

Benjamin Chambers

Leadership in Action
project - September 2025

Children at Risk Action Network

Uganda



www.cranenetwork.org

Kampala operations

Based in central Kampala, the CRANE office runs the operations across the network. CRANE has hundreds of member organisations, including schools, churches, and charities - any body working with children. CRANE run training sessions, rescue street children, and work with the state to support children through court.

House of Joy

A recent acquisition of CRANE is a primary school in Kasala, roughly an hour and a half drive from Kampala. This is designed to work as a model of good education for the wider network, and can be used for visits.

**“Keeping
Children Safe”**



First two weeks

Site work & city work

Before school term started, I split my time between the House of Joy site and the office in Kampala. This meant lots of painting school gates, supporting kids' activity days, and facilitating a safeguarding deep dive training series for CRANE members.

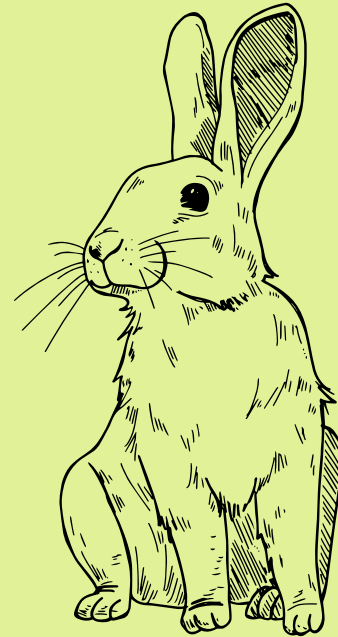
Second two weeks

Curriculum teaching

I taught primary classes in English, Maths, Reading, ICT, and PE. Working with the curriculum provided by teachers, I aimed to introduce new, interactive teaching methods. Bringing a different perspective to the school's teachers was useful, and I discussed with them how the education models in the UK and Uganda are different.

Extra-curricular

At the school I led debating and rabbit therapy. Bringing interactive debate sessions to the children was a joy, and it was encouraging to see how engaged they were when discussing important topics close to their hearts.



What I learned

Working at the school was frustrating at times. The strictly hierarchical, deferential culture in Uganda stymies individual teacher creativity - and each teacher has only ever been exposed to a rigid, unpersonalised teaching style. Introducing new ways of approaching lessons took time.

However, it was truly a joy to work with dedicated staff at CRANE and at House of Joy - all committed to protecting children, recognising their worth and helping them to fulfil their God-given potential.



Thank you

to all those who made
my placement possible
and memorable

www.cranenetwork.org