

ZIMBABWE SECONDARY BURSARY FUND

Supporting Gifted Students through Secondary School

Over 700 students have been supported through secondary school by the **Zimbabwe Secondary Bursary Fund**, run by Zimbabwean Friends and supported by British Quakers for over fifty years. The need is huge – the scheme helps really promising students who would otherwise have to drop out after primary school.

Putting the scheme on a firm footing is a major fundraising focus this year for Friends of Hlekweni, who have taken over the British end of the scheme from QPSW. **Can you help us establish a strong funding base for the scheme to flourish?**

Last year, there were five students being supported by the Secondary Bursary Fund and in 2016 we are supporting twelve. They are selected locally by Zimbabwean Friends based in Bulawayo who carefully monitor the progress of each student on the scheme. The majority of students in Zimbabwe drop out of education at, or even before, the end of primary education usually not for lack of ability but simple poverty.

Sanitary wear scheme

Girls often miss out on their education because of the lack of sanitary wear which is why we have also embarked on a scheme to provide our link schools with a supply of re-usable sanitary towels made locally from recycled materials.

Cover picture: three siblings from a child-headed household at Samathonga School.



*Left to right: Sinodumo, Sikiphukile and Precious are now at Usher High School, near Bulawayo. They are all former pupils of Samathonga Primary School. Without help from the **Secondary Bursary Fund** they would have had to leave school.*

Marvellous comes from a single parent family of five children living in a single room servants' quarters where her mother is a domestic worker. Marvellous is now in Form Three at Langham Girls Boarding School, Harare and is thriving. She relishes the challenge of competition at a level she never had in Primary School and is near the top of her class. It is reported that she is 'a committed high flier'.

How your donation can help:

It costs about £1000 to fund one student in secondary boarding school for a year (most students have to board, often weekly, because of the distances from their homes and poor transport).

£20 supports an orphan child in primary school for one term. 7p per day pays for a nutritious food supplement for a child at one of the schools supported by Friends of Hlekweni.

£3.50 buys a pack of washable sanitary pads to keep a girl at school all through the month.

How to send money:

Through one of the forms on the right **plus** the GiftAid form on the reverse (if you pay UK tax). Alternatively, you could post a cheque made out to 'Friends of Hlekweni' or complete and send back to us a standing order form. To donate online please go to www.mydonate.bt.com/charities/friendsofhlekweni

Cheque Donation to Friends of Hlekweni (Reg Charity no 1126598)

I enclose a cheque to the value of £..... to Friends of Hlekweni.
Please provide name and address/email below, or overleaf if you wish, to receive an acknowledgement of your donation.

Regular Donation by Standing Order

To Bank/Building Society
Address of Bank..... Post code
Bank sort code Account no Account name
Please pay the sum of (in words) every month/ quarter/ year [delete as appropriate]
from (start date) until further notice / until [date]

Friends of Hlekweni, Cooperative Bank, sort code: 08 92 99 account no: 65319891

Your name Address Postcode

Signature Date

Gift Aid Declaration

Name.....Address.....
.....Post Code

I want the charity, Friends of Hlekweni, charity no. 1126598, to reclaim tax on all donations made by me since November 20th 2008 and all donations that I make from the date of this declaration, until I notify otherwise, to be treated as Gift Aid donations. I pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that the charity will reclaim on my donations in each relevant tax year. I understand that I may cancel the Declaration at any time by notifying the Treasurer of Friends of Hlekweni. It will not apply to any donations made on or after the date of cancellation.

Signature..... Date

Join the Mailing List

If you would like to receive copies of the FoH newsletter by post or email (and believe you are not on the mailing list already), please provide your address immediately below or email us directly at info@friendsofhlekweni.org.uk

Note: We will use your donation for the projects with the most immediate need. However, if you wish to restrict your donation to just one project, please specify here.

Tackling poverty and starvation in Zimbabwe through education

Our projects focus on **the power of education** as a way out of poverty. Schools which provide food improve students' health, increase their motivation to attend and enhance their learning outcomes.

Schools are also places of social learning. That is why we are working on the introduction of peace education into the curriculum and extracurricular activities.

We continue to support Samathonga School on the site of the former Hlekweni Rural Training Centre. We are also working with three more schools in needy areas around Bulawayo.

SEVERE DROUGHT FORECAST

Zimbabweans across the country, but especially in the driest parts which include Matabeleland, are facing a very difficult year as a result of the severe drought. As one of our contacts put it, "This year looks disastrous in terms of rains. We could face the most crippling drought experienced in recent times." Children are arriving at school hungry and in danger of serious malnutrition.

Friends of Hlekweni Trustees

Jessica Bishop, David Brown, Roger Moore (treasurer), Don Rowe, Lee Taylor (clerk)

Contact us: The Quaker Centre, 1 Oakley Gdns, Downhead Park, Milton Keynes, MK15 9BH
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www.friendsofhlekweni.co.uk

All donations should be sent to this address.

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Friends of Hlekweni

Quaker Social Witness
in Zimbabwe



Supporting the
Zimbabwe Secondary
Bursary Scheme