



# BUILDING HOPE

Case for Support—August 2011



## OUR VISION

Global-minded servant-leaders with a biblical understanding and application of knowledge, impacting the world for Christ.

**People of Hope—  
Godly Leaders Worldwide**



## OUR MISSION

To support world missions by providing quality, Christ-centered educational services for families of international Christian workers in Cambodia and surrounding countries.

**Hope School—  
Training Servants for Christ**

## Hope International School

*Hope International School is a vibrant, nurturing school community with a vision to see students impact the world for Christ. Based in Cambodia's capital Phnom Penh, Hope School exists to **support missionary and Christian expatriate families** working with the people of Cambodia and surrounding regions.*

For many missionary and Christian expatriate families serving in Cambodia the education of their children is a **significant factor** in their availability to serve in Cambodia long term. Without Hope School, many families would be faced with limited educational choices and a number would consider returning to their home country for their children's education.

We provide over 170 families with affordable, international standard education, offering them an educational choice which enables them to continue serving in Cambodia. Many of our Hope School families work alongside Cambodians in areas of church planting, Bible teaching, Bible translation, leadership development, education, community development, health and nutrition, water and sanitation, business development, income generation, human trafficking, agriculture, and more. Hope School's commitment to support the work God is doing in Cambodia through these families is **vitaly important**.

This commitment also extends to supporting missionary families serving in provincial Cambodia. Our campus in the city of Siem Reap opened in 2010, and our Homeschool Support Unit works with homeschooling families throughout Cambodia.

Hope School embraces the diversity of God's people, with our **300 students** representing 27 nationalities, from preschool to Year 13 (Grade 12). We strive for **educational excellence** in an international context. We nurture our students' God-given gifts and abilities, with programs in music and worship, art and design, sports, technology, and a range of extra-curricular activities to complement their academic studies.

Hope School has grown from 4 students in 2002 to 300 today, and the school's growth continues. We have a substantial waiting list of prospective students whose needs we cannot meet. Many of our classes are at **capacity**, and we don't have additional classroom space to add new classes.

To continue to **support the growth of world missions in Cambodia**, Hope School needs to expand and grow. The Hope School Board and school community have been praying for a number of years, seeking God's direction and plans. We believe God is leading us forward towards establishing a permanent home for Hope School to consolidate and extend our ability to serve missionary and Christian expatriate families working with the people of Cambodia.

*We believe God is leading us forward in **BUILDING HOPE**.*



Phnom Penh, Cambodia

We are owned by **5 member mission organisations:**

- OMF (Overseas Missionary Fellowship)
- Assemblies of God
- NZCMS (New Zealand Church Missionary Society)
- Interserve, and
- CCFC—Christian Care for Cambodia, a coalition of member agencies: Church Missionary Society Australia, Church Missionary Society New Zealand, Danish Lutheran Mission, Global Interaction (Aust), International Ministries (US) and Pioneers (Aust).

Hope School is an **accredited** ACSI (Association of Christian Schools International) School and is a Cambridge University Examination Centre (IGCSE and AS certification).

We are also a candidate school for the IB Diploma.



Mr Brent Willmore has been Director of Hope School since 2004, and his leadership and focus on the school's vision and mission has resulted in enormous growth.

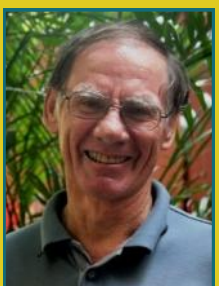
*"I am really excited to be part of God's vision for this school. I feel like BUILDING HOPE is similar to Joshua crossing the Jordan. It is a step of faith for us as a community. We are building something that I hope will be salt and light for generations to come."*

Brent believes that Cambodia's tragic recent history and the resultant lack of skilled and trained people has created a need for missionaries and people with specialized training that is perhaps greater than that of many other countries.

Missionaries and other expatriates in Cambodia seek quality education options for their children, and Hope's mission is to provide quality Christ-centred educational services to these families.

*"Without Hope School, a significant number of our families serving God here in Cambodia would have very few viable and affordable education options, and would potentially consider returning to their home country."*

*"I see that in terms of this nation Hope School will be significant for Christian education in the long term. The seeds that we sow here will be around for many years to come."*



Hope School's Board Chairperson, Mr Gerald Harley, has previously served as principal of KISC, an international school in Kathmandu, Nepal. He understands the issues associated with renting property and the potential

impact it has on a school. KISC moved six times in 15 years, as rental properties became unsuitable or unavailable for rent.

*"Hope School is here to stay for a significant period of time. To me the best solution is to have a property you have control over, and even more so if you have a purpose built school rather than make use of existing buildings which were not built as classrooms."*

## We're BUILDING HOPE

Since its beginnings in 2002 with four students Hope International School grows each year and has a current enrolment of 300 students.

- 80% of our students are from families serving as missionaries in Cambodia and the surrounding region, and
- another 10% are from Christian expatriate families serving in Cambodia.

We are in the process of finalising a contract with FEBC (Far East Broadcasting Cambodia) for the purchase of land on the outskirts of Phnom Penh, and we have a team of internationally qualified professionals working on plans and construction costings for a new school campus.

### Why do we want to purchase land and build?

- Renting is not viable long term. We currently lease property from six different landlords, and our ability to grow is limited by the availability of suitable properties to rent.
- We are at the mercy of landlords and rental increases.
- As tenants we continue to invest money in establishing and maintaining buildings and facilities that we do not own.
- Hope School currently pays \$100,000USD a year in rent to landlords. This is money the Board would prefer to invest into property we own.

### Why purchase land from FEBC?

Land is scarce in Phnom Penh, especially a piece of land big enough for a school. FEBC (Far East Broadcasting Cambodia) has owned land on the outskirts of Phnom Penh for a number of years, and is willing to sell a 5 hectare block of this land to Hope School. We plan to purchase this land in two stages - a 2.4 hectare titled block, and a 2.6 hectare titled block.

Donations to the purchase of land for Hope School has a two-fold benefit. Not only will contributions assist the BUILDING HOPE project, this money will then also be used by FEBC to fund the ongoing operations of their ministry to proclaim the gospel throughout Cambodia.

### What will our new campus include?

The new Hope School will have purpose built learning facilities for 600 students, specifically designed for our preschoolers through to our high school students. This will allow Hope School to grow to two classes per year level. And in a city where parks and outdoor play areas are scarce, our plans to include multipurpose sports fields and playing courts are significant for our students and wider community. Open space and grass areas are integral elements in encouraging our students to fully develop a full range of gifts and talents.

Current plans can be viewed at <http://www.hopeschool-cambodia.org/building/buildinghope/proposedplans.html>.



*"This project is a very exciting opportunity to make a piece of architecture that is missional. When we complete the project and view it as a result of the process, I hope that people were brought closer to Jesus and strengthened in their faith."*

Paul Robinson, Project Architect, serving in Cambodia with OMF



# Estimated project costs

Please note: costs are detailed in USD as Cambodia operates on dual currency—the local Reil and US Dollars.

## Stage One

Purchase 2.4 hectares of land and prepare for construction

**\$1,030,000 USD**



## Stage Two

Construction of school facilities for current enrolment

**\$4,600,000 USD**



## Estimated cost to relocate current school

**Stage One + Stage Two \$5,630,000 USD**

## Stage Three

Purchase extra 2.6 hectares of land and construct additional facilities for up to 600 students

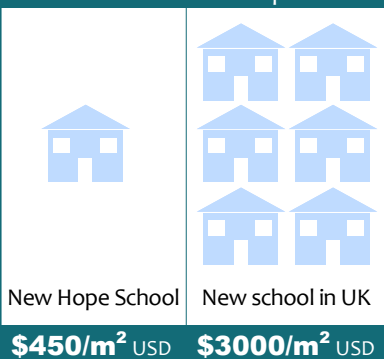
**\$5,850,000 USD (estimated)**



*“The project itself has been a miracle already. God has allowed Hope to find the land and have an opportunity to purchase it. And we have qualified people that can give their time to work on the school.”*

Ueli Sommer, Project Manager, serving in Cambodia with YWAM

## Construction cost comparisons



# God's provision

We have already seen God's provision for BUILDING HOPE in a number of ways:

- God has provided the opportunity to purchase land from FEBC, at a **competitive market rate** and with generous terms of contract and settlement.
- God has placed in Cambodia, within our own Hope School community, a number of **qualified professionals** from around the world to work with local Cambodians to oversee the building of our new school. Our project architect, project manager and another architect receive full financial support from their churches and individuals in the UK and Switzerland, enabling them to work voluntarily and save Hope School an estimated \$800,000USD in professional fees.
- Hope School is a non-profit entity with income generating capacity (through school fees and capital fees) to fund the ongoing functioning of the school, ensuring **long term self-sustainability**. Increased student capacity and rental savings will enable Hope School to service long term interest free loans.
- Hope School has a proven record of **financial stewardship**. Our fee structure is low compared to other international schools in Phnom Penh to ensure affordability for the missions community, and through prudent financial decisions our relatively young school has saved **\$100,000USD** already for the BUILDING HOPE project.
- Our teachers, families, and supporters around the world have contributed over **\$100,000USD** to our fledgling fundraising campaign.
- One of our member mission organisations, OMF, has made a financial contribution of **\$100,000USD** to BUILDING HOPE.

To date, Hope School and our supporters have contributed over **\$300,000USD** to this project.

## Kim & You family

Kim, Gi-dae and You, So-hyon have been in Cambodia since 2000. They are involved in church planting and teaching natural farming methods in Takeo Province. This Korean family is based in Phnom Penh so their three children, Ye-hyook (Yr 11), Ye-sung (Yr 10), and Ye-rin (Yr 8) can attend Hope School.



*“Hope School is very very important to our family. I believe it is our best choice for education so that is why our children are here. If Hope School can provide a good enough education for our children to stay here, we hope to stay in Cambodia.”*

Gi-dae and So-hyon travel over an hour several times a week to the agricultural school in Takeo, a community of 60 students learning natural farming methods. Local farming skills were severely depleted during the Pol Pot regime, so it is vitally important to teach rural Cambodians sustainable farming principles. A vibrant church is also growing through this community of students.

Gi-dae appreciates the long term benefit of Hope School purchasing land. *“I really appreciate and give thanks to God for giving the opportunity to buy land and build Hope School. I believe it is important to establish a foundation for our school community on which we will build a strong heritage for the education of missionary children.”*

Part of Hope School's commitment to supporting Christian workers is maintaining a low fee structure for tuition, so our international standard education is accessible to as many families as possible.

Most of our teachers are missionaries and receive financial support from churches and individuals in their home country to supplement the basic living allowance provided by Hope School. This external financial support for our teachers contributes significantly to our ability to maintain lower fees than other international standard schools in Cambodia.

### Annual School Fees

 Yr 12 student at Hope School <b>\$4,660USD</b>	 Grade 12 student at another Phnom Penh international school <b>\$15,400+USD</b>
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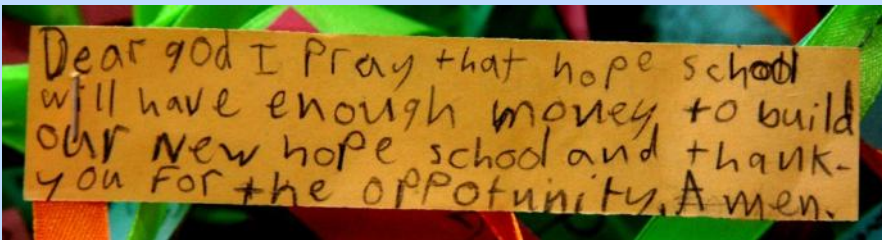


*"Hope School really is a huge blessing and I know that God is actively working in the family of Hope School. If Hope didn't exist, I think I'd be a very different person. I've learned alot being part of that community, and not just about reading, writing and arithmetic. I really respect those who have given so much of their lives to serve the school."*

Jessica Seckler, Hope School 2010 Graduate

*"If there was no Hope School it would threaten what we are doing here. We need our children to be educated. The fees at Hope School are cheaper than other schools and the teaching and community there are excellent!"*

Steve and Wendy Tripp, serving in Cambodia with Servants to Asia's Urban Poor, with Isaac (Yr 13) and Niam (Yr 6).



*Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails. Proverbs 19:21*

## Please join us in **BUILDING HOPE**



The **BUILDING HOPE** project is an opportunity for you to contribute to God's ongoing work in Cambodia through supporting education for mission families.

We are seeking financial gifts and interest-free loans from individuals and organisations wishing to invest in the growth of world missions in Cambodia and South East Asia.

For more information about **BUILDING HOPE**, please contact:

**Mr Brent Willsmore, Director**  
+855 23 217 565 or +855 89 507 005  
director@hopeschool-cambodia.org

**Mrs Caroline Berry, Development Officer**  
+855 23 217 565 or +855 17 454 032  
berryc@hopeschool-cambodia.org



### Hope International School

[www.hopeschool-cambodia.org](http://www.hopeschool-cambodia.org)  
**Street address** (please do not post items to this address)  
243, Street 271, Toul Tompoung, Phnom Penh 3  
**Postal address**  
PO Box 2521, Phnom Penh 12000, Cambodia  
**Phone**  
Office: +855 23 217 565, Mobile +855 12 409 597

### To talk with us about a donation or loan

**Phone** +855 23 217 565  
**Email** [berryc@hopeschool-cambodia.org](mailto:berryc@hopeschool-cambodia.org)  
**Web**  
[www.hopeschool-cambodia.org/building](http://www.hopeschool-cambodia.org/building)  
**Bank transfer to Hope School Account**  
Bank: ANZ Royal Bank, Phnom Penh, Cambodia  
Account No: 984549 Swift Code: ANZBKHPP



Mark and Jane Prothero with Eden (Yr 9) and Alfie (Yr 7).

Hope School's High School Principal, Mark Prothero works alongside his wife Jane, our Primary School Principal. They have served at Hope School since 2006, and both have a huge passion for teaching.

Jane says of their decision to serve at Hope School, "We were fascinated about what some of the parents were doing over here. We couldn't do what they were doing but we could teach their children. God has trained us in different areas over the years, which has brought us here now."

"It is really important to have a school like Hope. It is hard for us to grow with the restraints that we have at the moment. People on our waiting list are students that fit into our mission statement. Their parents are missionaries serving the community in Cambodia."



Christine Stacey teaches ICT to both primary and high school students. She has served Hope School's students since arriving in Cambodia in 2007.

"Shortly after I arrived at Hope School a mother came and thanked me for being here. If Hope wasn't here, she said, I would have to go back to my home country for my children's education," Chris shares.

"When I asked her what she did she told me she works with people caught up in human trafficking. I am really grateful to God that I can be of service to people who are working to help needy Cambodians and bring hope by sharing Jesus' love with them."