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**ROBERT BLAKE SECONDARY SCHOOL PROFILE**

**Robert Blake Secondary School** was started by the **Dutch Reformed Church** currently known as **Church of Central Africa Presbyterian Nkhoma Synod**. It was opened on **6th October, 1954** in the area of **Traditional Authority Msakambewa** in **Dowa District**, in the **Central Region** of **Malawi**. This school is located 65 km **North** of **Lilongwe City**, the capital city of **Malawi** off **Lilongwe – Kasungu Road** and 5 km **North** of **Dowa District Headquarters**. It started as a junior secondary and became a fully fledged secondary school following the rising number of young people looking for higher education during that time. It is now one of the popular schools in the country. A lot of government and private personnel have gone through this school. Robert Blake Secondary School was established to create a community for learning, where students, parents and staff are joined in the pursuit of academic excellence and personal growth in a caring and conducive environment. **Robert Blake Secondary School** is now in its 61st year of existence. It is an exceptional comprehensive school with committed group of highly qualified staff members who provide a rigorous and relevant curriculum for all students. The staff members are dedicated to providing an inclusive co-curricular programme to meet our students’ diverse needs and interests.

**ADMISSION OF STUDENTS**

The school has an enrolment of approximately 480 male students only from Form One up to Form Four. The students write Junior Certificate Education examinations during their second year of secondary school stay and seat for Malawi School Certificate of Education at the end of their fourth year. These students are selected after writing their Primary School Leaving Certificate examinations in Standard Eight. Some are selected by the church as it also conducts examinations similar to that of the government. These students are selected from urban and rural areas in all districts in **Malawi** since it is a national secondary school. The government sends its students regardless of their denominations. Students at **Robert Blake Secondary School** are encouraged to excel academically and to maximize their potential up to tertiary education (colleges and universities.

**OUR STAFF**

Robert Blake Secondary School has administrators, teachers, support staff, working full time dedicating their time for the sake of the students. Many of our teachers have bachelor of education degrees. All the staff members continue their professional learning through school networks, professional learning communities, workshops and professional qualification courses. The continuous professional development of our staff in alignment with the goals and strategies of the school is a top priority in order to better serve the needs of our students. The school’s staff is known for its dedication, caring attitude, effectiveness, and collaborative nature. The staff is headed by the head-teacher of the school.

**CLASSROOM ORGANISATION**

Each form is divided into two classes (A & B) and a teacher is assigned to each class for easy management of these classes. These are assisted by class monitors. We recognize students’ leadership by incorporating their suggestions into our planning.

**OUR COMMUNITY**

Robert Blake Secondary School serves the rural and urban areas of **Malawi**. The surrounding community also supports the school in many ways. We have a vibrant Parents and Teachers Association (PTA) that meets twice a year to decide on some of the development that can easily be done by the school. The Board of Governors formulates policies for day to day running of the school

**SUBJECTS IN THE SCHOOL**

The following are the fourteen subjects taught in this school and are in the following three departments:

**HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT SCIENCES DEPARTMENT LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT**

Bible Knowledge Agriculture English

History Biology Chichewa (Malawian Lang)

Geography Computer Studies French

Life Skills Mathematics

Social and Development Studies Additional Mathematics

Physical Science

Physical Education

These subjects are taught in 40 minute period each and there are nine periods in a day. In the junior section, students take eleven subjects while in the senior section each student take not less than eight subjects during examinations. Each academic year is divided into three different terms where these subjects are taught systematically.

**ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMNT**

In the 2014 Malawi School Certificate of Education, 115 students out of 122 got their **Malawi School Certificate of Education**. Out of 109 successful students in 2013, 23students went to state universities while three went to private universities. There is more competition in all classes now that we expect the results to improve tremendously for the class that is taking examination in 2015.

**MOTTO**

Truth shall prevail

**MISSION STATEMENT**

In partnership with parents and our community, **Robert Blake Secondary School**, exists to provide comprehensive educational experience that is high quality and challenging, that prepares students to graduate as responsible active citizens ready for success in colleges and careers and prepared to compete in global economy to make a positive contribution to society and lead and shape guidance to enable students to make informed appropriate choices with an integration of faith, life and culture.

**VISION STATEMENT**

As a vibrant **Presbyterian Learning Community**, **Robert Blake Secondary School** will develop engaged, purposeful, and successful learners who shape both national and international community for the common good.

**CORE VALUES**

These are:

Equity and fairness, Integrity, Team work, Trust, Steadfast, Humility, Valuing individual, Prudence, Academic excellence, Respect

**CLUBS AND SOCITIES**

We have different clubs and societies in the school that assist to shape the lives of the students here. These assist them to utilize their time wisely as they are trained to be leaders. Students are encouraged in variety of activities in the school. They are also encouraged to participate in a variety of house games, sporting activities, clubs and societies where they have the opportunity to develop their social and leadership skills. Students go and cheer the sick at **Dowa District Hospital** as one away of giving back to the community.

**FACILITIES AND RESOURCES**

The school has a library, play ground, six hostels, a dining hall with a kitchen attached to it, a recreation hall, twelve classrooms, a number of storerooms, a computer laboratory, and twenty teachers’ houses. There are a number of trees around the classes and teachers’ houses and a small forest.