

History of Kakunyu School

2000

Three concerned parents of children with disabilities were seated under the trees, sharing ideas on how best to help their children. The idea of forming a Parents' Support Association, and of starting a school in Kakunyu village, came to their mind.

2005

The school was started in two small rooms at the home of the school's founder, Kabiito Mary. There were then six children, most with multiple disabilities, and some orphaned. Funding from Douglas College in Canada enabled the first classroom block to be built in the compound at Mary Kabiito's home.

2008

In November 2008, the school was visited by a group from *Send A Cow* in the UK. As a result, the Parent Support Group received funding from a well wisher in the UK, which meant that the first three new classrooms could be built on a separate piece of land.

2009

The school building was finally finished along with the latrine blocks, and by the end of the year the Parents' Support Association were preparing to welcome the first children to the school.

2010

On the 6th April 2010, children with special educational needs and staff were welcomed in to the new school.

2011

In February 2011 at the start of the new academic year, a new nursery class was added and the school welcomed the first nursery school children.

At the end of the 2011 academic year, Kakunyu School had 69 students - 28 boarders and 30 day students, with 11 based at home. Kabiito Mary is the Association's Director, and there are 3 teachers, two caretakers, one cook, a matron, a porter and a security guard.

"According to my experience, with my own children and others with disabilities, I strongly believe that if early intervention is given, and proper management is done at the right time, the child can improve and live an independent life to an extent.



In other words, if a child gets help at the right time, that child can realise its full potential."

Kabiito Mary, Director Kakunyu School

Many individuals and organisations have supported, and continue to support, Kakunyu School, including:

- Ministry of Education and Sports
- Masaka District Local Government
- Uganda Society for Disabled Children (USDC)
- Uganda Parents of Children with Learning Disabilities (UPACLED)
- Uganda Parents with DeafBlind Children Association (UPDBCA)
- Sign Health Uganda
- Lwengo District Local Government
- Sense International (East Africa)
- Terre des Hommes (TdH)
- Douglas College, Canada
- James Brindley School, UK
- The Performance Coach, UK
- Send a Cow

We thank them all for their help.

Kakunyu School
for nursery children and
children with special educational needs
Kakunyu, Mbarara Rd, 7 miles from Masaka Town
Lwengo, SW Uganda

If you would like to support our work, please visit our website at www.kakunyuchildren.org

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for nursery children and
children with special educational needs



Lwengo District,
Near Masaka, SW Uganda

Our Vision

To create a school for nursery children and children with special educational needs, and all their different capabilities.

Our Mission

To promote the individualised capabilities of all children, be they nursery children or children with special needs, and to increase their self reliance.





Kakunyu School is for nursery children up to the age of 6, and children with special educational needs. It is one of the few schools in Uganda offering education for children with physical disabilities, intellectual disabilities or other related learning difficulties.



In the classroom

The School is run by Kakunyu Parents' Support Association, a non-profit making, non-political, non-religious community-based organisation.

One of the school's aims is to encourage the nursery children to have knowledge of, and integration with, children with special educational needs.



Singing and music

Our nursery children are well prepared for their primary education, and take their nationally-accredited nursery exams at the end of the year.

We also aim to improved the independence and social skills of all our children, both nursery children and children with special educational needs.



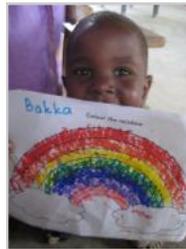
Both day school and boarding are available. Boarders are looked after by Mary Kabiito at the nearby Boarding area.



Mulungi, who provides milk for the breakfast porridge

Future projects

- Multipurpose room for crafts, reading and relaxing
- A new kitchen to provide more students with breakfast, and for boarders
- Extra dormitories for boarders
- Assessment materials and curriculum development for children with special educational needs
- Equipped Physiotherapy block
- Vocational training such as
 - making chalk
 - crafts
 - tailoring
 - making notebooks



The see-saw in the playground



Teacher Rose and Justine with wonderful bags they made



Terms

- Term 1:** February to April
2 weeks - 1 month holiday
- Term 2:** May to August
2 weeks - 1 month holiday
- Term 3:** September to early December
2 months holiday December /January



Fees

50,000 shillings per term. (as at February 2012)

Termly fees include:

- education Monday to Friday, 8am - 1pm
- academic subjects such as English, maths and social studies
- co-curricular subjects such as crafts, games, physical activities, gardening
- self help skills and ADL (Activities for Daily Living) for children with special needs
- school uniform
- porridge with sugar for breakfast each day
- play area - swings, roundabout, climbing frame and see-saw
- singing

Boarding Fees: Available on request

Parents are expected to contribute to the running and upkeep of the school.