

# UGANDA NEWSLETTER 2025



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REGULAR EMAIL UPDATES



**EDUKID**

*Education for a brighter future*



## Dear Supporters,

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone for your support and love towards our Uganda project.

2025 has been a busy and exciting year! From providing clean water to over 1,800 children, to graduation ceremonies and overseas trips, we have so much to share with you. Included in this update is just a small selection of the wonderful stories we've had the privilege of witnessing this year!

As part of our Global Citizenship Programme, we are also delighted to be launching our brand new Virtual Reality (VR) lessons which can be brought into the classroom, offering students the chance to visit Uganda all from the comfort of their classroom!

Your support has been vital in transforming the lives of some of the most vulnerable children by providing them with the opportunity to access their right to an education.

As always, thank you for your continued love and support for the children in Uganda!

**Please update your gift aid form by scanning the QR code. Increase your donation by 25% at no extra cost!**





# Supporting 1,800 Students With Clean Water

## Becca's "Miles For Smiles"

In October 2023, Becca and her son travelled to Uganda on an Edukid trip. During her visit, she noticed that the water source at Koch Goma school, previously constructed by the local government, had become unreliable and inadequate for the school and surrounding community. Motivated to make a difference, Becca, her husband Rick and family set out to raise money for a new, more reliable borehole that would provide clean, safe water to the children and the wider community in Koch Goma, Northern Uganda.



Fast forward to the beginning of 2025, and their "Miles for Smiles" journey has been truly inspiring! From running events like the Bristol Half Marathon, Manchester Marathon and Bristol 10k, Becca and Rick have been tirelessly raising funds for this vital cause.

**And the fantastic news is that the borehole was ready to use in January 2025!**

The students of Koch Goma returned to school in Uganda in February, and this was such a wonderful welcome for them, ensuring clean water was available when they arrived back after the holidays. What a beautiful start to the new school term!

A massive THANK YOU to Becca, Rick, and their family for their hard work and dedication – and to everyone who has supported them along the way!





# Bonga Girls Graduation

In March 2025, a significant milestone was reached for the young women enrolled in the Bonga Girls Programme. A total of 80 girls successfully completed the programme and celebrated during their graduation ceremony, having received valuable training in various vocational skills such as baking, hairdressing, and tailoring.

These young women, who had previously been denied access to education, faced numerous challenges in their lives. Many were at high risk of child marriage, domestic violence, and other forms of abuse. The Bonga Girls Programme has not only provided them with the opportunity to acquire essential skills but has also empowered them with the knowledge and confidence to build brighter futures for themselves, their young children and families.

This day was filled with special memories, and an opportunity to honour the resilience, courage, and determination of these young women.

This programme marks a turning point for these girls, offering them an opportunity to become self-sufficient, improve their living conditions, and break the cycle of poverty and abuse that they were once trapped in. The Bonga Girls Programme continues to make a lasting impact by providing these girls with the tools they need to thrive.





# Gender Equality

Period poverty, or the lack of access to sanitary products, is a harsh reality for many of the girls we support in Northern Uganda. Many girls struggle to access sanitary towels due to financial constraints and the high cost, as well as limited availability of sanitary products within the local, rural villages.

Due to the lack of access to sanitary products, and the stigma around periods, many girls isolate themselves at home and miss an entire week of school each month. This can significantly disrupt their learning and can cause them to fall behind in their studies. Girls are also forced to make do with unsafe materials, such as old rags as replacement pads, which can cause huge vulnerability to infections.

On a recent Edukid trip, the team distributed 50 packs of reusable sanitary towels, thanks to a very kind donation from Dignity by Design, to the young women enrolled within the Bonga Girls programme. Each pack contained 5 pads and they were made from towels and cotton and were designed to be soft, durable and easy to clean. Our local, in-country partners provided teaching and offered information to the girls on how to use the pads and how to clean and take care of them.

Importantly, the donated sanitary pads offer a sustainable solution to period poverty and ensures all girls can access sanitary products to help them stay in school!



**“Every girl deserves access to education, safety and dignity! Sanitary pads are not a luxury - they are a basic necessity for every girl”.**



## **Darcey's Fundraising Story!**



As part of her volunteering for the Duke of Edinburgh Award, Darcey completed a sponsored silence to “represent women and girls from many diverse areas with no voice”.

Her fundraiser raised a fantastic £456! Thank you so much for supporting girls with reusable sanitary products and helping to fight period poverty.

# 2025 Graduations

## Gerald's Story



Gerald starting Primary School

Gerald who lives Northern Uganda had a tough start to life. He grew up living in extreme poverty and although he was old enough to be in school, he had been forced to drop out. His family simply could not afford schools fees or the equipment needed such as scholastic materials and uniforms that would allow him to continue his education.

Later that year, Edukid met Gerald and moved by his story, we stepped in to support him and ensure he could return to school. Gerald has since been supported by Edukid through primary school, and he has excelled his way through secondary school and university.



Gerald graduating University

Gerald has recently graduated from university with a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering! Since graduating, Gerald has been working and training in a local garage, where he has been using his skills to gain invaluable hands-on experience. Using his skills, he is also working at a local college teaching students about Mechanical Engineering. He is passionate about sharing his skills and knowledge with the next generation of learners.

**His next dream?** To pursue further education in a more specialised field of mechanical engineering and eventually start his own business. When speaking to Gerald on a recent visit to Uganda, he said:

*"My vision is to provide skills, training and job opportunities to local children who lack opportunities. I believe this will build and empower the community".*

We're so excited to see Gerald continue to grow and give back to his local community.

Gerald's story is a clear example of the importance of education, and its power to break the cycle of poverty. It also serves as a reminder to us, that education can cause positive, ripple effects throughout the entire community.



Gerald with the students he is teaching.



# Empowering Students Through Vocational Training

## Patrick's Story

Patrick, a former Edukid student, completed vocational training with Amigos Worldwide, earning certificates in Carpentry and Joinery, Domestic Electrician work, and Beekeeping. Now back in Gulu, he runs a home-based workshop where he trains others in carpentry and produces items like stools, benches, and bee hives. He has also become a commercial bee farmer with over 20 hives and supports the Edukid farm by maintaining their apiary and selling honey. Patrick has established his own farm, growing both food and cash crops such as sunflowers, maize, soya, and beans. Through his efforts, he is improving lives in his community while building a better future for himself.



## Paul's Story

Paul, who from a young age was supported through education by Edukid, has recently enrolled on a Motor Vehicle Mechanic programme to pursue his dream of becoming an engineer.

Paul had a tough start to life, growing up as an orphan and navigating his life with his older brother and his wife. For many years Paul stayed at home, and worked the farm with his brothers and did not have the opportunity to attend school, unlike his peers.

However, in 2024, Paul proudly completed his primary school education, and decided to pursue vocational education, excited to explore various skills and find his passion. Currently, Paul is enrolled in a Motor Vehicle Mechanic programme at a technical school in Gulu where he is putting his education and skills in practice. Paul's story highlights the power of education, and he is on the path to becoming the engineer he's always dreamed of. His bright future is just beginning!



## Flavia's Story

Flavia has recently graduated with a vocational degree in Fashion & Design from Northern Uganda Youth Development Centre.

What started as a way to make a living has now become a steady source of income that not only supports her financially but also plays a crucial role in helping her family. Since graduating, Flavia has used her education and skills to create her own business. She is now busy sewing clothes for customers within her community.

Her story is a powerful reminder of how education can open doors and create opportunities for a better future, not only for individuals but for families and wider communities.



# Overseas Trips

## Morris's Story

During a recent trip, one of the groups visited Morris who is 17 years old and lives at home with his 6 sisters. The children have lost both their parents and are orphans. They now live with their elderly grandparents. The grandmother and sisters sleep in the Banda used for cooking and have chronic chesty coughs from the smoke. The family have little food and can barely afford school fees.

After the groups visit, they felt moved to buy food, mattresses and mosquito nets as emergency short term help for the family. Goats, hens and tools were purchased at the local market to provide an income in the medium term. The group also had the opportunity to plant the family some banana trees as a sustainable source of food, as well as replacing the Banda roof for extra ventilation.

Most importantly, Morris will be supported with his education thanks to members of the group. Education remains the long-term solution to breaking the cycle of poverty from which these families are trying to escape.



*Join Edukid On A Trip To Uganda*

**This trip is open to everyone – students, adults, and anyone interested in making a positive impact! Please feel free to share this opportunity with friends and family who might be interested in joining us in Uganda!**

**October  
2025**

**July  
2026**

**October  
2026**



# Edukid's Global Citizenship Programme

NEW



Edukid's core focus is education, therefore in the UK we partner with primary, and secondary schools, as well as colleges and universities with the aim of educating, inspiring and empowering pupils. We seek to educate students about global issues and further inspire and empower them to react to these lessons, applying their learning and exercising their roles as Global Citizens in order to make a difference in the world.

As part of our Global Citizenship Programme, Edukid is excited to introduce our Virtual Reality (VR) lessons which can be brought into the classroom, offering students an immersive way of learning.

## THE AIMS OF THE VR EXPERIENCE



Inspire pupils to be passionate about the world and the people in it, and to empower them to become Global Citizens with the power to make a difference.



Through this immersive learning experience, Edukid aims for children to develop cultural awareness, and therefore empathy with the desire to support these communities.



The lessons provide examples of how you can embed the VR experience into your curriculum, with links to Geography, PSHE, ART and opportunities for cross-curricular learning in English.



To find out more about Edukid's VR Experience, and bring immersive learning into your class, please email [christurner@edukid.org.uk](mailto:christurner@edukid.org.uk)

# Generous Fundraising!



A huge congratulations to Fin, Freddie, and Will for their incredible achievement of completing a 15,000ft skydive to raise funds for their trip to Uganda! It was an absolute pleasure to have you all on our recent trip to Uganda.

Thank you to everyone who donated and supported them along the way!



A big thank you to Peak Online and Alexia from A S CARS for their generous, and personalised donation of a team football kit to the students of Koch Goma School in Uganda. This thoughtful contribution came after Alexia's daughter visited Uganda with Edukid last year. Inspired by her experience, Alexia wanted to make a meaningful impact and decided to support the school's football team with a full, matching kit!



Scarlett has been busy fundraising for her trip to Uganda. Over the past few weeks Scarlett has cooked a lunch for 6 foreign students while they study in the UK. Scarlett also made Mother's Day gifts - candles and beaded bracelets. She also put together a hamper that her dad took to a meeting and they held a heads and tails competition to win the hamper! We are looking forward to you joining us in Uganda in July!



A huge thank you to Clovelly Road Community Pantry in Bideford for the generous donation of 300 rolls of wool to our tailoring project in Uganda. We recently visited Uganda, gifting the wool to the ladies who lead the tailoring project. There was lots of excitement and creative ideas and we are looking forward to seeing their visions come to life!

Thank you for helping to empower these incredible women in creating sustainable sources of income for themselves and their families.



# Thank You So Much!

Thank you so much for your continued support in helping us transform the lives of those living in extreme poverty. Your generous donations ensure that the positive changes we've already witnessed will only grow, allowing us to reach more children, families, and communities in need.

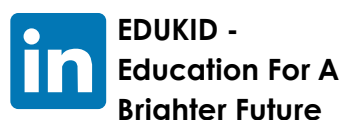
Former students like Gerald, Patrick, Paul, Flavia and the young women enrolled in the Bonga programme, whom we feel so honoured to have watched grow up and flourish, demonstrates just how important and life-changing education is and therefore how meaningful your regular support is.

Their stories are just a few of many, and thanks to you, many more will follow.

With heartfelt gratitude and love,

The Edukid Team X

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