

26 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT UGANDA: FEBRUARY HALF TERM 2025

I am delighted to announce that we have decided to pair up with The Weald School to offer a joint visit to Uganda in February half term 2025.

Prior to 2020, The Weald had built a strong bond with the staff and students at Namilyango College, situated just outside Uganda's capital, Kampala. The project originated from the London 2012 Olympic Legacy project when interested British schools were paired with Commonwealth countries and schools around the world. I have visited a different school in Uganda on a similar project, so know that this is an experience that stays with you for the rest of your life!

10 MRC and 10 Weald students (plus 2 staff) will largely be based in and around Namilyango College, a vast and impressive site which includes its own functioning farm, in order to get a real sense of what life is like for a young person in education in Uganda. There will be opportunities to visit the local area, including a day trip to Jinga and the 'source of the Nile', as well as the chance to support children in local primary schools: both in the classroom and through sports leadership. An important part of the visit over the previous years has been the opportunity to work with some of Uganda's most deprived children through 'Hands for Hope', an organisation helping these children.

The visit is challenging and rewarding on a personal and an educational level. Students should be prepared to take and deliver presentations on life in the UK to Namilyango students as well as working on a number of cross-curricular projects in the school. Students will be accommodated on the school site, eat with Ugandan students and attend a number of classes alongside their other activities. The cost of the whole visit is likely to be around £1,200.00 - £1,500.00, dependent on securing flight costs. In addition to sending our students to Uganda, we will explore whether we might also welcome Ugandan students back here within the next 18 months.

This visit is open to current Year 10, 11 and 12 students. Year 11 students would be expected to be continuing into MRC Sixth Form in order to be part of this visit. If you would like to register your student's interest for the visit, please email me directly (roger.burton@mrv-academy.org) by Monday 8 April (during the Easter holiday). I will then invite those interested to a lunchtime meeting where we will go through the visit in greater detail before I then offer spaces to students.

Yours sincerely

Mr Roger Burton

Uganda 2025 Trip Leader



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