

# THE ISLAND FOUNDATION

Yayasan Peduli Kepulauan Riau

Program Overview



## THE ISLAND FOUNDATION IS...

A Singapore-registered international charitable organisation, operating as a Yayasan (not-for-profit foundation) in Indonesia.

We work with remote small island and coastal communities in Bintan Regency, Riau Islands, Indonesia that are underserved and have sustainable development challenges.

Children in these communities face a range of barriers to accessing quality learning that often result in low learning outcomes and children dropping out of school, setting them up for futures with limited self determination fuelled by systemic inequities.







## OUR VISION

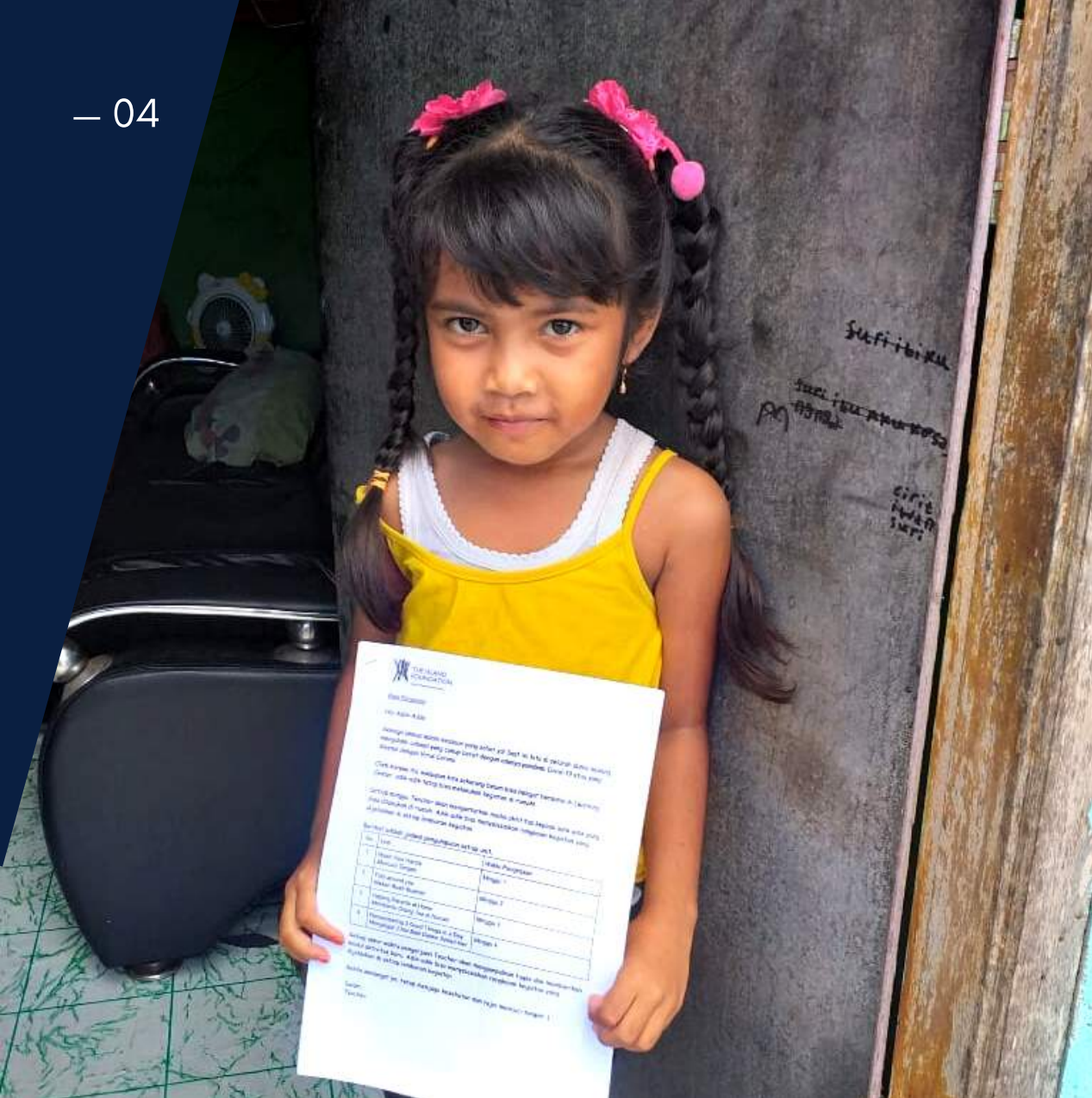
**Childhood learning is a force to serve and sustain remote small island and coastal communities.**

## OUR MISSION

**To transform learning ecosystems in Indonesia's remote small island and coastal communities through learning for sustainability.**

*Growing up free from poverty, healthy and educated, feeling happy and being safe, is the foundation for becoming adults that contribute to the economy, a sustainable environment and a socially cohesive society. Sustainable development ultimately begins with children - UNICEF.*





**HOME LEARNING**



**STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**



**SURVEYS**

## 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- 248 students supported with weekly home learning
- 248 students and families supported with free learning materials
- Eight communities provided with Covid-19 interventions
- Installation of internet connection and computers in three communities
- 20% of parents surveyed on engagement with learning and sustainable development



## IMPACTS OF COVID-19

Students in Bintan Regency have been hard hit by the Covid-19 pandemic. Schools were closed in March 2020 and only partially returned to at-school teaching in January 2021.

School teachers have struggled to stay engaged with students, and students have faced barriers to online learning including financial and technological barriers.

Missing a year of school can have long-term effects on children's lives, from poor learning outcomes to low psycho-social development outcomes.



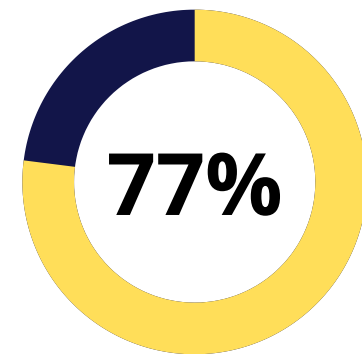




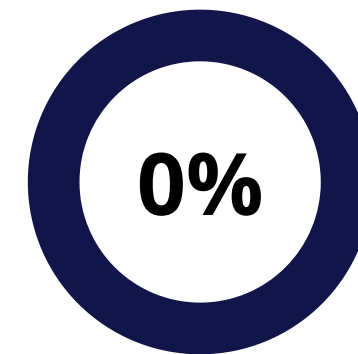
## LEARNING FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Background to our  
program.

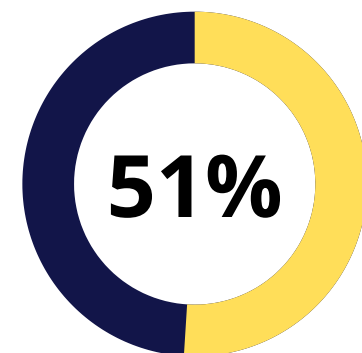
# BARRIERS TO ACCESSING QUALITY LEARNING IN BINTAN REGENCY



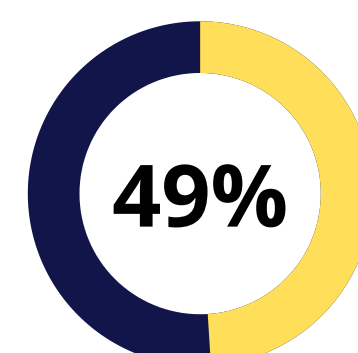
of students from poor, remote and rural households do not complete school<sup>1</sup>



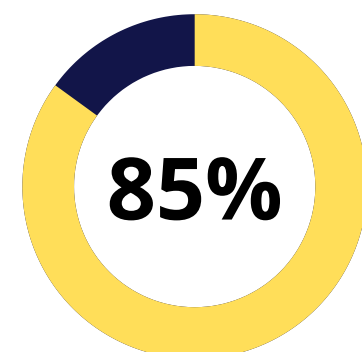
of post-certification primary school teachers rated as pedagogically competent or very competent



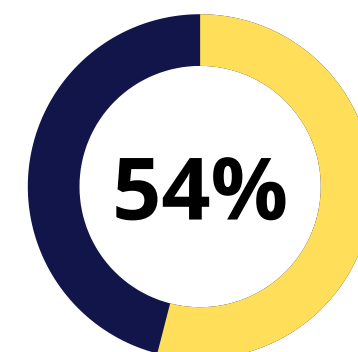
of students speak a language other than Bahasa Indonesia at home



of parents do not understand their child's homework



of households lack access to computers



of households have fewer than five books

1. World Bank, 2020. The Promise of Education in Indonesia.

2. Asia Philanthropy Circle, 2017. Catalyzing Productive Livelihood: A guide to education interventions with an accelerated path to scale and impact.



## OUR SOLUTION

A bespoke Learning for Sustainability program that develops critical thinking, collaboration, confidence and creativity through locally relevant content, outdoor and experiential learning and content-based language learning.

- Designed by professional educators and our own local learning facilitators to include the values, experiences and languages of children who live in remote small island and coastal communities.
- Incorporates education for sustainable development, outdoor learning and the development of higher order thinking and life skills to complement schools and prepare students for growing up in a rapidly changing world.





# OUR STUDENTS

Currently, 248 primary school age students across Grades 1-6 attend our Learning Centres on a regular basis.

## Why primary school students?

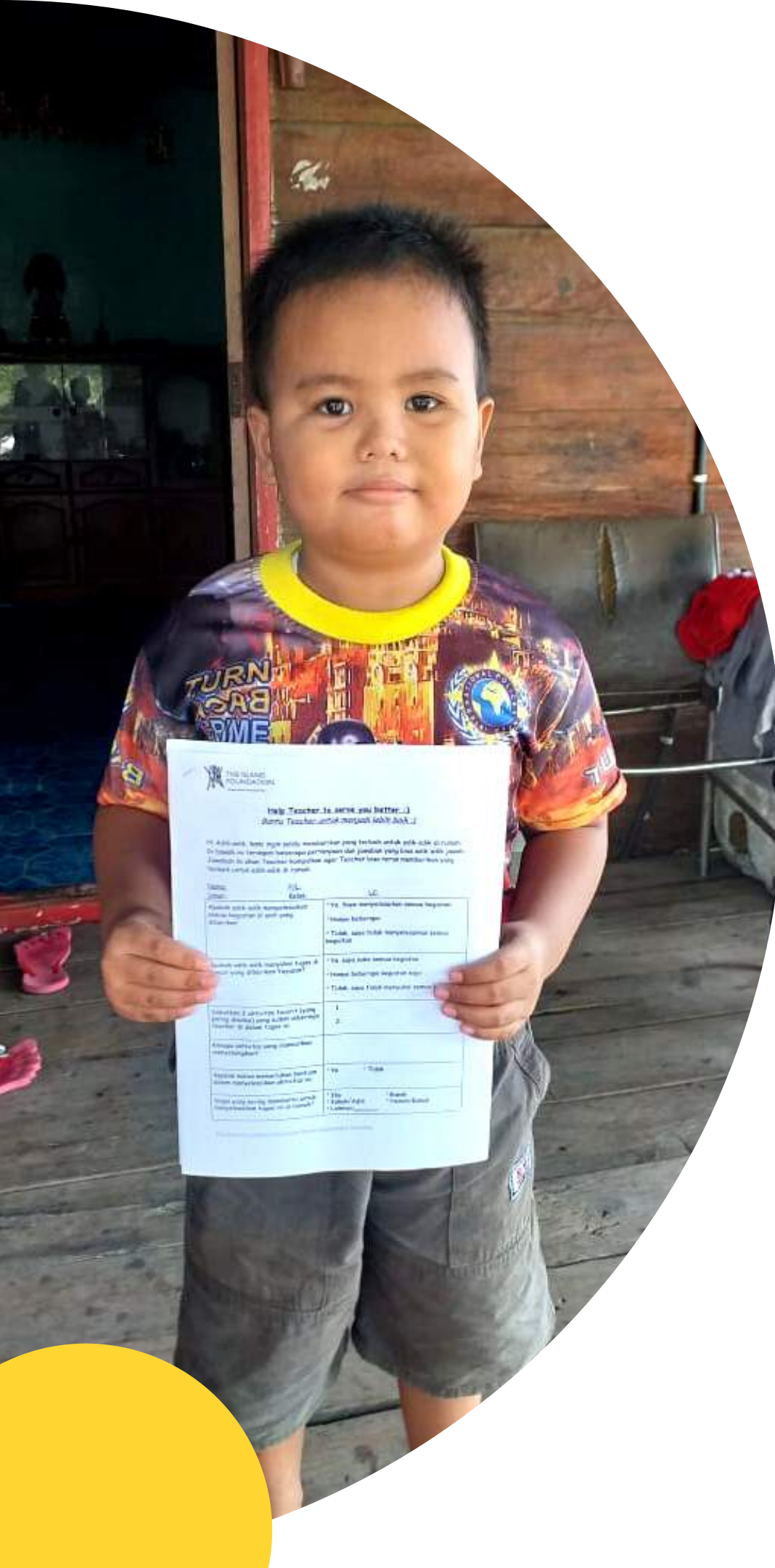
Primary schools students are the largest and most engaged cohort of students in the Indonesian education system, and research shows that ability gained during primary education leads to a higher chance of post-primary school completion.

# OUR LEARNING CENTRES

We operate Learning Centres in eight remote small island and coastal locations in Bintan Regency, Riau Islands.

## Why these locations?

Here, schools are under resourced and over capacity, and teacher quality and professional development opportunities are low. The multicultural and diverse values, languages and experiences of Bintan's children are excluded from the national curriculum, and parents' limited education backgrounds leave many unable to help their children with homework, reading and skills development.







**Watch  
our video!**



Gontor, Program Coordinator, describes The Island  
Foundation's Learning for Sustainability program:  
<https://bit.ly/2Y9OMgL>



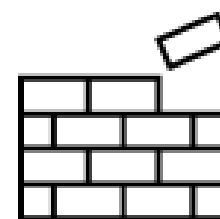
## KEY PROGRAM COMPONENTS



### CHILDHOOD LEARNING



### HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT



### INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT



### STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



### SURVEYS AND ASSESSMENTS

A community-based learning for sustainability program that builds knowledge, life skills and English language through fun, outdoor, practical and experiential learning.

Training of local learning facilitators as curriculum implementers, and training of local school teachers in pedagogy life skills development and experiential learning.











Renovation of community learning spaces, and procurement and installation of equipment.

Collaboration with schools, kindergartens, parents and communities to increase engagement in learning.

Supporting communities through surveys and assessments across issues of sustainable development.



# LEARNING UNITS

Promoting Local Culture			Leading Healthy Lives			Protecting the Environment			
									
<b>History</b>	<b>Society of Riau Island</b>	<b>Indigenous People and Culture</b>	<b>Food &amp; Nutrition</b>	<b>Sports &amp; Games</b>	<b>Health and Hygiene</b>	<b>Ocean Ecosystems</b>	<b>Life Underwater</b>	<b>Forest Ecosystems</b>	<b>Taking Care the Environment</b>
History of Pulau Penyengat and the Riau-Lingga Sultanate	Contemporary history of society in Riau Islands, celebrating diversity and culture	History of Orang Laut in Riau Islands, traditional ecological knowledge, Orang Laut astrology, craft	Eating a healthy balanced diet, learning to grow food, learning about sugar	Traditional sports and activities from across Riau Islands, mainstream sports and games	The importance of water for our health, the water cycle, healthy habits, daily hygiene	How the ocean regulates the weather, produces oxygen, ocean ecosystems (mangroves, seagrass, reefs, deep seas)	Ocean biodiversity, coral reefs, symbiosis mutualism, plastic pollution, sustainable fishing	Forest biodiversity, forest ecosystems, deforestation and land conversion, waterways	How to take care of the environment - mangrove planting, protecting wild animals, fire preparedness, waste



## LOCAL TEACHER TRAINING

For many teachers in Bintan Regency, continual professional development opportunities are limited. Not only does this affect teachers, a lack of quality ongoing training adversely impacts students.

We are supporting teachers by providing high quality, multi-day training sessions that are designed and delivered in collaboration with local partners.

Local teacher training sessions focus on:

- Building core teaching competencies
- Promoting student-centred learning
- Expanding understanding of developing students' life skills and higher order thinking skills
- Improving engagement in the classroom through creative, interactive and practical lessons and activities
- Addressing inequities in the classroom and promoting inclusivity.





## ORANG SUKU LAUT

The waters and coasts of the Riau Islands are home to Orang Suku Laut – an indigenous roving fishing community.

Orang Suku Laut are keen seafarers and fishermen and are new to living on land. Children are often excluded from learning at school because of language and cultural barriers, severe under resourcing and systemic bias.

Tintin (right), leader of the Orang Suku Laut in Panglong, is working with The Island Foundation on community and student engagement. He is passionate about improving the futures of Orang Suku Laut children.

We are committed to supporting Orang Suku Laut students and communities through incorporating language and culture into our curriculum for all of our students to experience and learn.







# LEARNING PRINCIPLES



## ALL OF OUR LESSONS ARE...

### FUN!

We make sure that students and our facilitators have fun during lessons. Learning is about trying, doing and experiencing.

### INTERACTIVE!

We promote interaction among students, and between students, facilitators and the environment – meaningful interaction supports learning.

### INCLUSIVE!

We include diverse local perspectives and students' voices and experiences as a source for learning.

## AND WE PRIORITISE...

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING

Content based language learning allows for English language learning to be incorporated in all aspects of the program.

### LIFE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Critical thinking, collaboration, confidence and creativity (Four Cs) are linked to improved learning outcomes and brighter futures.

### OUTDOOR LEARNING

Outdoor learning promotes active lives and engagement in learning, and supports the integration of seasonal lessons and local content.





## INFORMED BY PARENTS

**93.3% of parents**  
support English  
language learning

**84.4% of parents**  
support practical,  
outdoor and  
interactive learning

**81.8% of parents**  
support the  
development of  
the Four Cs

**89.3% of parents**  
support the  
Learning for  
Sustainability units



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Through Community Engagement activities, we are extending the Learning for Sustainability program out to build awareness about the importance of learning across the learning ecosystem.

Our Community Engagement work prioritises:

- Initiatives and projects that provide a learning experience, for example planting mangroves and clean ups
- Conducting surveys to understand and incorporate community values into the program
- Community and stakeholder events and meetings, and facilitating networks







## LONG TERM IMPACT: KENNY

Kenny joined The Island Foundation at nine years old and stayed until she graduated primary school.

Kenny loved attending the program – she had fun learning to make crafts out of recycled materials and bamboo, making music, going to the beach for learning about marine ecosystems and learning English.

She says, ***“I definitely prefer experiential and practical learning, even now as an adult – I learn best that way.”***

Now, Kenny is in her second year of a bachelor’s degree in business management – the first person in her family to attend university.

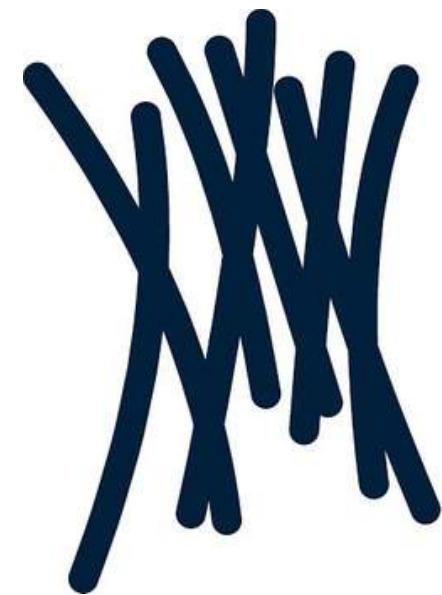
In the months before the Covid-19 pandemic hit, Kenny was volunteering with The Island Foundation.

Kenny says that volunteering, ***“was improving my confidence through public speaking, and taught me about NGOs and working with children – I really enjoyed story telling with the students.”***





FROM ALL OF US AT  
THE ISLAND FOUNDATION, THANK YOU!



THE ISLAND  
FOUNDATION

Yayasan Peduli Kepulauan Riau

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