

## LOVINCE WEKESA

My name is Lovince Wekesa, born in 2005. I am now 15 years old, a fourth born in a family of six, two brothers and four sisters. My home is Kuywa, Bungoma County, Kenya. I rarely celebrate my birthday like other children in our village because of the cloud of poverty in my family. The last time I celebrated was years five ago. Being a rare occasion, I was so emotional and full of tears!



Life has its challenges and shortcomings, although as a teenager, I have learned that with determination and confidence, anything is possible. Sometimes back, my parents gave us a story about a family that was so poor in the past in our area but is now the shining star in the community. "However, this is can only happen if one trusts and hopes in the Lord," my parent said.

I joined a playgroup (Baby Class) at age five in Khalala Education Center. I then subsequently started my primary education in 2011. Due to poor performance at the beginning levels, my keen and concerned parents decided to switch schools for me. I was taken to another nearby primary school when I was supposed to advance to Grade 3 but because of poor academic performance from the previous school, I repeated Grade 2. I gained the required stability and was able to proceed to other classes well until I finished primary education.

Here, things were not just rolling okay but with a few challenges. I could walk more than 8km to and from school daily because my parents could not afford to take me to a boarding school. Every day, I could reach home fatigued but had to work hard on my assignments and bear with other challenges in the process. Finally, I sat for my end-of-the-year exams, Kenya Certificate for Primary Education (KCPE), and scored 346 marks.

In every success, we rejoice, so did I, because I knew these marks would land me in a good high school.

I was also happy for excelling at Mathematics, Kiswahili, and Social Studies because they were not only my favorite by the time I graduated from primary school but at some point, I used to perform poorly in some, like Mathematics. I thank God for my teachers who inspired and guided me to this excellence. I admit I was not exceptional in English and Science but I am ready for a new challenge in high school and I promise to work hard and produce the best from them.

I am talented in soccer and marathon running, both sports which I managed to reach the Sub-county level. Additionally, I also possess exceptional leadership skills where I served as the Class Prefect from Grade 3 to Grade 8. These are the skills I have been praying to get a chance at Living Hope High School (LHHS) where I know they can be nurtured and make me a useful person in the future. I dream of becoming a doctor so that I can treat people, especially women suffering from cancer.

I am happy for getting a chance to come to LHHS after a successful application that got me accepted. I was admitted on 27 July and I am looking forward to an adventurous and successful four-year academic journey here. I pray to God to get me someone that would support my high school education so that I may be able to achieve my dreams. God bless you.

Thank you.