



Thank you

*You planted a seed of hope
in Panchbibi.*

Watch it bloom.

The Seed

Your 2016 sponsorship update
from your sponsored child's community in Bangladesh.

Thank you for helping to bring hope to your sponsored child's community.

Bringing hope to children like Puja

Puja, 7, lives in a village in Panchbibi with her mum, dad and brothers. Poor and vulnerable children like Puja used to go to the toilet in a nearby field. Few knew about personal hygiene. Many villagers didn't wash their hands after going to the toilet or before meals, and often didn't wear shoes. So children suffered from preventable illnesses like diarrhoea.

Then Puja's mum joined a new community group. After learning about health and hygiene, members toured the village to make the case for building proper toilets in homes. Many families were convinced. Puja's parents couldn't afford to install a toilet, so the group paid.

Thanks to you, Puja and her friends also learned about hygiene. Inspired, they marched through their village with flags, promoting good habits and trying to stop people going to the toilet outside.

"We accepted the challenge to have correct hygiene practice and strive to continue having 100% sanitation in our village," says Sujan, group chairman. Better yet, fewer children now get ill from waterborne diseases.



LEFT: Thanks to you, Puja's family have a toilet and know to wash their hands. **RIGHT:** Puja and her friends marched through their village to highlight the dangers of going to the toilet outside.

“I used to go to the toilet outside in the open, without sandals on. Now I wear shoes when I go to the toilet,” says Puja, 7.





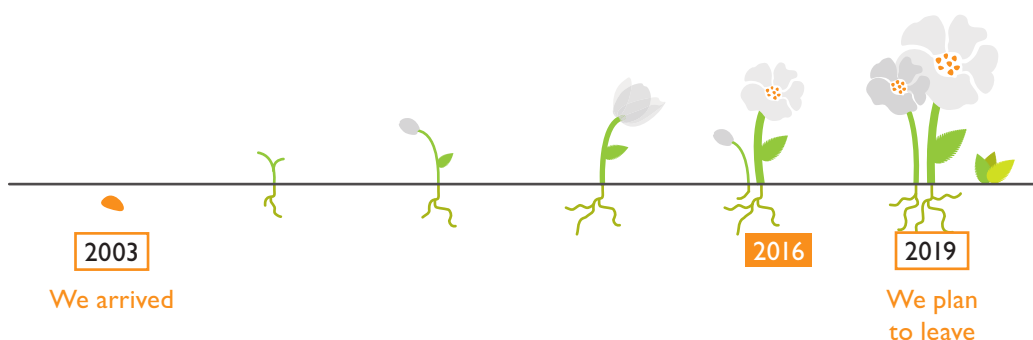
We've come a long way, and we're still making progress — *all thanks to you.*

We've been working with the community of Panchbibi since **2003**. Back then, children faced many problems: not enough food; poor health due to preventable illness; lack of education and essential life skills; and social and emotional isolation.

Since then, things have begun to change for the better. Children understand how washing their hands after using the toilet reduces the risk of diarrhoea; mums know how to prepare nutritious foods so their children are healthier; more children go to school; and now that most parents are literate, they can start their own businesses.

Despite these improvements, life is still hard for your sponsored child, and we really need your continuing support to ensure all the good we have managed to achieve for them isn't lost.

Thanks to your incredibly generous sponsorship of your sponsored child, we can stay in the area for another three to four years. We plan to leave in **2019**, but we will only go once we are confident that the change you have made, and the hope that you have given, will continue after we have left.



How you have helped this year...

We've picked out a small selection of the ways you have helped to bring hope to your sponsored child and their community. The reality is that you've helped us achieve much, much more.

- * Children get treatment quicker now their parents recognise the symptoms of common ailments.
- * **90%** of children completed primary school thanks to teacher training and support from parents.
- * More girls go to school since their parents learned about the harm caused by child marriage.
- * Most families eat three meals a day thanks to new ways of farming that boost their harvest.
- * Mums use new sewing skills to earn extra money and provide better for their children.
- * **20%** more children say they feel protected from abuse and neglect thanks to community awareness sessions.
- * **300** children understand their rights and are now ambassadors within their community.
- * **240** newly-trained leaders run children's clubs where children run, play and learn.

“Seeing the video is very touching and makes my sponsorship more real to me.” Gillian, Newtownabbey.

Have you seen your video from your sponsored child's community showing just how much your support means to them? Watch it today.

Register now at www.worldvision.org.uk/my-sponsorship.

See back cover for more details.



TOP LEFT: “Playing badminton makes me happy,” says Jibon, 11. “Without the support of sponsors like you, we wouldn’t reach our goals.” **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Tayba Rahman plays at cooking using new hygiene tips, just like her mum.



How do children like your sponsored child feel when they hear from their sponsor?

We asked sponsored children to share their thoughts with us...

"I keep them in my secret box, so that no one can get them." Elina, 5, Armenia.

"I want to spend Christmas Day at church singing songs for my sponsor so that God can bless her." Bibian, 15, Zambia.

"I am happy to receive a Christmas card from my sponsor in the UK. I've shown it to my friends and I keep it in my bag. I want my sponsor to visit me, and I would love to say hello to them." Sokly, 15, Cambodia.

However you choose to stay in touch with your sponsored child – whether by writing, emailing them on My Sponsorship, sharing photos or just taking a few moments in a busy day to think about or pray for them – thank you for bringing hope to your sponsored child.

Keep an eye out in the post as we'll send a Christmas card for you to send to your sponsored child in a few weeks' time.

ABOVE: Christmas cards add a spark of excitement to a normal day for Promise, 12, from Bangladesh.

"I am very happy to see that I am in your thoughts. You are so special to me. I am thankful for all you have done for me."

Gentiana, 12, Albania.

For the long-term, for lasting change, **for ever.**

Thanks to you, and other sponsors who are equally generous, we can work alongside a community for 15 years. That gives us time to help them bring about lasting change themselves, so they can continue to care for children long after we've left. When we do leave, it's because they're strong enough to stand on their own two feet.

Amanda (pictured below) has sponsored six children over 31 years, including Wasim, who she met in person on a trip to Bangladesh. She knows how it feels to say goodbye after so many years...

"It was a wrench... [but it was] so lovely to have that connection with Wasim and to see him grow and progress, and now we're sponsoring Joya. So we have every hope that she will progress as well as Wasim did."

Mary has been a sponsor for 34 years. In this time she's sponsored eight children. She tells us what this was like for her...

"As I never married and haven't had children of my own it's been a blessing knowing that I have helped in some way to improve the lives of children a long way away and let them know that I care about them and love them. I will always be a sponsor and support World Vision even when I'm gone."

How you can improve the lives of children for ever

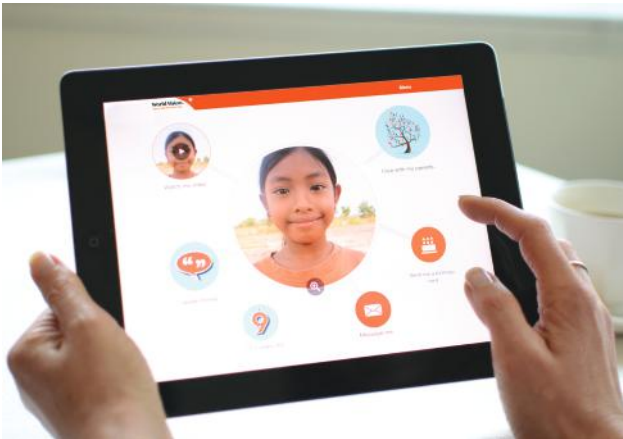
You're already creating a legacy by giving real hope to your sponsored child and their community. A legacy of permanent, positive change. By leaving a gift in your will, you can continue to bring life in all its fullness to vulnerable children for generations to come.

To find out more about this way of giving, please call our Legacy team on

01908 84 10 60 or email legacies@worldvision.org.uk



Feel closer than ever before



“I love being able to send a message. It’s so easy to do and brings them closer as part of the family.”

Ruth, Billingham.

Go to My Sponsorship today

My Sponsorship is the place on our website where you can find out more about your sponsored child, send messages, see photos and watch videos.

Here’s what sponsors like about it...

“The video is amazing! Brought a tear to my eye.” Joanna, Newtownards.

“It’s great to see more photos of the community where my sponsored child lives (I went through every photo looking out for her).” Hannah, London.

“I love the part where I can send pictures and tell them about a day in my life. Seeing the videos of what’s happening in the communities just makes it so real.” Kathryn, Kings Lynn.

How to register?

Go to www.worldvision.org.uk/my-sponsorship to register today.

All you’ll need is your Supporter ID.



This Halloween, join in with other sponsors and carve a **heart** in your pumpkin as a symbol of hope for children living in fear.

For more ideas and to find out how you can get involved visit www.worldvision.org.uk/carveaheart

#carveaheart



CARVE  HEART

World Vision is the world’s largest international children’s charity. Every day we bring real hope to millions of children in the world’s hardest places as a sign of God’s unconditional love.

#WorldVisionUK



FRONT COVER: Rubi, 10, and her friends from Bangladesh. © 2016 World Vision

World Vision UK is a registered charity no. 285908, a company limited by guarantee and registered in England no.1675552. Registered office as above. Printed on paper from sustainable sources. All photos unless otherwise stated: © 2015 World Vision

C/0000031/1.5