this annually.

## Sponsor Code of Conduct

There are 5 key areas. Please sign and return a copy to [sponsorship@oscar-india.org](mailto:sponsorship@oscar-india.org). An e-signature is fine. Just complete the form and attach to your email.

### **1. Contacting and corresponding with your sponsor child**

*For the protection of the sponsor and child, contact with the child is only permitted through OSCAR. Direct contact on any media is not allowed.*

The sponsorship process is dependent upon your agreement, as a sponsor, that you will not contact a sponsor child, their family or community members. Telephone calls, contact via social media, email or unplanned visits to the child's residence and community are not allowed, unless accompanied by OSCAR staff.

Communication between sponsors and children has a positive impact on the child. Sunita Rathod, OSCAR representative based in Mumbai, will be your liaison and happy to facilitate this. Asking questions about their lives and celebrating achievements is a positive way for a sponsor to demonstrate commitment and care.

OSCAR has a duty to review all correspondence between sponsors and children. Please do not include your contact details.

### **2. Protecting the privacy of your child and their family**

*Information about your child, their family or community should not be shared via any medium without the permission of OSCAR.*

OSCAR puts the protection of the children and families first. In particular this refers to photographs. Child protection is of paramount importance. OSCAR reserves the sole right to use the sponsor child's photo. Potential abuse of children's photographs on the internet is taken very seriously.

Please do not download or share photos of the children from OSCAR web pages or social media platforms.

### **3. How to treat your sponsor child**

*We want to ensure the lives of the children, their families and communities are treated appropriately.*

The OSCAR family provides a warm and inclusive environment. Our goal is to change lives through education and football and provide the best possible springboard for success.

### **4. Visiting your sponsor child**

*Meeting your sponsor child can be a life-changing experience and we are confident you will have a wonderful time. OSCAR will host all visits.*

Sponsors visiting Mumbai are in the unique position of meeting their child. The meeting can be held in the community, giving the sponsor a great insight into community life.

We would be delighted to show you the OSCAR programmes. Please see for yourself the positive impact OSCAR has on the lives of the beneficiaries.

Gifting money directly to the child and/or family is discouraged. Any additional donations should be directed through OSCAR.

Please let us know in advance if you would like to visit your child. Children frequently return to their villages, so to avoid disappointment please make your request as early as possible. On rare occasions families may decline this opportunity or OSCAR may have to decline the request.

## Sponsor Commitment to the Code of Conduct

*Thank you so much for sponsoring a child with OSCAR. It is our legal duty of care to ask you to follow this Code of Conduct. Sponsoring a child is a wonderful thing to do and OSCAR wants both you and your child to reap the rewards.*

### **Please read and sign this Code of Conduct:**

1. Any contact with my sponsor child will be through the OSCAR team and I understand OSCAR will review any correspondence.
2. I will not make direct contact with my sponsor child on social media or any other media and I will contact OSCAR if my sponsor child tries to connect with me on social media platforms. I will decline the request.
3. I understand OSCAR will accompany any visit to meet the child.
4. I agree with the OSCAR gift guidelines.
5. I understand the donation supports the whole community. If I decide to support the child with extra funds, I will do so through OSCAR.
6. I understand the OSCAR team may decide to terminate sponsorship if direct contact is made with the child or if there is any potential for the child or family to come to any harm.
7. I understand the OSCAR team has a legal duty of care for all OSCAR children and must report any suspected child protection issues to their local authorities.
8. I understand OSCAR will hold my personal details, and will use only in relation to activities relating to sponsoring a child with OSCAR

Sponsor full name:	
Signature:	
Date:	
Update preference:	..... WhatsApp          ..... Email
OSCAR monthly newsletter:	..... YES please          ..... NO thank you
I would prefer to sponsor my child by:	..... Monthly payments          ..... Annual renewal

*For an e-signature, please complete and attach to an email and send to [sponsorship@oscar-india.org](mailto:sponsorship@oscar-india.org)*

## Guidelines for Gift Giving

### *Gifts when visiting or meeting your sponsor child*

OSCAR discourages gift giving. In our experience it can cause issues amongst siblings and friends and for that reason we prefer to limit gifts to family photos or chocolate/sweets. In exceptional circumstances, we are happy to discuss other ideas.

## Guidelines for Writing to your sponsor child

Please feel free to write a letter or email, with photographs of your family and pets. This should be directed through Sunita Rathod at: [write@oscar-foundation.org](mailto:write@oscar-foundation.org)

### *Here are some hints and tips for writing to your sponsor child:*

- Be encouraging and positive
- Respond to any questions they ask you
- Use the information you know about your sponsor child
- Ask them about specific things in their country and culture
- Be sensitive to your child's living conditions
- Ask questions about favourite footballers, colours or animals
- Describe elements of your own life and ask the child to share about that same element
- Show interest in their education and what they are learning
- Ask open-ended questions about your child's thoughts, ideas, hopes and dreams
- Keep it short; use simple words or pictures

*Remember no matter the length or content, a letter is a simple gesture that says you are interested in them and their achievements.*