

PRESS RELEASE

22nd September 2016

BRIDGE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIES WILL OPEN FOR THIRD TERM – COURT

Lady Justice Patricia Basaza Wasswa of the High Court of Uganda extended the Interim Order until the 3rd of October ensuring that Bridge International Academies will remain open until our case challenging the Ministry of Education’s closure notice can be heard.

Lead lawyer in the case, Isaac Walukaga, welcomed the Court’s decision. “We are happy about the extension,” he said, “because this means that Bridge International Academies will be open for third term without a doubt.”

Bridge’s Country Director, Andrew White, added that the decision by the High Court to block the closure of the academies is especially important because it allows Bridge to continue the critical mission of providing children with access to high quality education. Mr. White said that because of the Court’s ruling, “More than 12,000 children and 500 teachers in 63 academies across the country will be in class on the 26th of September.”

It is also a great day for parents who have worried about the future of their children’s education after learning of the closure notices by the Ministry of Education. Henry Kalema, a parent of 3 children at Bridge International Academy in Kajjansi, said “I am happy that my children will go back to Bridge International Academy where they have been progressing well, especially in learning English. I was worried about having to put them into UPE schools.”

The bottom line is that thousands of Ugandan children deserve to concentrate on what really matters to them— learning—and their parents deserve to choose what’s best for their children without that right being pulled out from under them.

The Interim Order was certainly positive, but the court case continues. Bridge is still in talks with the Ministry of Education and hopes to officially, amicably, and definitively resolve the matter very soon.

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Senior Manager, Public Relations.

Contact: Solomon Serwanjja

Ph: +256 774380945

Email: solomon.serwanjja@bridgeinternationalacademies.com

Notes for the editor.

About Bridge International Academies:

Bridge International Academies is the world's largest education innovation company, empowering communities to deliver a world-class education accessible to all. Bridge strives to support its teachers provide engaging lessons to the more than 100,000 pupils who attend its nursery and primary schools across Africa and soon Asia.

Bridge is data-driven and technology-enabled. Its model leverages research, technology, and data analysis in order to drive continuous improvement across all aspects of operations, ensuring its pupils receive the world-class education needed to progress and thrive. Bridge uses its expertise in lesson design, teacher training and support, and software development to partner with governments and NGOs to strengthen education systems across the world.