



2022

BACK TO SCHOOL REPORT



"At school I can be happy. At school I can learn." - Gloria, year 4

Table of Content

01 Executive summary

02 About Sadhguru School

03 The need

04 Holistic education: our model

- A day at Sadhguru School
- Nutrition: organic and plentiful
- Yoga: enhancing concentration
- Vocational skills: the future is now
- Montessori: inspiring creativity
- Extracurriculars: discovering passion

05 Our impact

- Student feedback
- What our parents say

07 Highlights from 2021

08 Responding to Covid-19

- Home learning
- Socially distanced sport and music
- Following SOPs

09 What's next?

- Vocational education
- Our ICT skills campaign

10 Get involved

We aim to nurture exuberant, well-rounded individuals who are in harmony with themselves and the world; with this as a foundation, they will naturally inspire positive change within communities.

We are delighted to share our back-to-school review. Our work would not be possible without the kindness and support of generous individuals, groups, and organisations. From everyone at Sadhguru School, we'd like to say a huge and very heartfelt thank you.

Sadhguru School was founded in 2017 to provide high quality education to rural children in Western Uganda. The majority of our parents are subsistence farmers, earning less than \$3 a day. They cannot afford the luxury of improved schooling for their children. Their hardship has only been exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Sadhguru School's model is one of holistic education. This includes two nutritious meals a day, Montessori inspired teaching methods, yoga, a focus on vocational skills, and extracurricular activities that enable the discovery of individual passions.

We began the new year and new term with a series of reflections, asking 62 students and 41 parents how Sadhguru School's project has impacted their lives. 100% of students reported that they have felt happier in life since joining Sadhguru School. 97.5% of parents told us that our work has made their child more confident in life.

Highlights of 2021 include a local sculpture project, a drumming training week, our first open day, and the opening of the school's café.

Throughout 2021, Ugandan schools were closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. However, this did not prevent our children and teachers from making a positive impact within their local community. Some of the ways we have responded to the pandemic includes home learning projects, socially distanced sport, and following the SOPs.

Looking to the future, Sadhguru School has ambitions to expand its digital and vocational education offerings. This will ensure our children are equipped with the skills for a lifetime of entrepreneurship, discovery, and invention.

There are many ways you can get involved and support Sadhguru School's mission to provide high quality education to rural Ugandan children. The four main ways you can get involved are: volunteering, fundraising, donating, sponsoring a child, and becoming an Education Partnership Fund Holder.

To find out more, please contact us by emailing info@sadhguruschool.org or call us on +265 771 604 551.

If you'd like to read more about what we do, please visit our website: <https://www.sadhguruschool.org/>



Our vision

To foster a new generation of African youth to become changemakers, dedicated to improving the communities they inhabit.

Our mission

To ignite a child's natural curiosity to learn and explore and to nurture exuberant, well rounded individuals who are in harmony with themselves and the world.

Our values

“Education needs inspiration, not just information. Only inspired human beings can transform their own lives and lives around them” – Sadhguru.

Our school

The only one of its kind in East Africa, Sadhguru School offers a learner-centered international education to rural children in Western Uganda, offering them access to a standard of learning that would never normally come their way.

Our history

Since 2016, an external funding drive has supported the construction of 9 eco-classrooms, a hall, volunteer accommodation, and staff buildings. In January 2017, Sadhguru School opened as a not-for-profit school, taking 100% of its students from the local community.

In 2020, a Montessori hall was added, allowing the school to provide inquiry-based, activity-led education to children from age 3.

Today, our 106 children are back in school after two years of home learning due to Covid-19. They enjoy world-class teaching, studying under the Cambridge International Curriculum, and participating in plenty of sports, dance, and music.

Our environment

Sadhguru School is set within the beautiful forests and volcanic crater lakes of the 680-acre Ndali Estate in the Kingdom of Tooro, overlooked by the Rwenzori Mountains.

The children are taught in airy, spacious, and open-fronted classrooms, designed to incorporate the natural environment into every aspect of a child's learning.





\$3 a day...

...is the average daily earning for most local parents, the majority of whom are subsistence farmers.



Close to 100%...

... is the amount of support local families need with school fees.

They cannot afford the luxury of improved schooling for their children, yet the environment around them is changing at an alarming pace while they lose out on opportunities.



Covid-19...

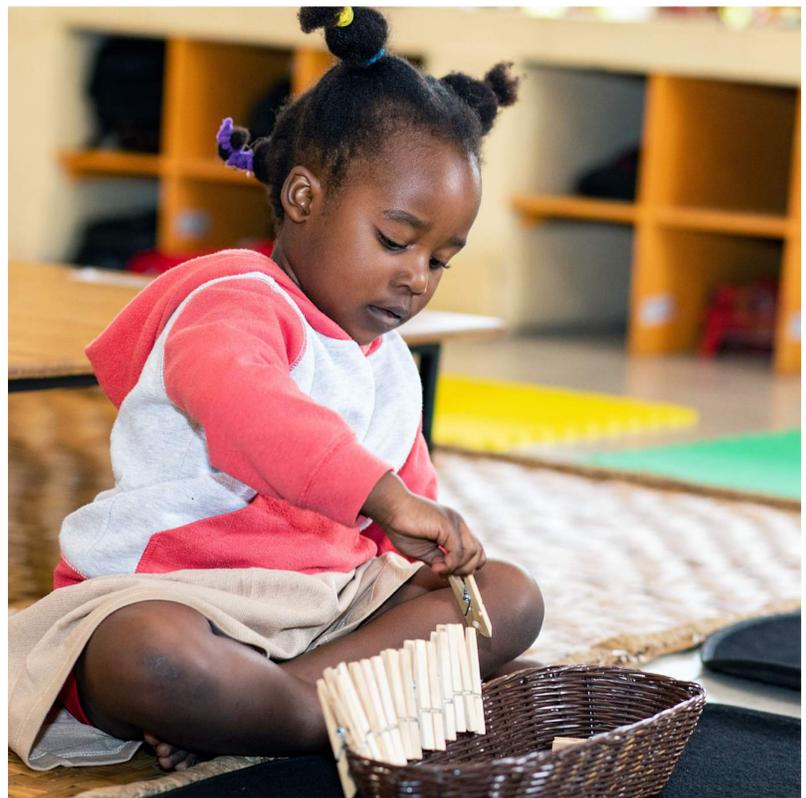
...exasperated the hardship faced by our community. Parents told us:

"It was the worst situation, one we had never experienced before"

"We failed to manage. It's much better at school than at home."



Sadhguru School is located in Kyakatama village in Kabarole District.



Nutrition: organic and plentiful

At breakfast, millet porridge, spinach, and a banana are served. This is followed by a healthy lunch made up of organic ingredients from the school's garden and local farms.

Montessori: inspiring Creativity

At Sadhguru School, we believe that all children should develop high level problem solving, critical thinking, creativity, teamwork, communication skills and conflict resolution. We use Montessori and enquiry-based learning methods, designed to ignite a child's natural curiosity to learn and explore.

Yoga: enhancing concentration

Daily yoga practice, designed by Sadhguru, is geared towards enhancing the children's concentration and memory, and improving their mind/body co-ordination

Vocational skills: the future is now

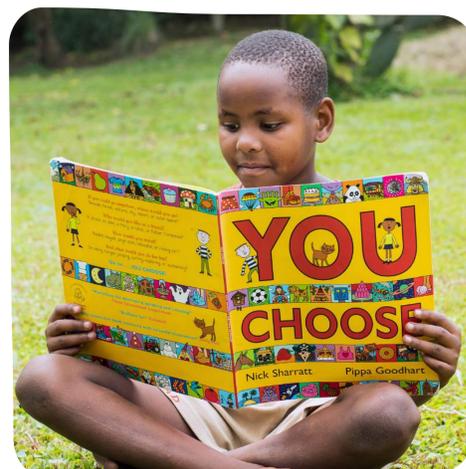
We provide Technical and Vocational Education Training to all our children, ensuring they are equipped with the skills they need to thrive in their local and wider community. Lessons include carpentry, hospitality, and information technology.

Extracurricular activities: discovering passion

The children enjoy a variety of extracurricular activities, running every day of the week from 4 to 5pm. Some of our favourite clubs include: traditional African music and dance, drama, cooking, handicrafts, photography, film, and sports.

A day at Sadhguru School

	Breakfast 8:00am	
	9:00am	Maths 
	Break 10:30am	
	11:00am	Yoga 
	Science 11:45am	
	12:30pm	Lunch 
	Art 1:30pm	
	2:15pm	Sport 
	Break 3:30pm	
	4:00pm	Clubs 
Home time!		



In our first week back, we asked our returning students to tell us their feelings about the school.

CIRCLE...

The words that describe how you feel at school:

Words circled by students:

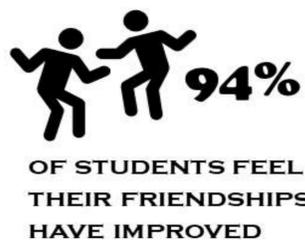
- Included
- Challenged
- Sad
- Bored
- Creative
- Happy
- Believed in
- Left out
- Proud
- Skilled

Is Sadhguru School different to other schools? If so, how?

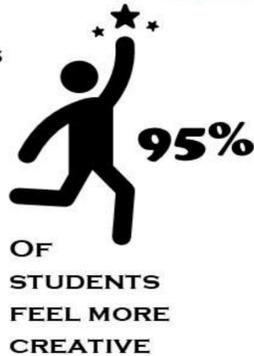
Sadhguru school is different from other schools because we study another curriculum and they don't beat children like other schools do. The teachers a good and a preserved environment.

DRAW...

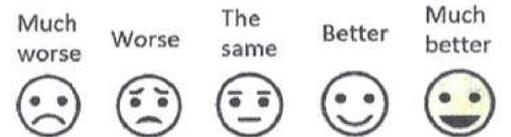
A picture of your favourite thing about Sadhguru School:



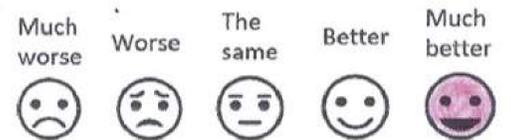
Since joining



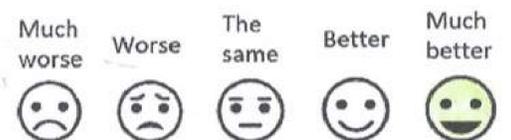
My confidence is:



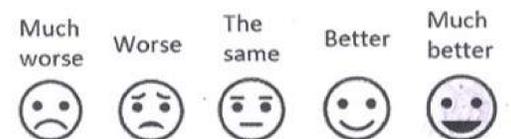
My English is:



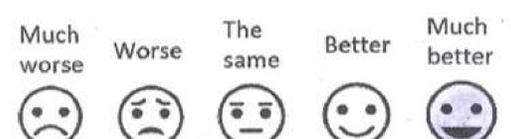
My friendships are:



My creativity is:



My happiness is:



If you could change one thing about Sadhguru School, what would it be?

They should teach as more yoga



If you could change one thing about Sadhguru School, what would it be?

Every thing is perfect. nothing to change.

During our recent feedback morning, 41 parents shared stories of how the school has impacted their children's lives.

Feedback form completions and focus groups discussions were co-led by our wonderful Rutooro speaking staff, allowing all parents to share their voice.

97% of parents feel their child's **happiness** has improved.

97.5% of parents feel their child's **confidence** has improved.

"My children are happy and proud of their school"



"My child has changed. She can read well and even the way she behaves in the community has changed"

95% of parents feel their child's **creativity** has improved.

97% of parents feel their child's **friendships** have improved.

87% of parents feel their child's **health** has improved.

95% of parents feel their child's **English** has improved.

"My child can express himself more confidently... He can read a book and answer questions and retell the story in his own words"



88% of parents feel their child's **reading** has improved.

"Before they came they were all speaking Rutooro but now they are even challenging children from other schools in speaking English"

Art



A selection of our children joined a local sculpture project at Toonda Community Centre. A local artist led the children in creating a permanent sculpture of a dancing lady and our volunteers helped the children to add a splash of colour to the impressive artwork.

Drumming



This year, we had a wonderful full week of drumming training from the Rockies Troupe Uganda crew. Our children loved watching the experts whilst learning new drumming skills.

Parents open day



We were blessed with a successful open day where prospective parents had a chance to experience our school environment and learning methods. Throughout the day, our children showcased the wonderful activities that make up a day at Sadhguru School.

The Moon Cafe



Taking inspiration from the success of the open day, we are excited to announce our latest project: 'The Moon Café'. Thought up by our imaginative Art specialist, the café will serve as a medium for our children to acquire vocational experience in a hospitality setting.

Home Learning

Throughout 2021 schools were closed in Uganda due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Most of our families do not have access to smart phones and therefore online learning is not accessible. However, this did not prevent our children and teachers from learning and making a positive impact within the local community.

In order to keep our children connected to their learning, we designed home workbook learning projects which we delivered through weekly teacher visits.



Socially distanced sport

Our in house coach ensured that the children kept up their sporty skills. Ongoing sports training took place on Ndali football pitch. Here, children continued to develop and enhance their soccer and tag rugby skills.

In the words of Coach Denis: "It is exciting to see the fun, excitement, passion, and big smiles on these kid's faces".



Following the SOPs

Since coming back to school, we have been following all SOPs to ensure learning can continue in the safest way possible. In one lesson, our early years children acted as policemen to maintain the COVID-SOP guidelines in their play market. Meanwhile, other children took temperatures from customers.



What's next?



Moving forward, we are looking to expand our vocational curriculum. This will ensure our children are equipped with skills they need for employment and entrepreneurship in their local and wider community. We wish to extend our facilities to include learning rooms for arts, crafts, vocational skills, sciences, music, computer studies, and herbal medicines.



Last year, we were thrilled to introduce one-to-one computer lessons to our children.

In order to grow our online access and digital learning space, we launched a GlobalGiving microproject 'Support Ugandan children to learn digital skills'. It is our aim that this Digital Skills Campaign will support us in providing computer access, IT infrastructure, and IT skills training to all of our students.

Our work would not be possible without the kindness and support of generous individuals, groups, and organisations. From everyone at Sadhguru School, we'd like to say a huge and heartfelt thank you.

An extra thank you to those long term donors who give via standing order every month of the year – your donations are some of the most important to us.

A special thanks to our partners:

**Isha Devi
Thakrar
Education
Partnership
Fund**

**Wagagi
Education
Partnership
Fund**

**Ndali Estate
Education
Partnership
Fund**

**Prode
Hortiflor
Education
Partnership
Fund**

**Isha
Foundation**

Ndali Lodge



Volunteer

Share your skills and help us provide a world-class education to the children of rural Uganda.

From martial arts training to business administration, we encourage volunteers from a variety of sectors.



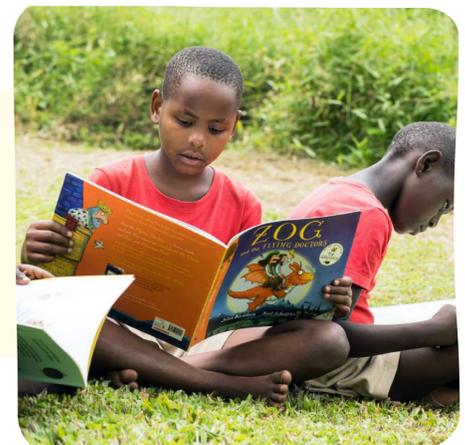
Fundraise

There are so many fun and easy ways to raise money to help give a Ugandan child an education.

Whether you'd like to organise a cake sale, host a coffee morning, or run a marathon, we're here to support you all the way.

Donate

Donate to Sadhguru School to give life changing education to rural Ugandan children. By giving just \$35 you could provide all the books and learning materials a child needs for a term.



Sponsor a child

By sponsoring a child at \$2,590/pa, you will ensure we can continue to provide a high-class education to children across Kabarole district. Your support will provide a child with the financial aid needed for school expenses such as textbooks, tuition, extra curricular activities, and medical fees. You will also be providing two nutritious meals a day to ensure the health of your child.

Become an Education Partnership Fund Holder

As an Education Partnership Fund holder, you will create a long-lasting partnership with Sadhguru School. Your support will give three to ten children the tools to become anything they want in life.

As a sponsor or partner you could receive...

- A double cottage on a full board basis for two nights in a year at Ndali Lodge, walking distance from Sadhguru School.
- The possibility to send a group of your employees, customers or family members to volunteer at Sadhguru School as a tool for their personal development and leadership training.
- An annual online video meet that will develop in its format as the child ages from 4 to 14 and beyond.
- Ongoing recognition in our promotional material and on social media.
- A framed commemoration plaque celebrating the Partnership to display in your office. A brass plaque at Sadhguru School.
- Our quarterly blog, providing updates on the school and our wonderful community.



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