

# Humanist Schools Teachers' Workshop Conduct, Attainment and Technology

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Uganda Humanist Schools Association in collaboration with Uganda Humanist Schools Trust

**Venue:** Isaac Newton High School **Dates:** Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January to Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2013

**Participants:** Isaac Newton School, Katera & Mbute Campuses, Mustard Seed School, Busota, and Kasese Humanist Primary School.

## AIMS:

1. To orient existing and new teachers to Humanist schools' aims and practices
2. To help teachers improve student learning and performance
3. To demonstrate the potential of computers to improve learning and discuss the care and management of computer networks

Accommodation in the school dormitories – bedding, food and mosquito nets provided.  
Allowances to cover travel and a facilitation fee paid to participants.

**THURSDAY 31<sup>st</sup> JANUARY: SCHOOL MANAGEMENT ISSUES** Led by Peter Kisirinya and Moses Kamyia

2pm **Welcome, introductions and aims of the workshop \***

Presentations on the Humanist Schools:

Peter Kisirinya – Director, Isaac Newton High School (Katera & Mbute) \*

Moses Kamyia – Director, Mustard Seed School (Busota) \*

Robert Bwambale – Director, Kasese Humanist Primary School \*

The Basic Principles of Humanism – Moses Kamyia

Aims of the Humanist Schools and expectations of students and teachers \*

Student health and welfare in a boarding school – Peter Kisirinya

Handling disciplinary problems: Guidance not Violence\*

## DISCUSSION AND KEY POINTS

7pm Meal and social evening

**FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY: IMPROVING O-LEVEL EXAMINATION PERFORMANCE**

8.30am Welcome, introductions and outline of the day (Peter Kisirinya)\*

Raising student performance in rural schools – lessons from the research

Dr Christopher Mugimu, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Foundations and Curriculum Studies  
College of Education and External Studies, Makerere University

Improving Results in Science (focus on Chemistry O-level)

Emmanuel Otim, Chief UNEB Examiner for Chemistry - Head of Chemistry, Makerere College School

Improving Results in English  
Paul Lwere, Head of English, Kyambogo College School

**WORKSHOP GROUPS** – To identify and share tips and good practice for improving exam results in:

Group 1: The Sciences and Mathematics – Chaired by Robert Bwambale\*

Group 2: Arts Subjects – led by Moses Kanya\*

**PLENARY SESSION: SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS.\***

**THE ELATE PROJECT:** How the materials can help teachers to improve performance:

General overview – Dr Mugimu

Chemistry – E. Otim

English – P. Lwere

**QUESTIONS AND SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS\***

7pm Supper and video

**SATURDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY: MAKING EFFECTIVE USE OF THE COMPUTER NETWORK**  
**Led by Daniel Stern of U-Connect**

**8.30** Introductions and welcome – Peter Kisirinya

Using Books to Raise Performance

(a) Educational research and books

Steve Hurd, former Co-Director of ELATE and Open University, UK

(b) Strategies for getting students to use books.\*

One teacher from Isaac Newton School and one from Mustard Seed School\*

Using Computers to Raise Performance

Understanding the computer network

Care and management of equipment

Use of Open Office and comparison with Microsoft Office

Managing student and teacher files

Introduction to RACHEL and making effective use of it

Videos and e-books

Schools examples of how computers can be used to assist learning.\*

One teacher from Isaac Newton School and one from Mustard Seed School\*

**Practical Workshop** to gain hands on experience of Office and RACHEL in subject groups:

**QUESTIONS AND SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS\***

4pm **WORKSHOP CLOSE:** Final review of the findings of the Workshop by Moses Kanya.\*

\* Asterisked sessions led by staff from the Humanist Schools