

COVID-19 Mass handwash facility launched at Ngala Primary School

We launched the mass handwash facility at Ngala Primary School in Nkhota Kota on 27 February 2021. The facility is among projects funded by the Malawi Hilfe Schwindegg (MHS) e.V of Germany and implemented by **URAC**.

The project was part of **Covid-19 mitigation measures** that aimed to promote frequent handwashing among primary school children so that contamination is significantly reduced among them and with the parents and teachers.

The facility comprises a **high lift Afridev pump** developed by ESS-ESS Enterprises (<http://www.essessmalawi.com/>). The pump is connected to an overhead storage tank from which water flows into 16 taps installed on each side of hand washing platform. This means that at any one time up to 16 pupils can wash hands before eating, or after visiting toilets or at any time during break time. The pump does not require electricity to lift water into the overhead storage tank, and does this whilst simultaneously permitting households to draw water at the borehole.



Speaking at the launch, **Senior Group Village Headman Kamkondo** thanked MHS for funding the project through URAC. Speaking at the same function, **Primary Education Advisor (PEA)**, Joseph Kafuzira, cautioned against vandalism and called on the school management committee to safeguard not only the handwash facility but also other infrastructures at the school. He said Ngala Primary School was privileged because it was the only school to have such a facility in Nkhota Kota District.

The function was attended by chiefs, members of Village, Area Development and School Management Committees, teachers from Ngala Primary and Dwasulu Secondary Schools and Nurses from Ngala Health apart from students. Useful link for covid-19 prevention: <https://malawi.un.org/en/46715-guidelines-schools-malawi-prevention-and-management-covid-19>