

STAREHE EDUCATION: TRANSFORMING LIVES





STAREHE

Shaping the next generation of leaders with integrity and purpose

Amidst the vibrant ever changing landscape of Nairobi, the Starehe schools are an enduring example of the transformative power of education.

Founded for boys in 1959, and for girls in 2005, Starehe has given bright but disadvantaged young people a safe home and an outstanding education, whilst promoting leadership and service values that remain with them throughout their lives.

For decades, Starehe schools have been sending young people out into the world, with the skills and confidence to influence change and build prosperity.



THE STAREHE WAY



Starehe schools are built on the foundational principles of community service, trust, and self-leadership. Girls and boys are selected based on a combination of genuine need, outstanding academic ability and geographical spread.

Focused on shaping the future leaders needed by Kenya and the wider world, the Centres prioritise character building and holistic development of the individual. This is alongside consistently exemplary academic performance.

Starehe instills students with the skills and values to transform themselves and the wider society.

VALUES

Starehe Centres share values established by the late founders: Dr. Geoffrey Griffin, Mr Geoffrey Geturo and Mr Joseph Gikubu, that resonate in the schools to this day.



Over 17000 boys have taken up a place at Starehe Boys' Centre since 1959.



Over 2600 girls have enrolled since the first cohort of 72 were admitted in 2005.

MY STORY

"I am from South Sudan and came to Kenya with my brother due to the civil war in our country. We stayed in a refugee camp for 3 months and then we moved to my aunt's house and lived with my cousins. We have been living with them for around 10 years and they have been very good to us. My aunt knits and makes clothes and that is how she generates the income to take care of us and her two sons.

I call Starehe a land of opportunities: here you can become who you would like to be. Starehe helps many young needy boys from all over the country - to help them have a better future and to become better men. Attending Starehe Boys' Centre means a lot to me. This was my dream school - I was told about the school by my cousins. I used to work very hard knowing that I wanted to come to the school and I feel proud that I managed to get here. If it wasn't for Starehe I wouldn't be in secondary school as my guardian would not be able to afford my fees. I am very sure that at the end of my four years here I will leave the gates of Starehe as a great man."

Kuir.

"This was my dream school"



MY STORY

"Being at Starehe is first of all a privilege. When I was at primary school I used to hear the name Starehe, and from that moment I knew I wanted to come to Starehe so badly.

Coming to Starehe has been such fun. It has taught me a lot about the importance of character. When you go out into the world, people respect you for who you are and how you conduct yourself. This comes from being at Starehe and from the importance of discipline and respect that is emphasised in this school.

When I am older and I look back on my time at Starehe, I know that I will have happy memories. Most of all, I will remember the sisterhood at the school and how important my friends have been - they have always been there for me.

Attending Starehe is a unique opportunity. I know that Starehe will help to shape my character and grow my confidence. In the future I know I will be a leader somewhere because that's what it's teaching us to be."

Patience.

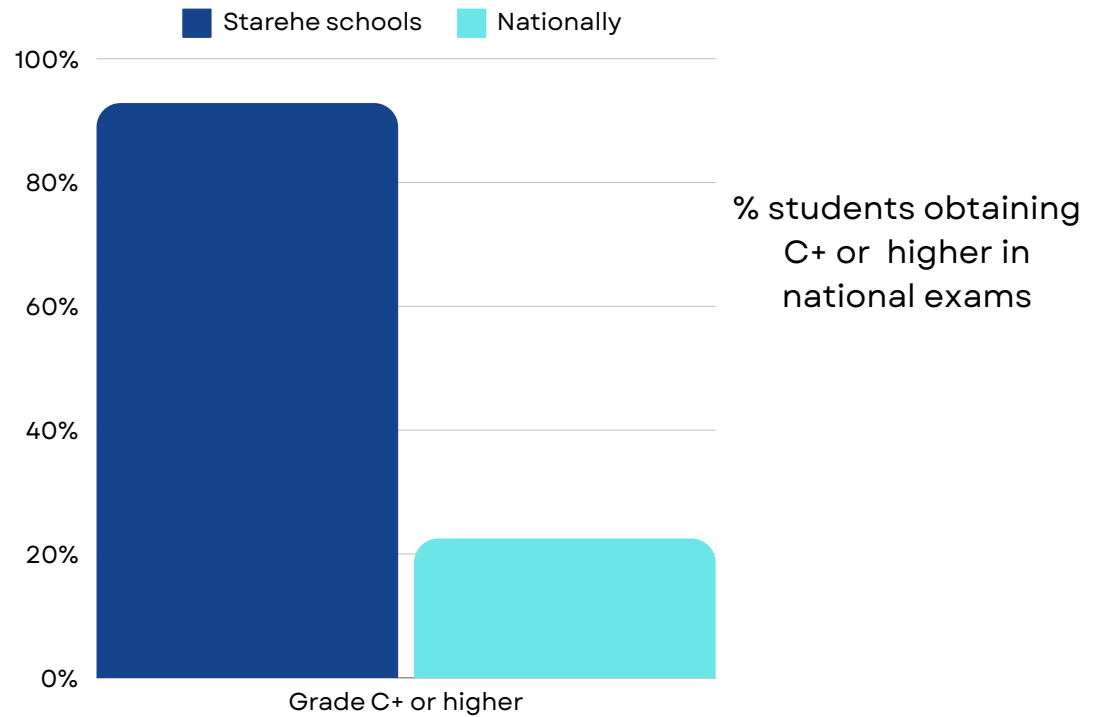


"I know that Starehe will help to shape my character and grow my confidence."

THE RESULTS

Starehe schools have a strong record of academic excellence, consistently performing among the top schools in Kenya. In the national exams at the end of Secondary School, students in Kenya must score grade C+ or higher to progress to University.

At Starehe, 93% of students, on average, obtain at least C+ grade, compared to just 23% nationally.





LONG-TERM IMPACT

Employability and future readiness

Starehe continues to produce some of the most employable young people in Kenya, with not only the grades, but also the skills and character to build the workforce Kenya needs.

Lifelong transformation

The values instilled during a Starehe education endure in all areas of life. So many alumni choose to support the schools, because they recognise the lifelong transformative impact the school had on the trajectory of their lives.

Reduced inequality

For those born into disadvantage, education is a way out of deprivation and inequality. By making education equitable, Starehe bridges socio-economic divides, fostering a more just and inclusive society where people from all backgrounds can prosper.

Giving Back

‘From those to whom much is given, much is expected’

Not only do the alumni sustain their own families and support their extended families and communities, they also give back to the schools, thereby creating a ripple effect of positive change for the society. Investing in Starehe is an investment not just in the future wealth and stability of Kenya, but also the wider society as Starehe continues to shape the next generation of leaders.

ALUMNUS

JUSTICE NZIOKI MAKAU



Nzioki Makau joined Starehe in 1982 alongside a number of young men who were day scholars, who would troop in each morning and leave every evening. He was assigned a house – Pele House which had been named in honour of the great Pele who visited the School some years prior. The studies were rigorous and the discipline ethos of Starehe pervasive. The order, attention to detail and values of hard work and integrity served to chart a future full of promise.

After Starehe, Nzioki would complete his A Levels at Lenana School and later proceed to University of Bombay for further studies, returning 6 years later with 3 degrees – one in economics and two in law.

Hon. Justice Nzioki Makau is now a Judge of the Kenyan Employment and Labour Relations Court. Nzioki's distinguished career in the legal profession began with his admission to the Bar in Kenya in 1997 after which he began practising as a lawyer in leading firms before joining the public service as an employee of the Kenya Anti-Corruption Authority. He briefly served at the National Council for Law Reporting before a stint in the private sector serving a group of companies as Legal Advisor. Nzioki then returned to the rebranded Kenya Anti-Corruption Commission (later renamed Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission) where he served till his appointment as a Judge in July 2012.

The journey through Starehe and the values of discipline, focus, self-motivation and attention to detail have stayed with Nzioki to this day.

ALUMNA VANE MORAA

Vane hails from Kisii in the south-western part of Kenya. She studied at a local school before joining Starehe Girls' Centre on a full scholarship in 2005, the year the school opened. After high school, she pursued a BSc in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Nairobi, Kenya. In 2016, she proceeded to the University of Edinburgh under the Chevening Scholarship to pursue an MSc in Sustainable Energy Systems, which she successfully completed in 2017.

Vane is a renewable energy professional with a passion for sustainability and climate change, and she has held various positions in the field in Kenya, the UK, and Sweden. She is currently working as an Energy Project Manager at Ramboll, a Danish multinational architecture, engineering, and consulting company.

In the near future, Vane aims to use the skills and knowledge she has gained in her working career to influence renewable energy and climate-related policy decisions back home, and continue contributing to a sustainable future for all.



SHAPING FUTURE LEADERS

The Centres have produced some inspiring leaders, including Olympians, several Members of Parliament, Cabinet ministers and CEOs.



The late Prof George Magoha was one of the most notable alumni the Starehe Centres have produced. A Professor of Surgery who served as Vice-Chancellor at the University of Nairobi, then Chairman of the Kenya National Examinations Council, and finally as Cabinet Secretary for Education.



Peter Ndegwa
CEO Safaricom



Vivian Onano
Women and
Girls Advocate



Paul Ereng
Olympic gold
medalist



Julius Kipng'etich
CEO Jubilee
Holdings

RENEWAL FOR THE FUTURE

Urgent attention is needed to enable the buildings and physical infrastructure at the schools to meet the demands of modern education. Funds are needed for critical projects, many of which are long overdue. These facilities are essential not only for maintaining the high standards of education, but also for ensuring the safety, well-being, and holistic development of students.

● New dormitory block

● Perimeter walls

● Science laboratories

● Green energy systems

● Drainage and roads

Please contact the team if you need further information, or for a full list of projects required at the schools.

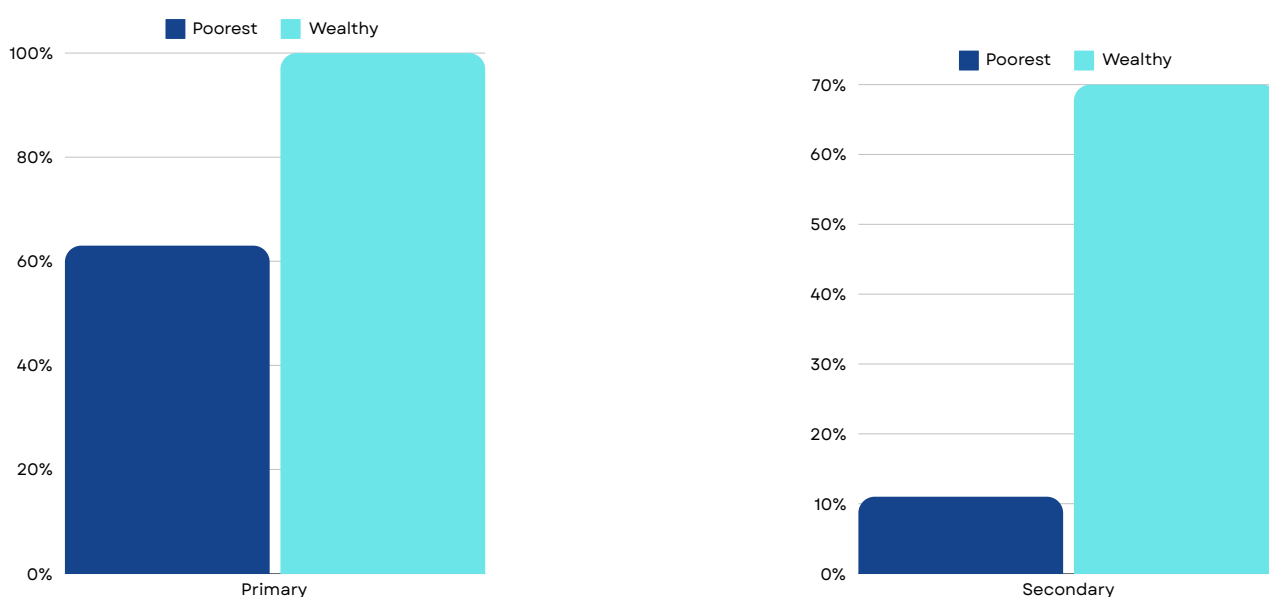


EDUCATION IN KENYA

Kenya has made huge strides forward in recent years and is often heralded as a development success. Access to education soared in Kenya after the introduction of universal primary and secondary education. However, progress has been hampered by several external shocks, including the Covid-19 pandemic and escalating prices.

Inequality

There are huge gaps between the wealthiest and poorest children in Kenya. The rates of completion of both primary and secondary education are vastly affected by wealth. Only 11% of the poorest children complete secondary school in Kenya.



Primary & secondary school completion rates

Attainment

Sub-Saharan Africa is facing a learning crisis, the number of children leaving school without basic numeracy and literacy skills is worryingly high. In Kenya, children and young people achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in Mathematics is only 36.9% and in reading only 25.5%.



Quality Education

Exemplar schools like Starehe give hope that staggering inequality and worrying levels of attainment can be overcome. Schools that are producing consistently excellent results, regardless of the background of its learners, that are owned, run and governed from within Kenya and focus on character and results, have never been needed more to give hope, that this trend can be reversed.

Overwhelming Demand

In the year 2024, there were 60,000 girls applying for only 200 school places in the first-year intake (a 300:1 ratio), and 46,000 boys applying for only 322 places (a 143:1 ratio).

That is a total of 106,000 young Kenyans seeking entry to these two schools in a single year.



STAREHE UK



Starehe UK is a UK registered charity that brings together supporters, friends and alumni committed to the support of education at Starehe Boys' Centre and Starehe Girls' Centre in Nairobi, Kenya. It is our proud and noble objective, to partake in the collective effort to 'Support, Educate and Transform' young lives in the interest of a better society for all.

We support the Centres through financial support for student places, endowments and infrastructure projects like the Dining Hall, dormitories and laboratories.

GET IN TOUCH



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