

Humanist Schools in Uganda 2020



Uganda Humanist Schools Association

Humanist Schools in Uganda 2020

Isaac Newton High School*

Kanungu Humanist Schools

- Kanungu Humanist Primary School
- Brighter Brains Humanist Secondary School

Kasese Humanist Schools*

- Rukoki Campus, Nursery, Primary and Secondary*
- Bizoha Campus, Muhokya, Nursery and Primary*
- Kahendero Campus, Primary and Nursery*

Katumba Parents Humanist Primary School*

Mustard Seed Secondary School*

New Hope Day Care Humanist Nursery

Ongako Secular Pre-Primary School

Pearl Vocational Training College

Star Classic Humanist Nursery and Primary School

*Current Members of Uganda Humanist Schools Association

Uganda, Pioneering Humanist Schools

Uganda is the world pioneer in the development of Humanist schools. The first two, Isaac Newton High School and Mustard Seed Secondary School, were established in 2005 and today there are 12 listed in this first comprehensive directory of Humanist Schools in Uganda.

All schools share the aim of offering an effective, caring and distinctive learning environment for children in needy circumstances. The Humanist Schools accept a duty of care to every student, who has the right to expect:

- The highest standard of education, which provides the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed for success in the modern world.
- A happy and purposeful schooling with abundant opportunities for personal development.
- Teachers who strive hard to develop the capabilities of every student.
- A safe, disciplined and caring environment, which is free from physical and verbal abuse.
- Teachers and students who work together in mutual respect.

Furthermore, education in Humanist Schools respects:

- freedom of thought and expression;
- rational enquiry, science and the need to support argument with evidence;
- human rights, gender and racial equality, and the rights of individuals to choose their personal life stance;
- high levels of achievement and social responsibility.

Uganda Humanist Schools Association (UHSA) is pleased to endorse this Directory of Humanist Schools in Uganda. It lists all the schools that have submitted information. Please note that each school is individually responsible for the accuracy of the information it has provided. At present, six of the schools listed belong to UHSA, and others are in the process of becoming members. Our association's mission is to foster collaboration among the schools and to share good practice. Full information about our goals is set out in our website: <https://ugandahumanistschoolsassociation.wordpress.com/>.

In August 2020, thanks to financial support from Uganda Humanist Schools Trust, we will be inviting representatives from each of the Humanist schools to join us for the 3rd Humanist Schools Conference, which I will be hosting at Isaac Newton School, Kateera, near Masaka.

All of the Humanist schools serve poor communities and request outside financial help to grow and achieve high standards of education and welfare. We invite Humanists, in Uganda and across the world, to help the schools to achieve their aspirations. If you wish to help an individual school then use the contact details provided. To support the schools collectively, please donate through Uganda Humanist Schools Trust (<http://www.ugandahumanistschoolstrust.org/>). All money received goes to the schools.

Peter Kisirinya

Chair, Uganda Humanist Schools Association

Director, Isaac Newton High School

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Isaac Newton High School

a secular Humanist School: "to reason not to believe"

In 2004 the international Humanist and Ethical Union IHEU held its conference in Kampala and, during this historical event, we developed an idea of starting Humanist schools in Uganda. I attended the conference as a Uganda Humanist Association delegate, and we were faced with the challenge of introducing humanism in a community strongly bound by dogmatic beliefs.

Using my little savings in 2004, I set out to build the first building on my family land to house three classrooms and an office. Since that time the school has grown to a great institution in both infrastructure and capacity. We offer a good standard of education to children from all backgrounds without discrimination. The school has grown due to support from Uganda Humanist Schools Trust (UHST) and humanist organisations and individuals worldwide. In the



early years, a lot of support was received from the North East Humanists in the UK through the late Barrie Berkley and his wife Jean. Since 2006 we have worked with Steve Hurd of UHST to improve learning resources and infrastructure. Key developments have been:

2004 The first three classroom block built by the school founder and local community

2006 School hall – Barrie Berkley and North East Humanists - NEH

2007 Alistair Berkley Science laboratory - Barrie and Jean Berkley

2010 Computer laboratory - UHST

2011 Four-classroom block – NEH & book storage room - UHST

2012 Lily Van Haelen Girls' Hostel through - UHST

2103-14 Nelson Mandela Boys' Hostel - UHST

2014 Kitchen house - UHST

2015-16 Malala Yousufzai Girls' Hostel - UHST with St. Louis Ethical Society

2017 Multi-media classroom block with A level Science lab - UHST

2017-18 Barrie Berkley Boys' Hostel - UHST

Other major developments

Piped water system from the valley(1km) – and eventually mains water - UHST

Extension of hydro power grid 3.7 km to school and surrounding villages - UHST

Three Blair toilet blocks - UHST

Underground rainwater harvesting tank (95000 litres) - UHST

Fencing girls' hostel area – UHST

Enrolment: The school began with only 6 students, but the number has grown to close to 600 students. 70 free boarding scholarships are provided by UHST and 30 from school income. These are all allocated to bright children in particularly needy circumstances.

Effect of the School on the Local Community

When the school started, the community around it was poor and lacked basic necessities of life like water and electricity. With the coming of the school electricity and piped water has been extended to the community. The school offers rooms for social gatherings, training events and developmental projects from NGOs and government.

The student Humanist Society engages with the community to improve sanitation and teach local people how to avoid superstition beliefs.

The school has had a very big economic multiplier effect on the community with over 150 people benefiting directly from the schools existence, including: motorcycle taxi riders (boda-boda), farmers selling food to the school, firewood providers, brick layers, sand diggers, cleaners, teachers, cooks and many others.

Bringing power to the area has fostered new businesses, which provide employment and income and help families pay school fees, including grain millers, barbers, shops and bars, metal fabricators, entertainment e.g. video rooms showing football and films.

As the school is inspired by Humanist values, there have been other benefits:

- Students are encouraged to think freely, to question, respect evidence, exercise their aspirations and freedoms, while respecting the rights of others.
- Seminars in human rights and freedoms are held weekly to promote harmonious co-existence, despite divergent beliefs and social backgrounds
- Students are trained to care for and assist fellow students in need and to help the local community to improve livelihoods through volunteering.
- School promotes active learning - emphasising a practical approach to learning and discovery.
- Students participate in all areas concerning their welfare and feedback mechanisms ensure that their voices are heard.
- We use guidance, not violence, in handling errant behaviour and teaching students how to solve conflicts peacefully.
- We work with international the Red Cross and Rotary International to build sense of concern for others.
- We hold weekly debates on issues that affect human rights and freedoms.



Remaining Needs

Despite tremendous achievements, the school has some needs to be addressed, for example:

- A new main hall to accommodate 600 students for assemblies, dining, private study, music, dance and drama performances
- Teachers' houses

Contact: Peter Kisirinya kisirinyainhs@gmail.com +256 (0) 752 653 146

Kanungu Secular Schools Project

Education through Humanism in Sub-Saharan Africa

The **Kanungu Secular Schools Project** encompasses the recently founded **Brighter Brains Humanist Secondary School** and the **Kanungu Humanist Primary School**, along with newly implemented income generating projects and community initiatives. Our main focus at present is on our Secondary school to acquire the infrastructure required to encourage and enable teenaged students to achieve a full and worthwhile education when they are most vulnerable to dropping out of the education system altogether. Secondary education is the stepping-stone to further education and a professional career. The children of both schools are taught using the principles of humanism and evidence-based learning along with the mandatory national curriculum. Both schools are recognised and licenced by the regional Ugandan education authorities.

Location

Kanungu is situated in the beautiful hills of rural, southwestern Uganda, close to the protected mountain gorillas of the Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, a famous tourist attraction in Uganda.



Foundation of the Schools

In 2000, Kanungu was shaken by the massacre of 780 people from the community, mainly women and children, at the hands of self-professed religious cult leaders. Many began to turn away from organised religions as a direct result of this. One of these was a young boy who, returning from school, was witness to the aftermath of the massacre. His name is Robert Magara. Robert completed his education, abandoned his Catholic faith and, after reading 'The God Delusion' by Richard Dawkins, became a Humanist vowing to do all he could to help his community go forward without the confines and duplicity of religious dogma. Robert founded the two schools of the Kanungu Secular Schools Project and began writing a book about his experiences.

Our Schools

Brighter Brains Humanist Secondary School:

(Licence No: ME/32/6169)

45 Pupils from 13 years to 17 years. Head teacher and 12 teachers in rotation plus ancillary staff. Office/staffroom, brick classrooms, the Alan Turing Computer Lab, Richard Dawkins Science Lab and the Christopher Hitchens Library (incomplete), girl's dormitory (incomplete). Kitchen area.



Kanungu Humanist Primary School:

(License No. ME/P/9701)

186 Pupils from nursery age to 13 years.
Head teacher and 7 teachers plus ancillary staff.
Recently repaired brick classroom block (incomplete).
Temporary timber classroom block. Office. Kitchen area.

Income Generation:

Our ultimate objective is to become self-sustaining. We have started several income-generating projects, which aim to provide ongoing resources for the schools and the community. We hope to implement more of these projects over the years.

These include a crop garden, a recently built chicken farm and the potential for a small fish farm. We also have the beginnings of a small, basic health clinic with a qualified nurse. At present, this is located in the town, but we are hoping to expand on this very basic clinic in 2020 by relocating it to the school for community and school use, mainly as a women's initiative.



Fundraising Programs:

We have several ongoing fundraising projects and programs including a successful Sponsored School Fees Program, which enables impoverished children to attend schools. We are constantly trying to raise funds to complete our buildings and infrastructure. Our priority is to provide solar power and safe water for the schools, particularly the Secondary school, as it is imperative that we acquire computer and ICT equipment to meet the mandatory Government requirements for schools.



Visiting Us: As a visitor to our schools, you can expect an enthusiastic, warm welcome by the children and staff, who will be happy and proud to show you around their schools and projects.



Mission Statement:

We believe we are all one family, born equally, with the duty to help one another. We believe in building a society based on human dignity, compassion for all life, inclusivity and ethical values. We believe human beings have a right to determine their own lives and to find meaning based on human relationships and reason. We believe that a high-quality education is the key to empowering children to transform themselves and live a positive life.

Contacts:

Robert Magara (Director KSSP - Uganda) Email: robertmagara2014@gmail

Phone: +256783597272.

Ms.Terri Julians (*Volunteer Project Coordinator – UK*) Email: kanunguschools@gmail.com

Phone 01303254249

Facebook: The Kanungu Secular Schools Project - Uganda

It is the aim of the Kanungu Secular Schools Project-Uganda that, through education and Humanism, the children of Kanungu can bring prosperity and hope to the community and the future of Uganda.

Kasese Humanist Schools

With Science we can Progress

The Kasese Humanist Schools are on three campuses at the following locations:

- Rukoki, 7 acres in Nyamwamba Division, Kasese municipality
Nursery, Primary & Secondary sections: Total enrolment: 240
- Bizoha Campus – 10 acres in Muhokya
Nursery & Primary Section: Total enrolment 260
- Kahendero Campus – 3 acres in Kahendero Fishing village, Lake George
Nursery & Primary section: Total enrolment 151.



What is good at Kasese Humanist Schools :

- All learners can join our schools irrespective of their belief systems.
- We encourage mutual respect and allow students ample time to exercise their beliefs at respective places of worship.
- Our library exposes children to a wide range of ideas on science and free thought.
- There is a talking compound where words of encouragement, quotes have been placed at specific points on campus for people to look at and understand more about humanism.
- Humanist Principles have been fixed on the walls of each class, we expose children to science-based documentary films on people, nature and ways of life and we celebrate important secular days where we remember prominent figures in the field of free thought and science.

- There are various clubs at the schools like free thinkers which holds debates, morning runs as part of physical education and engages our learners in community activities.
- We expose our children to vocational and computer skills.
- We orientate our learners to poultry keeping and give them the skill to look after chickens.
- We encourage and engage grown up children to participate in gardening lessons and at our schools we have gardens to depict the schools love towards gardening. There are demonstration gardens in place to show this.
- We tap music talent by allowing our children to involve themselves in cultural/local and international music performances. We have a vibrant music, dance and drama scene.
- We celebrate secular days in style by reflecting on the themes of those days, sometimes we take part in community awareness activities like planting trees, no polyethene campaigns, say no to belief in magic and superstition campaigns etc.
- Our schools are located on large plots to allow room for future expansion.
- We shelter, feed, educate needy and orphaned children. Most are day scholars. There are a few on full board at our orphanage hostel - Bizoha campus.



How you can support Kasese Humanist School:

As a volunteer to our school

As a fundraiser

You can Sponsor a child

You can sponsor a classroom construction

You can donate scholastic supplies, textbooks

You can donate computers, furniture's, cement or a load of murram or cement.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Mailing address:

Kasese Humanist School

P.O.Box 58 Kasese – Uganda

Director: Robert Bwambale

Telephone: +256785195561

Email:

kasesehumanistschool@hotmail.com

Website:

<http://kasesehumanistschool.webs.com>

Photo stream: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/kasesehumanistprimaryschool/>

School Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/kasesehumanistschool>



Katumba Parents Humanist Nursery & Primary School

Science the better foundation for the future

PO Box 1168 Bundibugyo, Rwenzori Sub Region.

Contact: Juma Siriwayo Tel: +256782872431 irumbajuma.siriwayo2017@gmail.com

Founded in 2010 as a day school. Run & managed by parents

Katumba is a secular school founded on Science

Total enrolment in 2019 was 375, comprising 200 Boys and 175 Girls

There are 15 teaching staff: 6 Female and 9 Male plus 3 ancillary staff.

The School welcomes children from all backgrounds and is inclusive.

Curriculum - Uganda National Nursery & Primary School Curriculum

Optional subjects: creativity /vocational skills for self-reliance, including computers.

School Clubs: volleyball, football, netball, debating, music, dance & drama, health and permaculture.

Our Values

We encourage Katumba children to become responsible and caring citizens, to love and care for others and for the natural environment, In the pictures our students are undertaking community work. The first is a sponsored walk to clear litter from the village and to raise funds to help particularly needy people. The chairman of Katumba Village Council was so delighted with the work undertaken by the children that he passed a vote of thanks in the village council meeting to thank our students and to encourage them to repeat the exercise in future.



In the second picture, our children are bringing firewood they have collected for the family of an elderly, disabled man.



Katumba Parents Humanist Nursery and Primary School has done a lot to create a recognition of the positive contribution that the school and our children can make to the community by their expression of Humanist values.

We run a Child Sponsorship Program where funds are raised from generous outside donors to help bright but disadvantaged children with their school fees.

The Challenges we Face

Katumba School was set up in 2010 by a group of parents living in a mountain village, which had no accessible school for their children. The three founding parents gave up part of their own land to create a small plot for the school. There has been a real community effort to create classrooms from timber hewn from local forests. The school is making good progress educationally thanks to the dedication of teacher who were brought up in the local community, However, we have been under-resourced from the beginning. For the first two years we had no books or other learning resources and relied on the ingenuity of our teachers.



Early in the school's existence a bloody insurrection inspired by a local witchdoctor left 180 children in the school without fathers. So, as well as developing the school we have had to do what we could to keep the children in school paying what little they could. For the past two years Uganda Humanist Schools Trust (UHST) has helped us to support the children and they have bought us our first books and learning resources.

The school is 4km from the small town of Bundibugyo. The area is subject to torrential rainstorms and landslides occur from time to time. The road to the school is unmetalled and extremely rough. Being in mountainous terrain the road has very steep sections and is almost impassable in wet weather, however efforts by the District local Government to level the roads are in progress and visitors to our School next year will enjoy even murrum roads.



The school is on a small plot of land but has some farmland and school gardens nearby. It has temporary wooden structures for the classrooms. A grandmother of children in the school has donated a plot of land to build a new school with permanent buildings. UHST are trying to raise the money to build up the new site in 4 phases over 3 years.

Despite all the problems our children are performing well. Standards of written and spoken English are high. The children are happy and enjoy learning and the other social activities we provide for them. For the past 2 years, 2 or 3 of our students have gained a very special Grade 1 in their Primary Leaving Certificate and they have been awarded scholarships by UHST to enable them to continue their secondary education in the Humanist setting of Isaac Newton High School.

Mustard Seed Secondary School

Commit to Excel

Contact: Moses Kanya +256 777 592 534 mkmoseskanya@gmail.com

The school was founded in 2005 after the international humanist conference of 2004 held in Kampala, where members were encouraged to establish humanist principles.

Location

The school is located in the town of Busota in Kamuli municipality, Eastern Uganda along the Kamuli-Jinja highway, 3km before Kamuli municipal headquarters. It is about 130kms from Kampala, approximately a two-hour drive from Kampala city.

New school Hall: hustings to select student representatives.



Aims and Objectives

- The school aims at offering an effective, caring and distinctive learning environment for children in deprived rural Uganda.
- An education based upon mutual respect, freedom of thought and expression.
- Rational inquiry, science and the need to support argument with evidence.
- Human rights, gender and racial equality, and the rights of individuals to choose their personal life stance.
- High levels of achievement and social responsibility.

Ethos and curriculum

The school teaches the Uganda national curriculum that prepares children for public examinations. In addition, we run the school on the basis of a humanist ethos agreed within the Uganda Humanist Schools Association (of which we are a founder member).

Children are taught;

- To develop self-confidence through independent learning.
- To care for each other and the environment
- To be open minded and questioning
- To practice democracy and observe human rights.
- To avoid discrimination based on race, gender or religion
- To use guidance and not violence in managing negative discipline among learners.
- To share with the less fortunate and offer charity wherever possible.

What to expect at school

A humanist club that organizes debates on topical issues of interest to humanity e.g. democracy, human rights, gender issues

- Humanist ethos pinned in public places like classrooms offices dormitories etc
- Conducive learning environment and friendly staff who care about student learning.
- Use of mutual respect, empathy and guidance as the basis of school order.
- Well-constructed classrooms and dormitories (funded by humanist individuals and organizations worldwide)
- A strong programme of co-curricular activities. The picture shows the victorious girls' football team, winning the District cup.
- Cordial relationship between the school and surrounding community.



New Hope Day Care Humanist Nursery School

Educate a child and serve the nation

Location: Itojo Village, Itojo Parish , Karugutu Subcounty , Ntoroko District

Contact Person: Hellen Mbambu Asiimwe +256 (0) 774851951

email: newhopedaycarehumanist@gmail.com

New Hope Day Care School was founded by two educationists, Hellen Asiimwe Mbambu and Mr Nyakahuma, who believed that education was really lagging behind in our community. Most members of the community in this area were evicted by the government from forest reserve land, where they survived as hunter gatherers and charcoal burners. Children were regarded as a source of labour in these activities (picture shows a child carrying firewood to market instead of being in school). Families found it difficult to make a living in subsistence farming on the small plots of marginal land they were allocated. The resulting poverty led many men to join the groups in Kasese and Bundibugyo in an insurrection, led by a witchdoctor from the Congo. He convinced them that magic medicine would make them bullet proof and enable them to fight government military installations, but many of the men were killed in the process, leaving a community with many children without fathers.



In 2017 we came into contact with Juma at Katumba Humanist School in Bundibugyo who was promoting Humanism. We set up a meeting to take the message to our community to reject witchcraft and superstitious beliefs and to help us to start a school. This led to a huge community effort where the mothers of the children and orphans in Itojo Village, Ntoroko District built our school using their own efforts and local materials from the forest. We are really very proud to be part of a community that has rejected dogma, and is committed to a new future inspired by Humanist philosophy.

In two years, we have built up a school with 167 children, 91 girls and 76 boys, 67 of whom are orphans. We have 4 teachers and 1 cook.

SCHOOL VISION

To provide a safe, developmentally, inclusive environment for preschool, kindergarten and school age children. Our focus is to provide a stimulating early learning and childcare experience which promotes each child's social/emotional, physical and cognitive development.

SCHOOL GOAL

Our goal is to support and nurture the children's and our own natural desire to be lifelong learners. We are committed to the families we serve, providing support and encouragement.

MISSION

The purpose of New Hope day care Humanist Nursery School is to provide and promote high quality, affordable, and accessible early learning and childcare programs to meet the needs of children and families in Ntoroko District. The picture shows our children at their graduation ceremony as they move from nursery school to primary school.



SCHOOL VALUES

DIGNITY: Proclaim the natural dignity and worth of all human beings.

RESPECT: Respect the life and property of others.

TOLERANCE: Be tolerant of other beliefs and lifestyles.

SHARING: Share with those less fortunate and assist those in need.



ASSISTANCE SOUGHT

- We are appealing for friends and all Humanists to support our cause of educating the
- children in this Community. We need funds:
- To meet school fees of the orphan children
- To replace crude temporary structures (as in the picture above), which prevent teaching during the frequent heavy rains.
- For books and play materials.
- To provide more nutritious meals to improve our children's health.
- For school uniform.

Ongako Secular Pre-Primary School

Humanists in Northern Uganda School project started in 2015 with donations from KidsHearstsKids, a not-for-profit charity organisation in the United States of America. This enabled us to construct two preschool classrooms and desks and chairs for the children to sit on. A third classroom with sitting desks and play-swings for the grounds were funded by Pink Triangle Trust, a UK based gay rights activist organization. The Mouton Family, from KidsHeartKids paid the teachers' monthly salaries from 2015 to 2017.



With dedicated and hardworking teachers, the school has educated over 150 pupils who are performing very well in the primary schools they transferred to after completing preschool.

Five years now in operation, the play swings have broken down and have become a great danger to the pupils. Most sitting desks have broken and need repair or replacement. The existing classrooms need painting.



The demand for a well-structured Humanist school, with good infrastructure, in Northern Uganda is greatly desired to help promote humanism in the young people of Uganda.

In January this year (2019) the Executive Committee approved the start of a Primary school section. This was a demand by the parents in the community and those whose children attended the Preschool.

We are devoted in promoting humanism through education and we appeal to all Humanists, Atheists, Secular communities and well-wishers around the world to support our efforts by donating any amount of money to help in the construction of seven modern classrooms for Primary one to Primary Seven, one Library, one Laboratory, Kitchen, safe washrooms for both teachers and children and a



playground for the children. This will attract good teachers and more children in the school hence the school will be able to self-sustain itself.

Wish List

- Washrooms
- Kitchen
- Play swings
- Water Tank
- Solar Lights
- Sitting Desks
- Seven Classrooms
- Laboratory
-

Contact: Payira Bonnie

Email: payirab@gmail.com

Tel.: +256 777 514 505



Pearl Vocational Training College

Ethical, Scientific and Rational

Pearl Vocational Training College is a private initiative registered with the Ministry of Education and Sports to equip the young and the old with relevant practical and technical skills.

It is a hands-on Vocational Training Education institute located in Ttagga-Nakatooke, Kkingo Sub-county, Lwengo District, Kampala -Uganda, East Africa.

This institution began in 2015 guided by a Motto; Ethical, Scientific, and Rational with a view of forming responsible and holistic citizens who are able to live independently.

At Pearl we avail opportunities to the young and the old in a bid to realize their potentials through Practical Courses like Hairdressing and Cosmetology, Tailoring and Fashion designing, Decoration and Events Management, Cookery / Bakery, Music, Dance and Drama, Brick laying among others.



Through these Courses, we stress hands-on tasks and assignments with an intention of producing responsible citizens who are able to create jobs and live on their own. Besides Vocational Training, we also put emphasis on Co-curricular activities where we established and formulated a strong Girls' Football Team to develop talents.

This College was formed on Humanism principles and we strongly and boldly-cherish Humanism coupled with Critical Thinking in a bid to wipe away prejudices, stereotype tendencies using our mental capacities. In order to spread this far and wide, we often times conduct seminars and workshops on Humanism and its cherished values in order to enlighten the public on different aspects which affect our societies.



CHALLENGES

Our College is located in a rural area where most of our Students are unable to meet school dues and other necessary school requirements which often times affect the smooth running of College activities.

INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES

We began Pearl Bakery under the Cookery / Bakery Department which produces delicious cookies as part of our income generating activities to supplement on the College's income and cater for Staff welfare.

In Conclusion, I would like to reiterate our commitment in serving the Community though we are at times constrained by resources to meet the increasing number of interested and prospective Students and needy People.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Headteacher: Peter Claver Birimuye

E-mail: birimuye2016@gmail.com,

Tell: +256782160201 / +256755017502

College Facebook page: [pearlvocationaltrainingcollege](#)

Star Classic Humanist Nursery and Primary School

Po Box ,Bundibugyo, Rwenzori, Uganda

Contact : Agnes Katusabe [+256 773 806 778](tel:+256773806778)

Email: starclassichumanistnursschool@gmail.com

SCHOOL MISSION

To provide quality education, sponsorship and career guidance to the children so that we can make their dreams a reality. The picture shows our children and their teachers.

VISION

To bring hope into the lives of orphans and other vulnerable groups.

In all our work, we strive to:

- engage in dialogue and debate rationally, intelligently, and with attention to evidence;
- recognise the dignity of individuals and treat them with fairness and respect;
- respect and promote freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law;
- cooperate with others for the common good, including with those of different beliefs;
- celebrate human achievement, progress, and potential.



Foundation of the School

The School was founded by 4 parents namely Katusabe Agnes, Kabukalange Apolo, Kabby Baseme who realized the need in 2016. This was just after the 2014 cult which killed many fathers. We realized that there were many children on the street and to reduce this we started Classic Nursery School in 2016. We became a humanist school in 2017 after several engagements with Juma, the Champion of Humanism at Katumba Parents Humanist Nursery and Primary School. He led several sessions on how Humanism could help us fight superstition.

Our school now works according to the Humanist school ethos which we have been able to adopt from Uganda Humanist Schools Association website. We are running the school in temporary buildings of timber cut from trees which were contributed by the 4 founders and the place where we established the school is rented and. However, we are very grateful that through the savings we have been able to acquire our own plot of land where we propose to construct permanent school buildings in future if funding is realized from generous friends and well-wishers of this school.

Source of Income

Our major source of income is the school fees paid by some parents. However, fees are not always paid on time and sometimes families completely fail to pay, ending the year in arrears. Most of our children are cared for by guardians, often the relatives of the men who lost their lives in the insurrection.

We run the school in difficult circumstances, because the guardians cannot adequately meet school fees payment obligations.

Staffing

We have 7 teaching staff members

Non-teaching staff comprises the Cleaner, the Cook and Bursar

School Enrolment is 260 students, which includes 165 Girls and 103 Boys. Orphans are 54.

The picture below shows our pupils and their teachers.

Thank you to all our supporters

The Humanist Schools in Uganda wish to thank the many individuals and groups from around the World who have provided moral and financial support for our efforts to pioneer the Humanist School movement in Uganda. Major partners include:

Atheist Alliance International

<https://www.atheistalliance.org/>

Brighter Brains Institute

<https://brighterbrains.institute/>

Ethical Society of St Louis, USA

<https://ethicalstl.org/>

HAMU: Humanist Action for Human Rights (Norwegian Humanists)

<https://humanists.international/2009/05/hamu-humanist-action-for-human-rights/>

Humanist Aid (Australia)

<http://www.humanistaid.org.au/>

Humanist Canada

<https://www.humanistcanada.ca/>

Humanists International

<https://humanists.international/>

KidsHeartsKids, USA

<https://www.kidsheartkids.com/>

North-east Humanists, UK

<https://www.northeast-humanists.org.uk/>

Pink Triangle Trust

<https://thepinktriangletrust.com/>

Uganda Humanist Schools Trust (UHST)

<http://www.ugandahumanistschoolstrust.org/>

We welcome support from other individuals and organisations who to help us in this exciting venture to transform the life chances of children throughout Uganda by exposing them to high standards of liberal education and welfare based upon universal Humanist values.

*This Directory of Humanist Schools in Uganda 2020 was compiled by Steve Hurd,
Chair of Uganda Humanist Schools Trust for the Uganda Humanist Schools Association.
Amendments and additions for future editions should be emailed to: stevehurd@uhst.org.*