



The Giraffe Project Sponsorship Programme

Thank you for considering the sponsorship of a Kenyan child!

The Giraffe Project is a UK charitable company managed by a group of Trustee-Directors based in the UK, Belgium and Germany. Our projects in Kenya are managed by our Kenyan Executive, administrators and local partners, in regular communication with the European team.

Sponsorship levels

The Giraffe Project has 3 sponsorship programmes: **Primary School**, **Secondary School** and **Higher Education**. When the Giraffe Project accepts a student for sponsorship, we commit to see the student to the end of that phase of their education. When you take on a student, we understand that you are sponsoring a student in a specific level of education.

Upon successful completion at primary or secondary school, a student may reapply for sponsorship to take them to the next level. Our team in Kenya then considers the student's situation, in consultation with the family and the partner school. Our greatest concern is the well-being and education of the student, but we also want to avoid dependency, and it is wonderful when a favourable change in circumstances enables a family to take this responsibility on themselves. In cases where further sponsorship is needed, sponsors are informed, but are not obliged to follow a child into the next level of their education.

The sponsorship rate for each of the three programmes is established according to our best estimate of the costs involved. Exchange rate fluctuations, exceptional additional costs or temporary discontinuation of tuition, as caused, for example, by the COVID-19 epidemic, may lead to overspending or underspending. Any excess is saved in a general fund that is used to level out deficits or finance projects for the benefit of the schools and the children. If a student's education is interrupted for several months, the sponsors are informed and given the choice between continuing or suspending their regular payments.

Primary day school sponsorship (single sponsor) : Monthly cost: €35 or £30 or \$42

10% is taken for administrative costs. The rest is paid to the school where the child is enrolled.

The Giraffe Project's agreement with the school guarantees that every child sponsored will receive **tuition, school lunch, school uniform, books and supplies, participation in class trips and events, and an annual medical check-up.**

Secondary boarding school sponsorship: Monthly cost: €80 or £70 or \$95

This amount may be shared between 2 sponsors.

10% is taken for administrative costs. The rest is paid to the school where the child is enrolled.

The Giraffe Project's agreement with the school guarantees that every child sponsored will receive **tuition, full board during school term, school uniform, books and supplies, participation in class trips and events, and an annual medical check-up.** They will also receive **pocket money for personal needs and bus fares** to and from school at the start and end of term.

Sponsorship for university and technical or professional training college

Monthly cost: €80 or £70 or \$95, which may be shared between 2 sponsors.

10% is taken for administrative costs. **Fees** are paid according to the demands of the university or college where the student is enrolled, and an **allowance** for **accommodation, food, transport, textbooks and other supplies** is paid to the student monthly. If needed for the course, students are also loaned a second-hand laptop computer at the start of their course, which they are allowed to keep if they graduate successfully.

We recognise that there are variations in costs for different courses, and we are committed to make up any shortfall for students we have accepted onto the programme from our general funds. In rare cases where some sponsorship money is left over, we reserve the right to use it solely for the educational needs of other students on the programme.

Payment methods

Payments in GB pounds

Within the UK:

The Giraffe Project
HSBC account number 42240726
sort code: 40-24-17
Communication: Sponsorship

From elsewhere in Europe:

The Giraffe Project
IBAN: GB27HBUK40241742240726
Bic: HBUKGB4104S
Communication: Sponsorship

Please do **not** include the name of the sponsored child in the communication!

Gift Aid: If you pay **UK income tax**, please fill in a **Gift Aid form**. With this we are able to claim an extra 20% on your donation from the UK government.

Payments in Euros

If you are *not* seeking tax relief in a European country, please pay to HSBC (Euro):

The Giraffe Project
IBAN GB05HBUK40127670000077
BIC: HBUKGB4B
Communication: Sponsorship

Please do **not** include the name of the sponsored child in the communication!

Tax relief for European taxpayers

We are registered with **Transnational Giving Europe (TGE)**, which transfers **tax-deductible gifts** across borders, through a specific organisation in each country. In Belgium this is the King Baudouin Foundation/Fondation Roi Baudouin/Koning Boudewijnstichting (KBF). In Germany it is Maecenata Stiftung. We also have TGE agreements with Switzerland, Italy, Spain and France. Please contact us for details.

Please note: **TGE takes 5%** of your gift in administration fees, so we would be very grateful if you would **please add 5%** to the amount you wish Giraffe Project to receive.

Belgian taxpayers please pay to

King Baudouin Foundation

IBAN: BE10 0000 0000 0404

BIC: BPOTBEB1

Communication: TGE Giraffe Project

German taxpayers please pay to

Maecenata Stiftung: Bankhaus Lobbecke

IBAN: DE89 1003 0500 1061 0007 01

BIC: CHDBDEHH.

Communication: TGE Giraffe Project and your address for your tax receipt.

The communication is very important! Please do **not** include the name of the sponsored child.

Contact for KBF: Email: info@kbs-frb.be

Contact for Maecenata: Marie Schwager: mcs@maecenata.eu.

There is also the option to pay on-line at www.maecenata.eu/internationales-spenden

Payments in US dollars

Please make your donation through the **King Baudouin Foundation United States (KBFUS)**. KBFUS is a branch of KBF Belgium, and is a member of Transnational Giving Europe. KBFUS is a public charity, within the meaning of Sections 501c(3) and 509(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Service. Donors may claim the maximum tax benefits allowed by U.S. tax law for their contributions.

Payment can be made using one of the following methods;

- **Gifts by check:** Please make out your check to KBFUS. **It is essential to add “The Giraffe Project” to the memo section** of the check so that the money is credited to our account with KBFUS. Mail to: KBFUS, 10 Rockefeller Plaza, 16th Floor, New York, NY 10020
- **Gifts by credit card:** Go to www.kbfus.org, click on the ‘Donate Now’ button and select “The Giraffe Project” in the alphabetical list of Charities, or go directly to our account via: <https://kbfus.networkforgood.com/projects/15326-g-kbfus-funds-giraffe-project-uk>
- **Gifts by wire transfer:** Contact KBFUS at email: infor@kbfus.org or phone (212) 713 7660.

KBFUS will send each donor an immediate acknowledgement of their donation as required by U.S. tax law. Donors will be advised to keep this acknowledgement as their receipt for gift substantiation purposes.

Please note: **KBFUS takes 5%** of your gift in administration fees, so we would be very grateful if you would **please add 5%** to the amount you intend The Giraffe Project to receive.

You will also see an additional 3% credit card processing fee on all contributions received by credit card through the KBFUS Online Giving Center.

Contact information

If you have any questions about sponsorship or payment methods please contact us at:

sponsorship@giraffeproject.org

General Information

Selection procedures

We are often asked how we select students for sponsorship.

Since our foundation in 2005 we have developed strong relationships with the primary schools where we sponsor children. Each year the schools propose to The Giraffe Project for sponsorship children whose guardians are unable to pay the fees. The schools are themselves committed to make education available to all children, from whatever background, and it is they who determine who they believe most needs our assistance.

At the end of primary school, all children take the Kenyan Certificate of Primary Education, or KCPE, marked out of 500. Those who achieve good grades are eligible for places in secondary schools. Some of our sponsored children apply to The Giraffe Project for further sponsorship, and their level of need is then reassessed by our team in Kenya. Sometimes the family situation has changed for the better, students are sent to secondary school by their families or the wider communities, and the top students often receive scholarships from Kenyan companies.

The Giraffe Project also works with several children's homes and youth organisations which recommend students they believe should be considered for sponsorship. Inevitably we receive far more requests than we are able to take on. Selection is then made in partnership with the administration of the secondary school, and is based on academic performance at primary level, the financial situation of the family, and the motivation of the student.

Secondary education culminates in the Kenyan Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) exams in 7 or 8 subjects. Passes in an appropriate range of subjects enable a student to proceed to higher education. Our higher education sponsorship programme is limited to students who have completed secondary school with a Giraffe Project sponsorship, and selection is based on academic performance, motivation, and availability of suitable places.

Our administrative staff in Kenya make regular visits to schools to ensure the well-being of our sponsored children. They stay in regular contact with the students at university and college by email and phone, organise occasional gatherings with them, and generally monitor their needs and well-being.

Education in Kenya is in the process of change

The school year in Kenya begins in January and ends in November. The language of instruction is mainly English, which is usually the child's second or third language. Kiswahili, the other official language in Kenya, is also studied.

The educational system is currently in the process of major change. The government has introduced a new programme based more on skills development, including IT skills, and less on the memorisation of information. The transition from primary to secondary school will in future take place at age 12, rather than age 14 as it is at present. Secondary schools will be encouraged to offer technically- or professionally-oriented programmes, as well as purely academic ones.

The changes are being phased in. Grade 1 in primary school started the new programme in 2017, and the secondary schools will be impacted first in 2023. Eventually there will be 3 years of Pre-Primary education for ages 3 – 6, 6 years of Primary for ages 6 – 12, and 6 years of secondary for ages 12 – 18.

Changes in Secondary Schooling with The Giraffe Project

Currently, the Giraffe Project takes around 36 students each year into our secondary school. This was formerly called the **Giraffe Education Centre**, as it was founded by The Giraffe Project in 2012. In 2016 we assisted local partners in establishing a local trust, "**Elimu Trust**", and transferred the assets and the management of the school to this Trust. Currently an enlarged Board of Elimu Trust, in cooperation with The Giraffe Project, is merging the Giraffe Education Centre with another like-minded secondary school, also serving disadvantaged students in Nairobi's environs. The new school is set to be launched in 2021 under the name **ByGrace-Elimu High School**. This school will have the scale and resources to provide disadvantaged children with the wider opportunities of the new Kenyan curriculum.

Communication with your sponsored child

One of the benefits of sponsorship is that you have personal contact with the student you sponsor.

You will receive a **login to our secure online database**, hosted by **MySchool**, a school management company which donates its services to the Giraffe Project at no cost. Through MySchool you will receive updates and news, as well as letters and school reports from your sponsored child. Once a year you will receive a photograph.

Once or twice a year, representatives from Europe visit the team and schools in Kenya, and may be able to take letters and *small* gifts to the children. We will notify you of this possibility at the appropriate time. If you sponsor a student at college or university, you can send a letter at any time by email to letters@giraffeproject.org and it will be passed on to the student.

It is important for your protection that all communication goes through the charity. Please do not send letters directly to the school or contact your student on social media, even if they send a 'friend request', having tracked you down. This is to protect your identity and prevent you receiving unwanted requests for help from others. We also ask you not to give your email address or any other personal information which could enable a student or other people to find you. Students are told the name of their correspondent and a brief description (lady, child, family etc.) only. You are free to share more in your letters, but please take note of the precautions recommended above.

If your children write, please remind them of the difference in lifestyle and standard of living of their Kenyan friend, and help them to be sensitive to things they will not have (smartphone, new car etc.). Students are very excited when they receive a photo of their sponsor. However, please choose one with a fairly neutral background!

Gifts: When we visit Kenya we can take small gifts weighing up to 100g, and preferably flat for easy transporting. They should be in a wrapping or envelope, unsealed, and labelled with the child's **name** and **CODE**. Please be aware that Kenya is a conservative society, especially in the slums, and most children are from strong Christian or Muslim families. A list of suitable gifts, depending on age and gender, is shown below.

Visits: if you are visiting Nairobi you will be very welcome to meet your sponsored student at their school. Let us know your plans well in advance and we will make arrangements for you to be met and taken to the school (the slums are too dangerous for you to go without an escort). To comply with our Child Protection Policy, adults over the age of 18 will need to obtain a police check before the visit.

List of suggested gifts:

- a small game (which doesn't need batteries)
- a T-shirt, socks
- books, (non-culturally sensitive)
- felt tips or pencils
- writing paper and envelopes
- football magazines
- small craft set, but nothing which requires scissors, glue or paint unless these are included
- small soft toy or doll

- stickers
- hair ties
- skipping rope
- small kite
- beanbag
- necklace
- perfume/hand cream
- wind-up watch
- small solar light

Thank you for sponsoring a Kenyan student!