

Key Stage 2-3

Isatu's story

Isatu is eight years old and lives in Sierra Leone. Her life was devastated when an outbreak of the Ebola virus killed thousands of people across the country, including her mother and father.

Isatu now lives with her sister and grandmother and is desperate to go back to school, but she has no uniform.



“Last year I was OK but now I have lost my mother and father and everything has changed. Now I am not at school and we don't live in our house any more. I am scared.

When I think about my mother I feel very bad. I remember her going away in the ambulance and I waved bye-bye to her. Then they put orange plastic around our house and burnt all our things.



When my mother was alive she used to give us breakfast before we went to school and was there when we got home. But now we have no breakfast.

I want to go back to school but my uniform has been burnt and my grandmother can't afford to buy me a new one.

My job is to wash the dishes and help my Granny around the house. I play cards with my sister to pass the time.

My only hope is to go back to school. I am afraid that my grandmother will die one day and then there will be nobody to look after us.

I want to be able to provide for myself and get a good job."

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