Praise attends Hornby High School in Kabale, Uganda. Through the partnership with ACACIA UK, Rafiki Thabo started supporting her education in January 2019.

Born with normal sight, Praise started having problems when she was eight and eventually lost her vision completely. As a result of having a disabled child, her father abandoned the family and since then Praise’s mother has been the sole breadwinner for her four children. She earned enough to enable Praise and one sibling to attend primary school but could not afford to educate all her children.

With the help of relatives, her mother managed to save enough for Praise to start her secondary education at Hornby High School in 2018 at the age of 17. Praise did exceptionally well at the school, however the money soon ran out. This is when Praise was brought to the attention of Rafiki Thabo. With her school fees now paid, Praise is back in school and Praise’s family can afford to pay for some of the basic things in life, like sufficient food.

Praise attends mainstream lessons at Hornby High School and receives additional support from the school’s special needs unit. The children perform incredibly well, despite the limited specialist resources available to the teachers. The unit’s admirable motto is that ‘disability is not inability’ and that ‘anything a sighted person can do a blind person can do even better.’

Praise is a remarkable and incredibly brave young woman, whose dream is to become a lawyer so that she can fight for justice in Uganda. She wants to fight corruption and explains that “when you are blind you won’t see who is bad and who is good – you need someone to guide you”. As a lawyer Praise believes she will also be able to help those closest to her (her mother, siblings and extended family). She wants to help them with food, education and to achieve what they want for the future.

To support Praise costs £325 per year

Rafiki Thabo Foundation: Registered Charity No 1118430
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