

Talking about global education

Talking points for your meeting with your MP

The month we are asking you to arrange to meet your MP to explain the vital importance of education for overcoming poverty and meeting the aspirations of the Global Goals. Please explain the importance of the Global Partnership for Education, and ask if they will be willing to support the campaign for a strong UK replenishment.

Please feel free to use any of the detailed information in this month's [Action Sheet](#) in your discussion with your MP. Don't worry if you can't remember it all – keep your points short and focused on your reasons for supporting the provision of education for all.

Here are some talking points you may wish to use to guide your discussion – though **please use your own words**. If you can, find time to practice what you are going to say before your meeting. You may also find the following **case study** useful.

- Education is vital to ensure that children grow up to be independent and productive members of society who can look after themselves and their families.
- Global Goal 4 aims to ensure “inclusive and quality education for all” by 2030, but on current levels of financing, we are unlikely to meet this target this century.
- The Global Goals aim to “leave no one behind”, but many children never have a chance to go to school, especially girls, children with disabilities and those caught up in crises.
- The Global Partnership for Education is the world's only multilateral partnership exclusively devoted to supporting public basic education. It now works in 65 countries in areas where there is greatest need.
- Globally, aid for education has been drastically declining. The annual financing gap is around US \$39 billion.
- The UK has been the biggest contributor to GPE. The UK Government has said that GPE can play an even more important role in future in achieving education for all.
- 2017 is the time for the Government to begin thinking about its ambitious pledge of resources to GPE and start encouraging other governments to do the same.

You can find advice on visiting your MP in our [campaign guide](#).

Case study: Education in Malawi



Photo credit: Mark Bushnell/Send My Friend

Barbara Patel is 17 years old and goes to Nazombe Primary School in Palombe, Malawi.

Barbara boards at the school and her family (mother, father, three brothers and sister) live in a different district. This is because Barbara is visually impaired and Nazombe Primary School has an education resource centre for the blind. This means that here she has resources that can help her to learn, but she does have to be far from her family. Barbara wants to be a nurse when she leaves school.

Barbara misses her family a lot. 'My parents stay in Mulange in the next district. They brought me here for boarding because there is the resource centre for the blind, so they feel that if I am close to the school then I can be assisted properly and I can do well in my studies.'

'I like school because I feel I will become empowered and I will become independent and I will also be able to help others that are not able to come to school for various reasons whether they are orphaned or they are just vulnerable, I can help them so that they can also access education the way I have done.'

'Education is important – it helps one to know a lot of things, you learn a lot of information but also for people who come from poor families when they access education they are able to improve their lives in future and become people who are able to access things and get out of poverty.'

'Our school It is a very big primary school and hosts about 4000 pupils and each class holds about 90 or 80 pupils per class.'

'I feel sad because even though we have these people who are not able to access education because they are poor, there are other people somewhere who have the resources to help but for these people to have access to these people it is somehow difficult or challenging so I feel sad that it is like that.'

'All the children in Malawi should go to school so that they are independent in future and those that are vulnerable should not stop going to school because they are lacking materials, to ensure that they are independent in future.'

'World leaders should ensure that the people who are vulnerable and are not able to get their basic needs or access education should be given extra support so that they can access education and better their lives.'

Barbara is a member of an after-school club tackling issues of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV). 'If I didn't come to school I wouldn't have known the importance of education, she wouldn't have known what SGBV is all about. Because I came to school I have a lot of information that is useful for me.'

'I have learnt that if I meet other girls who have been forced into marriage that is not right and we should talk to them so that they come back to school. Also we have been taught that we shouldn't be subjected to sexual and gender based violence in school and now we are aware of our rights and what is not supposed to happen to us in the school.'