

## Ngara Anglican Primary School (NAPS)

Kagera region, in northwest Tanzania, has one of the lowest levels of literacy in the country. Although both primary and secondary education is free, most schools are poorly funded, classes are large and parents must provide uniforms, books, writing materials and more. If parents can't afford these then their children often don't attend school. Education is highly valued and parents who can afford to pay realise that it will open opportunities for a better future for their children and for the country.



Ngara European School opened in 1994 serving mainly expatriate children of aid workers. After they left, the Anglican Church adopted the school in 2004, maintaining it as a English medium Primary School, and naming it Ngara Anglican Primary School (NAPS). The national language of Tanzania is Swahili but all secondary education is taught in English, so children from NAPS are at an advantage when they start secondary school.

Parents pay fees but this barely covers the cost of teaching and running the school. From humble beginnings of just two classrooms in 2005, St Edmundsbury and Ipswich has supported NAPS by helping to fund the building of classrooms, and a staffroom. Bishop Nigel officially opened the school during his visit in 2010, and in 2019 a new chapter began when Bishop Martin dedicated the first dormitory block, enabling the school to take boarders for the first time. Further work is under way building a dining hall. A new kitchen, a library and a computer room are still needed. There is a football pitch and netball posts for games, but the ground is steeply sloping, and needs to be levelled and cleared of rocks. The school bus which takes children and staff to school from neighbouring areas needs repair frequently because of the poor roads. What has been done so far is impressive, and the vision for the future of NAPS is ambitious and inspiring.



Academic results are equally impressive. In 2018 the school was ranked first in the district and the region, and 12th in the country. It's recognised locally as a good school. Parents often struggle and make sacrifices to afford the fees and keep their children at NAPS.



The ground is dry, stony and steep so establishing a vegetable garden is not possible. However, an ambitious programme of tree planting has been undertaken. This will provide shade and help to stabilise the soil, as well as helping to address climate change. In due course the trees can be harvested for firewood for the kitchen or to sell to generate income.

If you'd like to support NAPS and improve the future for some of the children in Kagera there are many ways you can help:

- Pray for the children, for good health and the ability to learn
- Pray for the staff to be committed to the children and to provide good quality lessons
- Raise funds to help complete and equip the buildings
- Are you a teacher? How about going to Ngara to work at the school?



Some examples of the cost of materials for building:-

Stone for foundations £24 per trip (truck load)  
Fired bricks £660 a trip  
Sacks of cement £7 each  
Corrugated iron roofing sheets £6 each  
Windows £50  
Nails £3 per kilo  
Ceiling boards £7 each  
Emulsion Paint £15 per pot

For more information, contact the Kagera Link Coordinators at [kagera@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:kagera@cofesuffolk.org)



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