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Paraclete Christian Network International

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You might also like to visit Presbyterian Paraclete College Facebook page for more pictures of the College.

Responses from sponsored Students

My name is Tawanyashu and I am 16 years old. I would like to thank you for paying my school fees. I am so grateful to you. With your support I obtained 3As, 5Bs and 1C in my O levels. Thank you so much. If not for you I wouldn't be here right now and I don't have words to express myself to you.

Let me take this opportunity to thank you for your unwavering support. I don't even know what was going to happen to me if you were not there. Your intervention makes a change. May God our Lord keep on blessing you. Nokutenda

A typical Request for a bursary

Would you please consider this my application for a bursary for my nephew Junior C in form 1 . My wife and I are his guardians since his birth. We are both unemployed and we are in our late 60s. The father's whereabouts are unknown making it difficult to raise his school fees.. MH



OPERATION ZIMBABWE



Student Sponsorship Scheme 2024/25

Education, Education, Education...

What price do you put on education? Most of us are well aware that a good education is the foundation for the whole of life; without it, life's choices and chances are very limited in all areas. Families in Zimbabwe know only too well the value of education and want their children to attend good schools. But such are not easily available. Sadly the state education system is in poor shape and has not been functioning well for years. Schools are under-resourced and teachers are often not paid adequately or at all. This results in poor performance and much discontent among teachers who often go on strike thus interrupting children's learning.

Presbyterian Paraclete College has now been running with the support of PCNI for some 12 years in the needy, high density suburb of Kuwadzana, Harare in Zimbabwe. From its small beginnings with around 100 students, it has expanded significantly to over 600 thanks to its relatively good facilities (well kept buildings and grounds, a well stocked library, a science lab, computers etc) and its growing reputation for its good education in a positive Christian environment. It offers a wide range of subjects up to O level and now has a growing number of students studying for A Level. It is staffed by 18 teachers with different classes coming for morning or afternoon sessions.



The student sponsorship scheme

In order to ensure the smooth and effective running of the College, parents pay fairly modest school fees between US\$690 - US\$780 p.a.



However for some of the poorest and neediest families, this represents a huge expense beyond their means. Thus PCNI has set up a student sponsorship scheme which works as follows: A local committee at the College receives formal bursary requests from needy parents or guardians who may be lacking employment, have

large numbers of children to care for, have family or health issues etc. These are carefully considered and requests are then sent to PCNI in the UK to see if there are sponsors available. There are always more requests than we can cater for and, with the increasing costs of living in the dire economy of Zimbabwe, more requests in 2024 than ever.

How you might help?

If you feel led to become a sponsor or are part of a group that might want to sponsor a student together (e.g. a housegroup, youth group), we would love to hear from you. You might be able to offer a full sponsorship or a 50% one. The fees this year are £576 for year 1 and 2 students £624 for year 3 and 4 students and £648 for year 5 and 6 students, reflecting the level of facilities they need to access. If you are interested, please be in touch with us (details overleaf) and we will allocate a student and discuss ways you might want to pay the fees - either in a lump



sum or monthly. We can claim gift aid for UK tax payers, making monthly full sponsorship payments £38, £41, or £43 pounds depending on what year the sponsored student is in.

In return you will receive a picture and bio details of your sponsored student. You will also receive any reports sent by the headmaster during the year and results where students sit O or A Levels. When PCNI Trustees visit the school each year, they meet sponsored students where possible and you will receive a letter and latest photo from them.

