

THE MESERANI PROJECT

EDUCATING THE CHILDREN OF MESERANI, TANZANIA.

Inspired by the pupils, staff and parents of
Acklam Grange School, Middlesbrough, England.

Registered charity number: 1135670

www.meseraniproject.co.uk



Thank you for taking an interest in sponsoring a young person to be educated in Tanzania through the Meserani Project. The details that you may wish to know now are given below.

The Meserani Project is registered as an official charity with the Charity Commission, but we have always taken pride in the fact that there are no administration costs or any other costs taken out of any money that is raised or donated - all our personal costs come out of our own pocket - every single penny that is given to the project goes directly to the young people of Meserani, Tanzania.

Further education and higher education in Tanzania has to be paid for in full, along with all other associated costs, and secondary boarding schools require the pupils to pay for all requirements to be a boarder. Due to the remoteness and poverty of the Meserani District, young people in this area who are successful at primary school and are selected for secondary education are not able to progress because of the costs. The situation is the same for students who are selected for further and higher education. The Meserani Project is facilitating the sponsorship of students from the Meserani District who achieve a place at secondary school, high school, college or university. There are three options for potential sponsors:

1 You can sponsor a pupil to attend Meserani Secondary School for four years. If you sponsor a pupil to attend this boarding school, not only will you be providing them with their four years of secondary education, but you will also be providing them with accommodation, food, transport costs, full school uniform and weekend uniform, exercise books, paper, writing equipment, dictionary, school specific equipment, sports clothing, footwear, personal toiletries, specific school requirements, a metal security box, a mattress, blanket & bedsheets, a mosquito net.

- The cost to fund a pupil through four years of secondary education is £100 for the full four years.

2. You can sponsor a student to study A' Levels for two years at a high school (these are students who have achieved the necessary pass marks in their final examinations at secondary school). If you sponsor a student to attend one of these schools, not only will you be providing them with their two years of further education, but you will also be providing them with accommodation, food, transport costs, text books, paper, writing equipment, scientific calculator, subject specific equipment, personal clothing and uniform, footwear, sports kit, a metal security box, a mattress, blanket & bedsheets, a mosquito net.

- The cost to fund a student through two years of further education is £320 a year (£640 for the full two years) - equating to £6.15 for each week of the year – less than two pints of beer or a bottle of wine each week!

3. You can sponsor a student to study a three-year degree course at university (these are students who have achieved the necessary pass marks in their A' Level

examinations). Universities are residential, so you will be providing them with the same resources as those being sponsored through A' Levels. Students at universities also require substantial extra resources such as laptops and subject specialist equipment.

- Many of our university sponsors 'share' the sponsorship, in which case the cost is £320 a year for three years - equating to £6.15 for each week of the year – less than two pints of beer or a bottle of wine each week!
For those who wish to be the sole sponsor, the cost to fund a student through three years of university is £640 a year - equating to £12.31 for each week of the year – about three pints of beer or a decent bottle of wine each week!

Selecting Pupils: The students who are selected to be sponsored are originally identified by a committee of people who work voluntarily on our behalf in Tanzania, (teachers, village elders and community leaders.). The criteria is that the personal circumstances of the students are such that they simply would not be able to afford to go to secondary, further or higher education, and would be left with no future once they had finished primary school, secondary school or A' Level studies – many of the pupils selected have lost one or both of their parents to AIDS or malaria. The pupils identified by the committee must be good attenders, be personally motivated, and have achieved the necessary pass marks in their final year at primary school, secondary school or A' Level studies. Once a number of pupils have been identified by the committee, we will make a final decision on who should be sponsored dependent on the number of sponsors that we have. The secondary school year begins in January, A' Level studies begin in July, and university courses begin in October.

If you do wish to go ahead and sponsor a student through their four years of secondary education, two years of further education or three years at university, please let us know. To date there are 279 young people who have been sponsored through secondary, further and higher education, all by individual people, families or groups who have become aware of the project and what it does. The young people who are being sponsored love to know everything about their sponsors, so we do ask sponsors to provide us with photos and letters about themselves, which we take over with us when we go to Tanzania. We visit Meserani at least twice each year to monitor the progress and attendance of everyone, and we bring you back details of their progress when available. We keep in touch with students throughout the year, and we also have a contact in Meserani who acts as a link between us, teachers, and everyone being sponsored.

Anyway, a bit long-winded, but at least you have the full picture. If there is anything further that you wish to know please visit our website: www.meseraniproject.co.uk or do not hesitate to contact us at: meserani@hotmail.co.uk

You can follow the work of The Meserani Project on our charity Facebook page: www.facebook.com/meseraniproject