



There were a few changes in the FIGS trustee board in 2025. Trustees Margaret Eddershaw and Hugh Paget stepped down after over 10 years of service each, although both remain committed supporters. Oliver Badger also stepped down after two years of service, during which he provided support to FIGS' fundraising activity. We thank them all for their years of hard work and dedication. Eleanor Caine and John Forde joined the board in 2025, bringing experience in communications, international development, and public health, strengthening the Board's collective expertise.

Regarding staffing, the Fundraising Administrator role changed because the previous post-holder moved to a new position outside FIGS. The Senior Fundraiser, recruited in 2024, was promoted, through open competition, to Head of Fundraising and Communications in 2025. To increase capacity in 2026, FIGS will recruit a Fundraising and Communications Officer (0.8 FTE), strengthening the team's ability to achieve ambitious fundraising targets and donor engagement activities. FIGS also has four volunteers involved in fundraising, communications or advisory capacities.

We now turn to the achievements and performance of IGBS in South Sudan.

Ibba Girls Boarding School (IGBS)

IGBS provided primary and secondary education to 325 girls in 2025. The school operates in a wider context marked by ongoing insecurity, displacement, and the long-term effects of conflict across South Sudan. Despite this difficult context, IGBS functions as a stable institution offering continuity of schooling alongside employment for its staff, and basic services in the local area. Operating at 90% of its full capacity of 360 students (limited only by the need to build a further dormitory before it can expand to full size), the school continues to play a central role not only in education but also as an important institution within Ibba County and Western Equatoria State. The ripple effect of education into families and communities, along with the employment of staff, means that the school supports wider learning, livelihoods, and local development.

IGBS was able to enjoy several achievements across 2025. Teaching and learning were provided consistently across all three academic terms in line with the national curriculum. The school recruited 45 new students into Primary 4 at the start of the South Sudanese academic year in February 2025.

In national examinations, a 100% pass rate was achieved by all 30 students taking the national Primary Leaving Certificate in Primary 8 and all 22 students taking the national Secondary Leaving Certificate in Secondary 4—placing the school among the best-performing in South Sudan. Student retention remained high in context, with seven students leaving during the year, for health, travel costs and early pregnancies (despite consistent preventative efforts by the school, and at a rate significantly lower than the national average). These gaps were actively managed through targeted recruitment into Senior 1.

All 325 students enrolled at IGBS benefited from a structured boarding environment that enabled full participation in academic and co-curricular life. Activities such as debate, music, drama, and sport provided opportunities to develop confidence, leadership, and communication skills across all year groups.