

**‘ Youth reveal their true natures by their actions, whether they do what is pure and right or not. ’ (VOICE) Proverbs 2 :11**

### **Act\_v\_ty**

Create a photo collage or draw a storyboard to identify the key points of your life. What would you share with someone from a different culture to your own?

**B**lessed (14) and her younger brother, Courage, came to the UK from Zimbabwe in 2022 with their mother and their father, who is a pastor. Their two elder brothers stayed behind in Zimbabwe to complete their university studies and develop their careers.

Blessed reflects on her life in Zimbabwe and the changes she has noticed since coming to the UK.

“In Zimbabwe, I would get up early before school to do house work. I am the only girl in the family. During weekends, my brothers would be working outside the house, getting fuel or food, and in the garden – so I didn’t mind so much. I would also help my mother, doing laundry, house cleaning and preparing the meals. Evenings would be spent doing homework.

“School is very different in Zimbabwe. I was surprised when I came to school in England because the students are more cheeky and disrespect the teachers much more than happens in Zimbabwe. This is not just because we respect the teachers more in Zimbabwe, but also because we can be physically punished if we don’t!

“There are three types of school in Zimbabwe: Private, Church and Government. Everybody has to pay to go to school. A private school can cost \$1,600 a term while a government school might cost \$400 per term. A church school will cost a little more than a government school but it is OK because if a parent can’t



**“Church is very important in Zimbabwe and we are all expected to go, especially if you are the children of the Pastor – but we want to go, anyway. Almost all my friends from school went to church – although they went to different churches, not all to the church I went to. The services are a bit different to the United Reformed Church. Lots of people take part: saying prayers, reading the Bible; the preacher just gives the sermon. Music is very important and churches usually have a choir. A service can last a long time – up to**

