



Uganda Humanist Schools Trust

Kasese Humanist Schools

Report by Bwambale Robert Musubaho Schools' Director, June, 2024

School Motto: *With science, we can progress.*



Our most important resource – our dedicated teachers

Kasese Humanist Schools are founded on science and cherish humanist values, which emphasise compassion, reason and tolerance.

We manage 4 schools: 3 nursery and primary schools at: Rukoki Campus, Bizoha Campus at Mukoya and Kahendero Campus, and Municipal High School on the Rukoki Campus.

In June 2022, the school was registered as a not-for-profit company by Uganda Registration Service Bureau. It is registered as Kasese Humanist School Limited and runs as a charity. From mid-2023 our school accounts have been supervised and audited by the Uganda Humanist Schools Trust auditor, Mr. Dan Kasanda.



Robert Bwambale, Kasese Humanist Schools
Director

Kasese Humanist Nursery & Primary School

Rukoki Campus

Rukoki is our pioneer campus and supports a nursery & primary school and a secondary school. The school has its own land which is very spacious with much room for future expansion.



The primary section has 10 classrooms, a school hall, some dormitories for girls and boys, washrooms, computer room, library room, kitchen and latrine for pupils and staff.

We have a team of 12 teachers and 4 non-teaching staff.

Our primary schools operate under a temporary license granted by the Ministry of Education and Sports. We are hoping to soon meet the standards required to become fully registered.

ENROLMENT AT RUKOKI Second Term 2024

NURSERY SECTION

Class	Number of boys	Number of Girls	Total pupils
Baby	13	17	30
Middle	19	23	42
Top	17	15	32
Total	49	55	104

PRIMARY SECTION

CLASS	Number of boys	Number of Girls	Total pupils
P1	18	16	34
P2	20	18	38
P3	17	22	39
P4	15	16	31
P5	13	20	33
P6	14	18	32
P7	14	13	27
Total	111	123	234

Total Nursery & Primary pupils is 338

We have various projects that help to make our school sustainable. We have gardens both on campus and around the area and we have secured some properties that help generate income to keep our school on the move. We have the Bizoha backpackers' hostel and Bizoha hostel Muhokya which generate income for the schools.

We have a forest around the Rukoki campus with different types of trees, these are for environmental conservation, generating firewood, fruit for the children and medicinal trees to help cure several ailments. We also have high hopes that in future the mature trees will generate income, provide timber for construction and school furniture making.

We have small gardens at the Rukoki School where we grow crops like beans, maize, soya beans, cassava, peanuts and we have fruit trees growing around the campus, including papaya plants, jackfruit trees, orange, avocado, mango and soursop trees. Some gardens are managed by students. Others are run by staff of the school.

Bizoha Campus, Muhokya

The Bizoha campus is the second campus run and managed by Kasese Humanist School. it has a nursery and primary school. The school is built on about 7 acres of land.

The primary section has 10 classrooms, all permanent structures. We have a kitchen, a 5-stance latrine, an outdoor bathroom and a small hostel sheltering a few orphans, a clinic building currently serving as a school office, and several staff rooms.

We have a team of 11 teachers and 2 non-teaching staff.



Kindergarten children at Bizoha

ENROLMENT Second Term 2024

NURSERY SECTION

Class	Number of boys	Number of Girls	Total pupils
Baby	13	18	31
Middle	16	17	33
Top	18	20	38
Total	47	55	102

PRIMARY SECTION

CLASS	Number of boys	Number of Girls	Total pupils
P1	15	20	35
P2	12	15	27
P3	16	19	35
P4	13	15	28
P5	15	12	27
P6	17	12	29
P7	13	10	23
Total	101	103	204

Total number of pupils is 306

The school is connected to the water supply run by a local NGO and we allow locals around the school to collect water for free from this tap and from our rainwater harvesting tanks as well.

We have a forest at the school with different types of trees, these are for environmental conservation efforts, generating firewood, fruits for the children and medicinal trees to aid curbing several ailments. We have bamboo and mango trees on our property.

At the Bizoha School Muhokya we have farmland where we grow crops like beans, maize, soya beans, cassava, peanuts. Farming here is extensive and we use tractors to farm the fields. We do extensive farming too at the Bizoha farmland located in Rutoke, lower Muhokya, where irrigation is applied, this gives us opportunity to plant enough crops to feed

the staff and students at the Muhokya , Rukoki and Kahendero.

Our school continues to improve in national exams. Last year a total of 45 pupils sat for the primary leaving exam and all passed with 1 first grades, 33 in Division Two, and 11 in Division Three.

We have football, netball as major games played, our children participate in music, dance and drama. We have indoor games like chess, scrabble played at school.

We participate in keeping our environment clean by removing litter around our school, in nearby forest areas and around Majengo trading centre.

Our Bizoha Humanist Centre offers budget accommodation to locals and shelters the local community-based organization office for Bizoha Women Empowerment Group.

The school offers farming spaces to vulnerable locals, where they can farm for free in exchange for a small contribution of food to the school.

Kahendero Campus

The Kahendero campus is the third campus run and managed by Kasese Humanist School. It has a nursery and primary school. The school is built in a fishing village, bordering Lake George in Queen Elizabeth National Park.

The nursery and primary section has 10 classrooms, all permanent structures. We have a kitchen, a 4-stance latrine, a small house acting as a clinic at the same time sheltering a staff member, we have a school hall currently being used as a classroom.

We have a team of 11 teachers and 2 non-teaching staffs.

We have a flourishing forest at the school with different types of trees, these are for environmental conservation efforts, generating firewood. Acacia trees dominate the trees planted at this school.

ENROLMENT at the close of Second Term 2024

NURSERY SECTION

Class	Number of boys	Number of Girls	Total pupils
Baby	22	18	40
Middle	15	20	35
Top	17	20	37
NET TOTAL	54	58	112

PRIMARY SECTION

CLASS	Number of boys	Number of Girls	Total pupils
P1	15	16	31
P2	12	20	32
P3	16	9	25
P4	13	22	35
P5	12	10	22
P6	8	12	20
NET TOTAL	76	89	165

Total number of pupils in this school is 212.





Kindergarten children take after lunch nap

The fact that this school borders Lake George means that there is lots of fishing activity and most of our parents earn a living from fishing and others are peasant farmers or running small businesses at the fish landing site.

The teachers with great passion for farming have benefitted from our Bizoha farmland located in Muhokya where we give out free land to farm crops for themselves and some to benefit the Kahendero school.

Our school continues to improve in the local exams, this school only has classes ending at Primary Six, and thereafter our pupils are transferred to the Bizoha campus for their P.7.



Families earn income from fishing

We have football, netball as major games played, our children participate in music, dance and drama, skipping as well. We have indoor games like chess, scrabble.

Recent Infrastructure Improvements

Our Rukoki campus staff room now has a new look, I added a ceiling and more office chairs.

UHST has enabled us to bring a new look on our girls' and boys' dormitories where we divided them into small family rooms which are better lit and have a smart ceiling and floor. We added robust and safe metal double bunk beds.

Our verandas on the primary classroom block and school hall have been tiled to ensure a smart look and easy cleaning.

Thanks to UHST we have received more learning textbooks from Aristoc and local bookstores. This ensures better access to learning tools and resources for both our pupils and teachers.

I constructed more rooms at our Kahendero school staff quarters to ensure more teachers to get affordable accommodation.

I connected the Kahendero School to the power grid putting the school at a better position to have computers. Having lighting on the site at night also discourages elephants and other marauding animals from spoiling our school fence and classrooms.

At the Muhokya Bizoha Campus, early this year, I added a school gate and made some renovations on the orphanage hostel, adding a coat of paint.

I also renovated the entire nursery classroom block at this school, fixed smooth floors and added a coat of paint.

Our Sustainability Projects

Parents of children in our schools are poor. So we try to keep school fees low and find other ways to supplement school income:

- We grow some of our own food and generate extra income from selling produce using land around the school.
- Rent from our Bizoha backpackers' hostel (currently used as a medical private centre) and income from our auto servicing business is used to help us pay staff salaries and meeting other school costs.
- We help teachers to upgrade their teaching qualification. Currently Masereka Solomon, Komuhindo Shamim and

Kabugho Sumaya are taking teaching Diplomas.

- We give some teachers' plots of land on which they can grow crops to feed their families.
- We offer some free accommodation to teachers from far away who want to be closer to the school.
- Our child sponsorship programme helps us to educate orphans and other needy children.
- Through our Science and Humanist Clubs, we involve our children in Tree Planting Campaigns to improve our local environment and that of the planet.



- We have installed rainwater storage tanks to make water available for pupil hygiene and for watering seedlings.
- Our children work in the trading centre near the school to remove litter, especially polythene bags.
- At Kahendero and Muhokya schools we make available our stored rainwater to local families, when water is short.

Municipal High School, Kasese

Municipal High Humanist School started as our secondary section in 2017. It is located on the Rukoki Campus. It began with only 7 students, but now has 102.

SCHOOL ENROLMENT IN JUNE 2024

CLASS	BOYS	GIRLS	Total
Senior 1	12	12	34
Senior 2	13	15	28
Senior 3	10	14	24
Senior 4	13	13	26
TOTAL	48	54	102

The school has a teaching staff of 14 and of these 11 are professional teachers while the others are Senior 6 leavers or graduates outside education. Non-teaching staff employed at the school are a secretary/bursar, librarian and cook and this makes the total number of staffs to 17.

We teach both Arts and Sciences as specified by the Uganda secondary school curriculum. We also teach Humanism, Humanist values and principles and provide vocational skills training, through gardening and tree planting activities around the school. We have the following Clubs: Humanist, Science, Entrepreneur, Debating.

We have spacious classrooms for our students and are all permanent structures. Most of our candidates have excelled and passed their exams. At Senior 4 we have registered no

failures. Our high school is fully registered with the Ministry of Education and Sports. We are a registered Examination Centre for UNEB School Certificate (O-level). So, our students can sit for their UNEB papers on campus. Our enrolment has had a positive trend and its increasing year by year, we have moved all the way from 7 students and now at 102 students.

RECENT PROGRESS

Support from Uganda Humanist Schools Trust has enabled us to:

- Buy many more books, refurbish and enlarge our library, fitting more bookshelves, and tables and chairs where children can read books and carry out research.

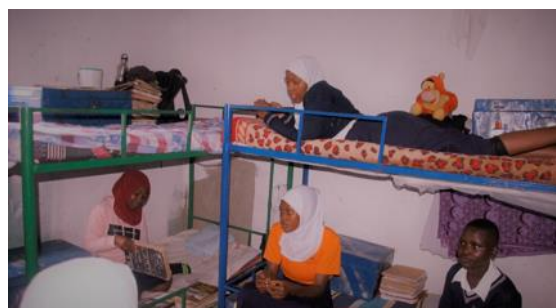


Children enjoy reading in our refurbished library

- Bring 10 more bright children from poor homes into the high school on day scholarships.
- Enlarge and refurbish our science lab. New furniture has been made and we have bought more science equipment and chemicals.



- Refurbish our small boys' and girls' dormitories and buy decent metal bunk beds.



The improvements we have made are helping us to give our children a good start in life. Each year more of our students become teachers, nurses, mechanics, drivers, businesspersons and small-scale business owners. A few each year are advancing in tertiary institutions to be doctors, lawyers and engineers.

WE WISH TO THANK

- Uganda Humanist Schools Trust for stepping up the scale of support with scholarships and infrastructure improvements.
- The Scientific Temper charity for providing additional lab supplies and some desktop computers.
- School staff and parents for their good work and tireless effort to keep the school alive and growing.
- The local authority and education department at the district level for their helpful advice and support.

- Humanist Aid Sweden and Kalmar Humanist community for supporting us through UHST.
- The Ethical Society of St Louis for providing our girls with sanitary pads.



Kasese girls are happy to receive their Afripad packs from the Ethical Society of St Louis

FURTHER HELP WE SEEK

The needs of our 3 primary school and in the high school are many if we are to bring them up to the standards our children and teachers deserve.

- To meet the needs of the new curriculum we need a purpose-built computer lab with internet-enabled computers.
- More scholarships will bring bright children from needy families into our school and improve our sustainability.
- The revised secondary school curriculum requires more tools and other materials for vocational subjects.
- More solar panels to light up our school and reduce electricity costs.
- We need to drill a bore hole and add gutters and tanks to harvest rainwater.
- We seek help with course fees to enable our staff to gain diploma and degree courses in education.
- The Bizoha School at Muhokya needs connecting to the power grid.
- Volunteers who wish to work in our schools are always highly welcome.

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<https://kasesehumanist.blogspot.com>

School facebook page:

<https://facebook.com/kasesehumanistschool>

Twitter (X) Handle:

<https://twitter.com/kasesehumanist>

Supporting the Humanist Schools

If you feel you or your group would like to help us to support Kasese and other Humanist Schools in Uganda, or to sponsor a student then please contact stevehurd@uhst.org (07773 972601).

Donation forms can be found at:

<https://ugandahumanistschoolstrust.org/donate/>