

## Peter and Jayne Fleming

Location: **Kathmandu, NEPAL**

Mission: **Integral development and teaching**



Throughout Nepal pollution has been a big problem caused by hundreds of forest fires and pollution levels have escalated. On one particular day, Ballymoney was recorded having a pollution level of 1 whereas Kathmandu was over 350!

In April fake news about United Mission to Nepal (UMN) was published and circulated through various social media platforms. It was designed to tarnish and defame UMN's reputation. A false letter was circulated which re-used signatures from an old letter. Nepal Fact Check website and their journalists helped to report it as fake. As UMN are still attempting to get a government agreement, publicity of this nature has not helped.

The role of Expatriate Coordinator is a vital one for UMN, providing essential support, communication, and coordination for expatriate volunteer staff. Felipe Rocha, who has been diligently carrying out this role for the past couple of years, had to return to Brazil. Sandra Chinnery from Austria will take over this role and is undergoing training. Peter continues to support the work of Integral Development working remotely from Coleraine.

Phase 4 plans were successfully implemented for one week after Easter at Kathmandu International Study Centre (KISC) bringing about a short-lived sense of normality to school allowing children to socialise in larger bubbles. On 19 April the government decided suddenly to close all schools in the urban areas of Covid-19 affected districts of Nepal for one month. So KISC has had to resume online teaching and re-implement Phase 1 plans again. On a positive note the majority of the site staff and teachers have now received their first vaccination. May will be busy

for the secondary school as years 10, 11 and 12 complete their Cambridge International exams. The son of Jayne's classroom assistant has had a successful operation and is on the road to recovery, thank you so much for your prayers.



*Photo: Kathmandu International Study Centre*

### Prayer points

- Pray that the government will accept the five-year agreement for UMN and that expats can then be issued with work visas.
- Pray for Sandra Chinnery as she takes on the role of Expatriate Coordinator.
- Pray for the staff and pupils at KISC as they complete Cambridge International examinations.
- Pray for recruitment of secondary staff for next year, particularly the Head of Secondary, and for visas and work permits to be granted.