

WE ARE OFF!

It has taken a little time to get started with our new school. Building in Malawi often has its complications, and for us the main challenge has been land. We had secured one site, only to discover there were issues with it, which meant the charity needed to find an alternative.



New School Foundations 2026

Once we acquired the second site, we then had to wait for the recently planted maize to grow and be harvested by the farmer selling the land. I am now excited to tell you that construction has started, using the funds raised by Bolton School families. I felt compelled to share this wonderful news with you!!!

BOLTON SCHOOL FUNDRAISING



Bolton School Fundraising 2024.

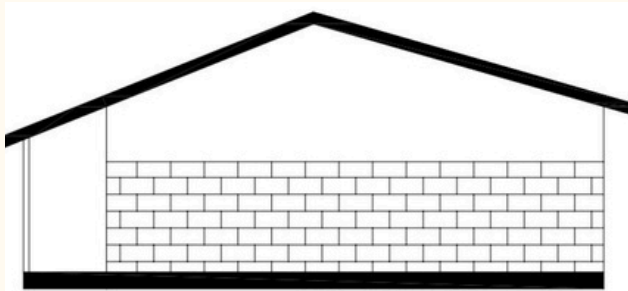
You may remember that in July 2024, all Bolton School pupils took part in a fundraising initiative, walking either around the school grounds or up to the peak at Rivington. It was a great day but more importantly the children raised an incredible £60,000.

The project to build a school in Malawi was originally championed by Mrs Marsden from Hesketh House, following her trips to Malawi, including her visit to see the Great Minds Bright Futures project in October 2023. I am thrilled that other members of the school community have also been right behind this project, including Philip Britton.

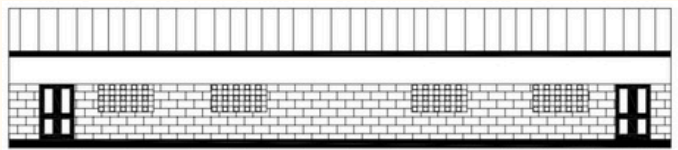
CONSTRUCTION IS UNDERWAY



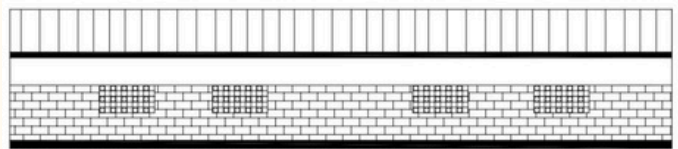
Over the last few weeks, we have had three separate contractors on site. One team is creating a solar water project, pumping thousands of litres per day into a huge tank. This will provide clean water for drinking, cleaning, construction, and a stable supply for the community. A second team is constructing the first classroom block, including storerooms, while a third team is building accommodation for teachers and visitors. They are also constructing two shops, one where school uniforms can be made and another for hairdressing, helping our children look smart and feel proud. In addition, they will build a kitchen to feed the Great Minds Bright Futures children, as well as toilets.



Side View



Front View



Rear View

WHY DZALEKA?

The school is located right on the edge of Dzaleka Refugee Camp, where refugees from across Africa have settled with their families. Including people from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Uganda, and Somalia. These families have fled their homes and livelihoods because of war, oppression, poverty, sexuality, and other circumstances. The camp was originally designed for 10,000 refugees, but now houses almost 60,000 people living in absolute poverty. I encourage you to visit and see it for yourself.

My charity's reach into Dzaleka came after I met a young lady who had been sexually assaulted, she now lives in the Dzaleka camp and she told me how she sent her daughter to a small feeding centre because she could not afford to feed her every day. I visited the centre, which was run by volunteers who were only able to feed around 40 orphans once a week using scraps from the market. From that day, Great Minds Bright Futures Tingathe was born. What started as daily feeding for 40 orphans has now grown to support more than 85 children, including two tiny babies, one just over 12 months old. I have spent time with her mother, who at 14 years old was in desperate need of our help. While some of the children were born in the camp, others have travelled many thousands of miles to escape their situations.

CONSTRUCTION IS UNDERWAY



Children at Dzaleka

The UN provides a small amount of support, just \$5 per month for someone in the camp, but it is not nearly enough. It is certainly not a place where families can afford to send their children to school, which is why this facility is so urgently needed. The Children are very excited and grateful for your support.



Children at Dzaleka



A SCHOOL BUILT ON STRONG VALUES



AIM

Our new classrooms, which we plan to open in September for the new school year, will safely accommodate our own children, as well as other vulnerable children from the camp. We aim to educate almost 300 children each year.

WE LOVE BOLTON SCHOOL

After consultations with Bolton School, we would also like to introduce the Hesketh Habits to our new school: Curiosity, Challenge, Creativity, Compassion, Commitment, Communication, Collaboration, and Celebration.

THANK YOU TEACHERS

In addition to adopting these strong Bolton School values, several Bolton School teachers are giving up their time to visit the new school during the forthcoming October half-term. They will help train our teaching staff and spend time encouraging the children. I am deeply honoured that they are taking this step and extremely grateful for their support. They are also planning some fundraising, which I know you will support.

STAY CONNECTED AND GET INVOLVED

To learn more about our projects in Malawi and Uganda, which now support 513 children of different faiths and origins, you can contact me at info@greatmindsbrightfutures.co.uk. You can also follow our Instagram and TikTok pages, @greatmindsbrightfutures, and visit the Great Minds Bright Futures website.

SPONSOR A CHILD

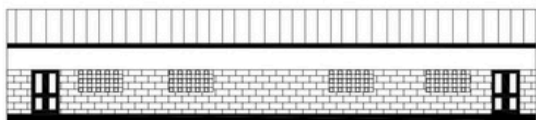
We also have several campaigns running, our Sponsor a Child campaign for just £25 per month goes live in July!!! This covers the children's food, education, healthcare, activities and basic necessities. Please sign up on our website Sponsor a Child

CONTAINER UPDATE

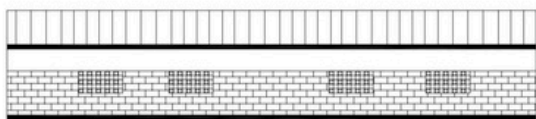
Thanks again to Bolton School and the parents who have been filling the container at the school grounds, we will be packing and shipping a 40ft container of aid. Can you help? Please contact dami@greatmindsbrightfutures.co.uk.

We are still accepting donations, they can be dropped off opposite the school at Hamill House, 112-116 Chorley New Road. BL1 4DH. Ask for Dami at Reception.

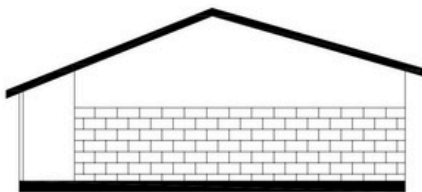
PICTURE GALLERY



Front View



Back View



Side View

