

Study, Study, Study

During the final year of high school, many extra-curricular activities are replaced with a strict focus on academics. Spare time during Form 4 is spent preparing for the KCSE (Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education) exam, which is taken over several weeks in November. Students face significant academic pressure and they look to the EFAC community, including communications from sponsors, for support and encouragement.



Understanding the KCSE

A rigorous series of 21 "papers" (exams), the KCSE score is calculated from compulsory exams in math, English, Kiswahili, sciences, humanities and a practical or technical subject. The KCSE material covers all four years of high school and as the test date draws closer, students are under increasing pressure. In their letters to you, they often comment on this, expressing hope, worry, or ask for your thoughts as they enter into exams. The KCSE dictates whether a student will attend a university program (4 years) or a college diploma program (2-3 years), as well as what they will study. KCSE results are posted in January. We are proud that all EFAC scholars perform well enough to continue on to a post-secondary program. In 2022, 80% of EFAC scholars qualified for a Bachelor's Degree, compared to 20% nationally.

'Graduation'

In Kenya, high school graduates are honored in an all-school ceremony before the younger students leave for the break, and then they remain on campus to complete the KCSE exams. EFAC holds a special graduation celebration for EFAC Scholars at the completion of post-secondary school.

What Happens Next: Bridge-to-College

After completing the KCSE, high school graduates come together for the Bridge-to-College Workshop, a four-week program to help EFAC scholars select and rank post-secondary options and prepare for a more independent life after boarding school.



Communication with Students

Letter exchanges occur three times a year. Understanding the flow of the year helps you to time words of encouragement or inquire about events and plans. More helpful communication tips are included in the Sponsor Handbook.

Letter Writing Timeline

	To student...		From student...
Letter 1	January	↔	April
Letter 2	June	↔	August
Letter 3	October	↔	December

HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR 2024

Term 1: Early January - Early April

Early to Late April, break

Term 2: Late April to Early August

Early to Late August, break

Term 3: Late August to Late October

November to Early January, break

Form 4 KCSE Testing:
November 4 to 22