

## Student Profile

Name: **Kate Mhango**  
Gender: Female  
Date of Birth: 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1994  
Place of Birth: Lusaka

Father: Zifa Mhango  
Profession: Unemployed  
Mother: Maureen Mhango  
Profession: Home Maker

Primary School: **Mumana Basic School**

Secondary School: **Pestalozzi Education Centre**

2012 Level: **Grade 11**

### Family Background:

Kate lives with both her parents, and four sisters in Kaunda Square. Kate's Father, Zifa Mhango, worked for Barclays Bank until 1997 when he was retrenched. He hasn't been employed ever since then. Maureen Mhango, Kate's mother is a homemaker and so she does not contribute to the family's income.

Without a steady job, Zifa has found it very difficult to sponsor children's education. Food is hard to come by, and buying other necessities such as uniforms and books is nearly a huge struggle. At times Kate has had to go to school hungry. Luckily, all four of Kate's sisters have completed secondary school and one is in teacher training college. Mr. Zifa receives a monthly income of K450,000.00 from renting out one of his houses, and Constance, the first-born, earns about K500,000 a month as a receptionist.

Kate developed kheloids behind her ears after she had her ears pierced. When she went to the hospital to get them removed, however, after the operation they began to grow bigger. Her peers often made fun of her because of her appearance. This was a challenge for Kate, undercutting her confidence. Kate has now had the kheloids successfully removed and the transformation in her confidence and poise is striking. She is a self-possessed young woman and a leader among her classmates. Her mother's support has been central--through this hardship her mother has always



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assured her that she is beautiful and that what matters most is her intelligence. This support has also helped Kate value her education.

## Kate's Education:

### **Primary - Mumana Basic School**

Kate attended Mumana Basic School from grade one. She demonstrated a love for school and academics. She understood that education is the only thing that can get her to where she wants to go in life. Kate earned the first position in school every year except in grade four when she got fourth place.

### **At Ibex Hill Secondary School**

#### *Grade 8*

At Ibex Hill School, Kate proved to be an outstanding student, excelling in her studies. In term one, she was the best student in grade 8, and in term two and three she finished second in her class

#### Grade 8 Achievements:

- Best Secondary school student in French
- 1<sup>st</sup> position in grade 9 during term one

#### *Grade 9*

Kate has continued to excel at Ibex during grade nine. She earned the top spot in her class across terms one and two with top marks in 6 of her 9 subjects! At prize-giving day at Ibex, Kate received an award for third position in the grade nine class. She has grown into a caring, responsible, and dedicated student who is confident in her abilities. Kate recently took the national grade nine exams, and is expecting to pass with high marks.

#### *Grade 10*

It has been another stellar year for Kate. She had an excellent Term 1, earning all A's and coming 1<sup>st</sup> in her class. Term 2 was equally successful and she retained her position of 1<sup>st</sup> in her class. She plans to continue this trend and earn first prize by the end of the year. She has also set her sights on becoming a Prefect by the end of the year, and has become one step closer to that goal after being elected sub-prefect. Overall it has been a highly impressive year for Kate and we expect more of the same in Term 3.

## Kate's Interests:

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## *Extracurricular Activities*

Kate participates in the Scripture Union Club. “There, we share ideas about God and learn more about the bible.” She has also taken up chess and volleyball since being at Ibex Hill. One of her extracurricular highlights in Grade 10 was the Work Experience program with KF. Through her time at the Cancer Diseases Hospital at UTH she says she learned a great deal about her career choice and “what work is all about.”

## Kate’s Career Interests:

Kate wants to be a surgeon once she has completed her studies because she wants to save lives. “I wish to be a doctor when I grow up and I wish to work in Zambia, for Zambia. If I became a doctor I would form an organization which would basically be about health and good hygiene. I would make sure that everyone gets to know more about their environment and personal hygiene because that is one of the things my community lacks. I would carry out a medical check-up mainly for children and women because they are the most affected people in my community.” Kate is not all science, however. She says she recently discovered that poetry is a “great way of expressing one’s feelings on paper.”

## Kate’s Role Model:

“My role model is my elder sister, Temwachi. This is because no matter what problems she faces, she always finds a way to make herself happy. The thing that I like most about her is that she always puts God first. The fact that she is a very courageous girl inspires me a lot.”

## What others think of Kate:

Kate’s primary school teachers feel that her performance in class is very good in all the subjects. She is an active child in class during lessons because she asks questions when she doesn’t understand. She also has the ability to study on her own without being reminded. She is a well behaved and hardworking girl.

At Ibex Hill her teachers commented, “Kate is a well behaved girl and her class performance is excellent.”

## Kate’s Thoughts:

“I urge all my friends both those in exam years and those who aren’t to work extra hard and keep God first. I thank K.F. for my opportunity to be at Ibex and I promise to make them proud.”