

Humanist Schools of Uganda 2023 Directory



Organisation of Humanist Schools of Uganda
with Uganda Humanist Schools Trust

Humanist Schools of Uganda 2023

Eagle's View Humanist Nursery & Primary School, Buwenge, Jinja District

Isaac Newton Humanist Schools, Kateera, Masaka City

- Kindergarten, Primary & High

Kasese Humanist Schools, Kasese District

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

Kanungu Humanist Primary School, Kanungu District

- Nursery and primary

Katumba Parents Humanist Nursery & Primary School, Bundibugyo District

Mount Ruwenzori Vocational Life Skills School, Ntoroko District

Mustard Seed Humanist Schools, Busota, Kamuli District

- Nursery, Primary & Secondary

New Hope Humanist Nursery and Primary School, Ntoroko District

Ongako Secular Nursery & Primary School, Gulu District

Star Classic Humanist Nursery and Primary School, Bundibugyo District

Counting primary and secondary schools separately,

14 Humanist Schools have submitted information for this Directory.

Pioneering Schools

Uganda has led the world in setting up Humanist schools. The Humanist school movement in Uganda was inspired by the East African Humanist Conference held in Kampala in 2004; a conference run jointly by Uganda Humanist Association (UHASSO) and the International Humanist and Ethical Union (now Humanists International). The idea of creating humanist schools came as a light bulb moment at the conference. Participants realised that establishing schools could be a practical way for Humanists across the world to come together in a Humanitarian effort to improve the life chances of children in poor rural communities in Africa, where conditions were challenging in so many ways. The pioneering schools would become beacons for Humanism by being open to all children irrespective of religion, gender or ethnicity and by where learning was based upon on reason, compassion and independence of thought.

Isaac Newton Humanist High School is arguably the longest running Humanist School in the world. In 2004, inspired by the conference, Peter Kisirinya led a community effort, at the height of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, to clear land and build the first classroom. The school took its first intake of students, mainly AIDS orphans, in January 2005. It is now a thriving school, educating over 1,000 children and young learners from kindergarten to university entrance level.

Mustard Seed School followed closely behind. Moses Kamyia taught his first students in rented rooms during 2005-6. The first two classrooms and registration as Mustard Seed Humanist School came in 2007, using funds raised by the Rationalist Association from readers of New Humanist.

Robert Bwambale opened the first of his Kasese Humanist Schools in 2011 to help orphans, like himself, and other disadvantaged children. With support from Humanists in North America and Europe he has now created 3 nursery and primary schools and a secondary school.

In 2016 over a hundred young men from around Katumba near the Congo border were

killed in an abortive uprising, leaving many widows to bring up children on their own. To unite the mixed Christian and Muslim community, a group of parents led by Juma Siriwayo, decided to model their newly established school on Humanist principles. The school embraces a scientific ethos and welcomes children from all backgrounds. With help from Uganda Humanist Schools Trust (UHST), the Humanist school opened in new buildings in 2022. It now brings hope through education to over 700 needy children in a poor, remote and neglected community.

Robert Magara was motivated to establish a Humanist school in Kanungu, also near the Congo border, by a horrendous cult massacre. In 2000 almost 800 men, women and children were murdered by a Ten Commandments preacher. After failed attempts from 2016 to start a primary and then a secondary school, Kanungu Humanist Primary School opened in fine new buildings in 2022.

Other schools, inspired with the same Humanist vision, include: Eagle's View Humanist Nursery and Primary School, Ongako Humanist Pre and Primary School, Star Classic Nursery and Primary School, Mount Ruwenzori Vocational Life Skills School and New Hope Nursery and Primary School. Each school has been established in response to particular social circumstances.

Seeking long-term Partners

The fact that each school exists is a testament to the hard work and commitment of their founders, teachers and local communities. Some have been fortunate in attracting support from Humanist individuals and organisations around the world, and they are very grateful for this help. Those schools without ongoing support are struggling. Developing a good school is a long-term endeavour. The longest established schools are still not self-sustaining after receiving support for a decade or longer, but they are getting closer to that goal.

Every school in this Directory seeks sustained commitment from well-wishers from around

the world. If these pioneering schools are to become the beacons for Humanism that we all hope for, then it is important that they achieve the high standards of education and welfare that we would all wish for our own children.

Would you as an individual or group be willing to partner with one of the schools and nurture it on its journey towards sustainability. Uganda Humanist Schools Trust has been doing this for some of the schools, but we do not have the resources to help all. We need other individuals and organisations to join us in supporting the Humanist Schools in Uganda. This Directory provides details of schools and contact details of school Directors, who will explain how you might best help them.

Steve Hurd

Chair, Uganda Humanist Schools Trust

stevehurd@uhst.org

<https://ugandahumanistschoolstrust.org>

Humanist Ethos

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, providing 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 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 critical thinking.
- human rights, gender and racial equality, and the rights of individuals to choose their personal life stance.
- high levels of achievement and social responsibility.

The **Organisation of Humanist Schools of Uganda (OHSU)** 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. We are in the process of registering our organisation as an official body within Uganda. We aim to foster collaboration among the schools and to share good practice. Full information about our goals is set out in our original website:

<https://ugandahumanistschoolsassociation.wordpress.com/>.

In August 2023, 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 the Humanist schools serve poor communities and need 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. Or support our work via Uganda Humanist Schools Trust through the website:

<https://ugandahumanistschoolstrust.org/>.

All money received by UHST goes to the schools.

Peter Kisirinya Chair, Organisation of Humanist Schools of Uganda

kisirinyainhs@gmail.com

+256 (0) 752 653 146

Eagle's View Humanist Primary School



Location

The school is in Jinja District, Eastern Uganda, Buwenge sub county, Kaiira village along Kayakka Road about 12km off Jinja-Kamuli highway.

Contact

Muwanguzi Rogers/ Project director
Telephone: +256 776 715116
Email: eaglesviewhumanistschool.com
Website:
<https://eaglesviewprimaryschool.com>
Facebook:
eagles view humanist primary school.
Address: P.O.Box 4821, Buwenge, Jinja District, Uganda

Founders

Isabirye Brian and Muwanguzi Rogers. Muwanguzi Rogers was once a student at Mustard Seed Humanist Secondary School, where he became inspired by the Humanist philosophy.

History

The school was founded in 2019 to combat high rates of illiteracy, school dropout, girl pregnancies and child labour in the Buwenge area. Our aim is to use education to empower less privileged rural children, in particular orphans, those with a single parent, sickle cells and HIV/AIDS.

A community member offered land which we rented at first and some materials that we used to set up temporary classrooms. The community entrusted us with their children

and as the school has grown, we have moved to a new site, which a parent is selling us at a low price and in instalments.

The school currently has an enrolment of 412 pupils.

School motto

Embracing science for a better future.

School Mission

- To produce responsible citizens who are skilful and critically thinking.
- To create equal opportunities for less fortunate, more vulnerable children.
- To reduce the high rate of school dropout.
- To create and build strong relationships with other organizations both national and international who can help us to increase capacity among our learners.

How you can support us

- Volunteer
- Sponsor a less fortunate child
- Fundraise
- Donate towards classroom building

Isaac Newton Humanist Schools



Location

The school is in a rural location 30 minutes from Masaka. It adjoins the village of Kateera.

Contact

Peter Kisirinya, School Director
Telephone: +256 (0) 752 653 146
Email: kisirinyainhs@gmail.com

Address: Kateera Village, Nr. Kaddugala,
Masaka City District, PO Box 577, Uganda

Founder

The school was founded by Peter Kisirinya, an experienced teacher of Physics and Chemistry. Former Chair of Uganda Humanist Association and current Chair of the Organisation of Humanist Schools of Uganda.

History

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 construct on my family land a building 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 decent 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.

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. In 2021 we rescued a nearby primary school. It had catered only for Evangelical Christians but is now run as a Humanist School and is open to all.

When our school started, the community around it was poor and many of the first children were HIV/AIDS orphans. 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 school's 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.

School motto

To reason not to believe.

School Mission

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.
- Students are trained to care for and assist fellow students in need and to help the local community to improve livelihoods through volunteering.
- Our 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 the International Red Cross and Rotary International to build a sense of concern for others.
- We hold weekly debates on issues that affect human rights and freedoms.

How you can help us

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

- A covered open plan area where students can study and read, individually and in groups.
- Dedicated rooms with facilities for fine art and pottery.
- Teachers' houses.

Kanungu Humanist Primary School



Location

Kanungu Road, Rugyeyo, PO Box 187
 Ref No: ME/P/9701
 Village: Kitumbwe Parish: Kayungwe
 Sub-county: Rugyeyo District: Kanungu

Contact

Director: Robert Magara (Uganda)
 Volunteer Project Coordinator
 UK: Ms.Terri Julians
 Email: kanunguschools@gmail.com
 Facebook Group: Kanungu Humanist Primary School - Uganda

Founder

Robert Magara was born in 1980 in the district Kangunu, Uganda. He attended a rural Primary and Secondary school and studied hard enough to go on to college where he attained a Diploma in Business Studies and majored in accounting.

History

In the year 2000, Robert Magara was witness to the immediate aftermath of the terrible massacre in Kanungu by a religious cult. Robert turned away from organised religions and was inspired to help his community through

education and set about using his own family land and acquiring more, to build basic schools which would be based on the principles of humanism. Many people in the area had also turned away from organised religion and harbour a deep suspicion of proselytizers. Robert's dream was to gain the trust of his community and build and run a Humanist school in his home village. This he has done through sheer determination, courage and tireless work.

School motto

Education through Humanity & Equality

School Mission

- To enable the children of Kanungu to have a secular education, free from the constraints of religious indoctrination.
- For the children to acquire education through critical-thinking and evidence-based learning.
- To be part of the humanist pioneers in Uganda and Africa to embrace secular education.
- To enable the children and the community to embrace humanitarian principles of compassion and altruism.
- To give as many children as possible, no matter how poor, the opportunity to know they are valued in this world as individuals.
- To help the community of Kanungu district see themselves as a success story with hope for the future, rather than victims of a brutal massacre.

How you can help us

- Donations towards the infrastructure of our school, which includes buildings and basic utilities such as electricity and water.
- Follow us on our Facebook community and see our journey from the beginning to the present.
- You can join our Sponsored School Fees programme and sponsor a child to receive an education. This is a very personal and interactive way to follow the progress of your sponsored child and is managed by our UK coordinator.

The school still needs assistance to complete the buildings required so that it can become financially self-sustaining as a non-profit business, using all profits to maintain and improve the school.

Kasese Humanist Schools



Location

We have 3 primary and one secondary school in three different locations.

Rukoki campus (Nursery, Primary, Secondary)
Kyondo cell, Scheme ward , Rukoki
Nyamwamba Division, Kasese municipality.

Bizoha campus Muhokya (Nursery & Primary)
Along Mbarara Kasese highway
Muhokya, Kasese District

Kahendero campus (Nursery & Primary)
Kigabo zone, Kahendero fishing village.
Muhokya subcounty, Kasese District

Contact

Bwambale Robert/ School director

Telephone: +256 785195561

Email: kasesehumanistschool@hotmail.com

Website:

<https://kasesehumanist.blogspot.com>

Facebook:

<https://facebook.com/kasesehumanistschool>

Address: P.O.Box 58, Kasese, Uganda

Founders

Kasese United Humanist Association under the leadership of two founder members:

Bwambale Robert and Mulekya Edison.

History

Founded in 2011. It was formally registered in 2020 as the not-for-profit company, Kasese Humanist School Ltd. We are a secular school, embracing Humanist values and with a strong scientific ethos: open to boys and girls aged 3

to 17. We welcome children from all beliefs and none. We teach the Uganda National Curriculum with the additional options of: Humanism, vocational skills and gardening. We have gardens, farmlands, forests around our schools. Our aim is to combat ignorance, poverty, disease and unemployment by arming our young people with knowledge and empowering them with basic vocational skills.

School clubs: Volleyball, Football, Netball, Humanists, Debating, Music dance & drama and Red Cross.

We are a day school with boarding facilities for a limited number of orphan pupils, for whom we provide shelter, food and a caring community. The school currently has an enrolment of 950 pupils at all the 3 campuses.

School motto

With science, we can progress

School Mission

- To create equal opportunities for less fortunate to match with others from well off families.
- To ensure all school going children access formal education.
- To network, collaborate and work with secular groups, individuals and communities globally and foster development.
- To empower young people with basic life-survival skills and give them knowledge, expertise and guidance in them to realize their potential.

How you can help us

- Volunteer with us, send email to kasesehumanistschool@hotmail.com.
- The school runs a Child Sponsorship Program where needy, bright and disadvantaged vulnerable children get assisted and this is possible due to some generous donors who extend a helping hand. Details: Sponsor a less fortunate child through Atheist Alliance International: <https://www.atheistalliance.org/campaigns/kasese-humanist-school/>

- You can donate scholastic and material supplies to our school:
kasesehumanistschool@hotmail.com.

Katumba Parents Humanist Primary School



Location

Katumba is in a rural location 45 minutes from Budibugyo. The school is in Kisendera Village, Bukangama Parish, Bukonzo Sub county.

Contact

School Director: Irumba Juma Siriwayo
 Telephone: +256782872431 / +256757798783
 Email: irumbajuma.siriwayo2017@gmail.com
 Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/374826908127930>
 Address: Po Box 1119 Bundibugyo, Rwenzori sub region, Western Uganda.

Founder

This school was founded and is run by the parents of Katumba, led and inspired by Irumba Juma Siriwayo, a graduate in Biological Sciences.

History

In 2016 over a hundred young men from Katumba near the Congo border were killed in an abortive uprising, leaving many widows to bring up children on their own. Irumba Juma Siriwayo, who had learned about Humanism from the internet, was inspired to help through their newly established local primary school. He brought together the mixed community of Christian and Muslim parents and persuaded

them to run the school on Humanist Principles. The school would encourage rational thinking and science and would welcome children from all backgrounds. With help from Uganda Humanist Schools Trust (UHST), the Humanist School reopened in new buildings in 2022. It now brings hope through Education to over 700 needy children in this poor remote and neglected community.

The community is proud of the new school which has good facilities. The project has united the community around a shared vision.

School motto

A secular society shaped by science and compassion.

School Mission

Vision: To promote children's dignity, self-esteem and achievement by:

- The pursuit of excellence in academic and practical skills and responsible citizenship.
- Helping children from the poorest families, including orphans and the disabled, to gain a decent education.
- To cater for the basic health and nutrition of the pupils.
- To provide children with a sound educational experience, protect their safety and promote their well-being.
- To seek cooperation with outside organisation who can help us to achieve our goals.

How you can help us

In the past two years we have made huge progress, but the challenges continue:

- You can support us by making standing contributions towards teacher's monthly wages and their further training needs.
- Provide school fees for bright but needy children and orphans.
- Each year we rely upon outside help to provide reusable sanitary pads for our girls, for books, learning and play materials for all children.
- Field study trips to widen our children's experience.
- Help us build a secondary school to save children from dropping out of school after

completing primary school and to provide affordable study near their homes.

Mount Ruwenzori Humanist Vocational Life Skills Training School



Location

Our school is at Karugutu, Ntoroko District – between Fort Portal and Bundibugyo.

Contact

School Director: Joseph Bakulu

Telephone: +256760459911

Email:

mountrwenzorihumanistvocation@gmail.com

Founder

The school was founded by Bakulu Joseph and Bwambale Daniel.

History

For many years, historical, socioeconomic and political tensions in the Ruwenzori Region have resulted in deadly clashes between different ethnic communities. The most recent of these, in 2014 and 2016, left many children without fathers. Our school aims to bring new hope to the community by providing our young people with vocational and life skills so that they can gain meaningful work and raise the living standards of their families and of the whole community.

School motto

Vocational life skills training is the answer.

School Mission

Vision: To gain sustainable self-employment through vocational life skills training by enhancing hands on skills for livelihood improvement, economic empowerment and peace building.

We have 12 trainers and 75 students on courses in: Beekeeping, hairdressing, welding, tailoring, computer studies, carpentry and joinery, block laying and concreting, driving.

How you can help us

We need help with learning materials and tools. We would also like to equip graduating students with kits for starting businesses after training.

Mustard Seed Humanist Schools



Location

The school is 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.

Contact

School Director: Moses Kanya +256 777 592 534

E-mail: mkmoseskanya@gmail.com

Founder

Moses Kanya taught history after graduating from Makerere University.

History

Moses was inspired to start his school by the International Humanist Conference in Kampala in 2004. After starting with a small group of students in a rented building in 2005, he attracted the interest of the Rationalist Association in the UK. They raised funds from readers of New Humanist to construct the first 2 classrooms of Mustard Seed Secondary School in 2007. In the years since, the school expanded from 50 students to over 600. In 2021 the school took over the adjacent Muslim primary school, which had collapsed financially during Covid. This added a primary section.

School motto

Commit to Excel

School Mission

- The school aims to offer an effective, caring and distinctive learning environment for children in a deprived rural part of 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.

Children are encouraged:

- 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.

How you can help us

Our secondary school has grown faster than our learning resources and, with the recent radical reform of the secondary curriculum in Uganda, we need to buy many more new books and learning resources, especially for science. Our new primary school has had an initial injection of resources, but still needs many more books and play materials. Many of our buildings were constructed over a decade ago and need major refurbishment. We would appreciate help with all of these.

New Hope Primary School



Location

Our planned new school is in Ntoroko, between Fort Portal and Bundibugyo, on the old Bundibugyo Road toward Sempaya.

Contact

School Director: Hellen Mbambu Asiimwe
Co-Director: Juma Siriwayo
Telephone: +256 774 851951
Email: newhopedaycarehumanist@gmail.com
Address: Ntoroko, Uganda

Founders

Hellen Mbambu Asiimwe with the late Nyakahuma Christopher. The school was founded after meeting with Juma Siriwayo at Katumba Humanist School.

History

The original School was founded by an educationist, Hellen Mbambu Asiimwe, after finding out that education in the Karugutu

subcounty was lagging behind other communities and the entire Karugutu Subcounty. Children were experiencing child labor because the main income activity in this area is charcoal burning and firewood collection is a major source of livelihood. Subsistence agriculture is also practiced on small scale. High poverty levels in the area making it difficult for people to meet their basic needs. Many community members were evicted by the Government from the forest land reserve the land which they had occupied for a long time and this was one of the contributing factors to poverty in this area.

In 2017 we met Juma Siriwayo at Katumba Humanist School in Bundibugyo who was promoting Humanism. We set up a meeting to take the message to our community and implored them to reject witchcraft and superstitious beliefs and to help us to start a school. During the meeting Juma advised us to always be logical, use reason and science to understand the universe and find positive solutions .

This led to a huge community effort where the mothers of the children and orphans in Itojo and Kakogha villages and the entire Ntoroko District built our school using our 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. After considering the contribution by Juma in founding the school I adopted him as a co-Director after the death of the late Nyakahuma Christopher in 2022.

School motto

Educate a child and serve a nation.

School Mission

- To provide a safe, developmentally, inclusive environment for preschool, kindergarten and primary 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.
- Our goal is to support and nurture the

children's and our own natural desire to be life-long learners. We are committed to the families we serve, providing support and encouragement.

How you can help us

- To meet school fees of the orphan children.
- To replace crude temporary structures and build a new school using permanent materials at the new school land located in Kakogha village.
- We need books and play materials.
- To provide more nutritious meals to improve our children's health.
- For school uniform.
- Support towards teachers' salaries.
- To collect water from the source to the school about 3 kms away, the school lacks water which makes it hard for the children's lives while at school (this remains an emergency need).
- We need a bicycle to help us collect water from the source (3 kms away).
- Support for extension of the land so that we have space for a play field.

Ongako Secular Primary School



Location

Ongako Secular Pre and Primary School is located in a Village called Acut Omeer Village, Te Tugu Village, Koch Onagako Sub County, Omoro District in Northern Uganda. It is about 12 Km off Arua Road from Gulu City.

Contact

Director: Payira Bonnie

Tel: +256 775 635 446

Email: payirab@gmail.com

Address: Acut Omer Village, Te Tugu Village,
Koch Ongako Sub-County, Omoro District.
c/o Plot 2A Lower Churchill Drive, P.O.Box
519, Gulu City.

Founders

Ongako Secular Preschool was founded and is managed by **Humanists in Northern Uganda**. Humanists in Northern Uganda promotes a rational and forward-thinking society as a vision.

History

The school started with just one dream, to give early childhood education to impoverished families. Following the organisation's Empowering Vulnerable Girls (EVG) project completion in 2015, the organization thought it wise to educate children of the beneficiaries of the EVG project so their children can get free humanistic education starting with Preschool. In December 2014, construction of the first two classroom blocks started with donations coming from KidsHeartKids, a USA-based charity organization.

The third classroom was constructed with donations from The Pink Triangle. Playgrounds, seating desks, tables, chairs, Printers, and computers were bought from donations from individuals like Dawna Alexander, and many more. Teachers' salaries were supported by the lovely and generous Mouton family.

On 22nd February 2015, the Preschool enrolled over 100 children in all the three classes K1, K2, and K3 with all the children coming from Koch-Ongako Village. They were either orphaned children or children living with only their mothers. The Preschool was initially called HELU Preschool until 15th June 2019, our community approved and adopted a new name, **Ongako Pre and Primary School**. The Preschool has three teachers, one for each class. In December 2018 the Executive Board approved the start of a Primary section. There is only one teacher teaching all lessons. The primary school doesn't have its own

classrooms but is housed in the EVG training rooms.

School motto

Embracing science and reason.

School Mission

Ongako Secular Pre and Primary School is keeping the promise of giving secular education to the young learners in Omoro district with the aims:

- To promote critical thinking through education.
- To encourage a non-violent means to promote peace.
- To safeguard and protect our environment.

How you can help us

- Volunteer.
- Sponsor a less fortunate child.
- Fundraise.
- Donate towards classroom building.

Star Classic Humanist Primary School



Location

Star Classic is set back in the Ruwenzori Mountain foothills on the road between Bundibugyo and Fort Portal.

Contact

Contact : Aaron Maduuka

+256 774 437556

Email: aaronmaduuka@gmail.com

Founders

School was founded by four parents: Aaron Maduuka, Katusabe Agnes, Kabukalhange Apolo and Kabby Baseme.

History

The School was founded by 4 parents 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 realised from generous friends and well-wishers of this school.

School motto

Embracing science and reason.

School Mission

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;
- promote freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law;

- cooperate with others for the common good, including those of other beliefs;
- celebrate human achievement, progress, and potential.

How you can help us

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 children's guardians cannot adequately meet school fees payment obligations.

Our strength is in the commitment of our teachers, who are nevertheless paid intermittently. The few buildings we have are made from mud and wattle and there are large holes in the walls. We have very little furniture, so our children sit on the earth floors. We have no books and no other learning resources. We need help with everything!

Acknowledgements

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 Aid (Sweden)

<https://www.humanisthjalpen.se>

Humanists Canada

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

Humanist Global Charity

<https://humanistglobal.charity>

Humanists International

<https://humanists.international/>

KidsHeartsKids, USA

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

Uganda Humanist Schools Trust (UHST)

<https://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 2023 was compiled by Steve Hurd, Chair of Uganda Humanist Schools Trust, for the Organisation of Humanist Schools of Uganda.

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