

Watoto

GIFT POLICY 2018 FAQ's

Am I able to give a gift to my sponsored child if I come to Uganda to visit?

To be consistent and fair, we would ask that sponsors do not give gifts or money to their individually sponsored member when the sponsor visits Uganda. We ask that any gifts they bring will be put into our gift pool.

Am I able to give a gift to my sponsored child if I meet them when they are on tour?

To be consistent and fair, we would ask sponsors not to give gifts or money to their sponsored member when they meet on tour. We ask that any gifts they bring will be put into the tour gift pool.

I have sponsored a student who is graduating from Post-Secondary education. If I send a gift will it be given to them?

To be consistent and fair, we would ask sponsors not to give gifts or money to their individually sponsored individual. Gifts sent will be pooled, so that every individual graduating can receive a gift.

What items are acceptable to include with my letter to my sponsored child/mother?

- Photos of you or your immediate family as it will help them know a little about you and help them write a letter to you.
- Colorful postcards
- Construction paper
- Small hair bands
- Bookmarks
- Scripture cards
- Stickers

Why did you stop individual gifts?

In the past, only a limited number of sponsored children, mothers and teachers were recipients of sponsors gifts or money given at the discretion of the sponsor or donor. In the interest of and in an effort to be fair to all the children and mothers under the care of Watoto Child Care Ministries, a fairer distribution method was implemented.

What happens to parcels and gift money given by sponsors and donors?

The gifts are inventoried and securely stored in a site in each Watoto village and given to beneficiaries on special occasions. After inventory in the central register, the UG staff will communicate to the country offices on a weekly basis, giving names of sponsors whose gifts have been received from the different countries. The Country Coordinators will then get in touch with these sponsors to acknowledge them for the gifts sent to Watoto.

How do I know that the parcel or money I send is actually being given to a child or mother?

All gifts are tracked and monitored. Upon receipt, the gift items and money are inventoried in a central register. Gift items are then distributed to a Watoto village and stored securely. Village administration records the item removed from the Gift Inventory along with the name of the recipient and date it is given. Monetary gifts are given through the country office that administers Your sponsorship. The office wires the funds to UG where the funds are requisitioned from Accounts in order to purchase gift items needed in the gift pool. The requisition and receipting system provides accountability for management of gift funds.

What happens to the funds that are already in the children's accounts?

Any funds received prior to the implementation of this policy will be retained in the child's account and will not be pooled. It is our hope that as the children grow older, they will learn to save funds for future use.

What is a sponsor limited to doing for his/her beneficiary?

The greatest gifts you can give are prayer and consistent sponsorship payments, which provide for their needs. A letter about twice per year so they know something about you is meaningful.

Will you ensure that at least one of the gifts I send will get through to my sponsored child?

Unfortunately, no, we are not able to guarantee that, nor will the recipient know who donated the gift.

Where should I send gifts items for the gift pool?

Please do not send to the country office that administers your sponsorship.

Gifts should be mailed directly to the Uganda office. The mailing address is:

Watoto Child Care Ministries

Attn: Sponsorship Department

P.O. Box 26366

Kampala, Uganda

Where should I send money for the gift pool?

Please send gift funds to the country office that administers your sponsorship.

The funds will be wired to the Uganda office to be included in the gift pool to be able to purchase necessary gifts. Do not send funds directly to the Uganda office.

What happens if I choose to give a gift to my sponsored beneficiary privately without the knowledge of Watoto?

We ask sponsors to consider the message this sends to the beneficiary about the importance of integrity and respect for Watoto's policies. Giving a gift privately without the knowledge of Watoto sends a message that is contrary to our objective. It puts a recipient in a position of breaking a policy that he or she is aware of to receive a gift from you directly; we want to encourage integrity and principled actions in all our beneficiaries. If you choose to disregard this, it could put your sponsorship in jeopardy.

