

## Key Stage 2-3

# Lucie's Story

Lucie \* is 12 years old and lives in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where there has been a conflict for over 20 years.

Over one million people have had to flee their homes and a quarter of a million children are out of school, because their parents can't afford to send them or there is no school to go to.



Before the war, Lucie's family ran a small wine-making business, but when the fighting started men came into their home and burnt everything.

Left with nothing, Lucie had to leave school and work in the fields to earn money for her family.

*"I used to go to the field. I dig well but it's not safe. I am scared and have bad dreams."*

Now Lucie is attending the War Child safe spaces where she is starting to learn again.

*"I have been taught that a child has the right to education, the right to clothing, a right to food, a right to help my parents and many things that touch my heart. My favourite time is when they are teaching us in the class."*

*"I dreamt that I had finished school and the other day I dreamt of nice things. Like what I would do when I grow up. I like sewing and would like to sew clothes."*

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*\* Lucie's name and photograph has been changed to protect her identity*