

The text "CASE STUDY" is centered within a solid green rectangular box that overlaps the top left corner of the main image. The text is in a white, uppercase, sans-serif font.

Blessing's story

Changing lives for the better with access to digital skills

Seventeen-year-old Blessing from Mamelodi in South Africa attended a Sage FutureMakers workshop, where learners are taught how to use artificial intelligence and design thinking to solve social justice issues in their local communities.

CASE STUDY

Blessing grew up with his cousin and best friend, Takunda, who is hearing impaired. While Takunda communicates through sign language, Blessing doesn't understand it.

Blessing came up with an idea that he thinks could allow them to communicate freely and easily. What if technology were so smart that Blessing could film Takunda signing and, as he signs, artificial intelligence would translate what he was saying. He thinks that, by using an innovative approach to AI, he'd be able to understand sign language, giving both the teenagers access to a whole new world.

Blessing says: "AI is more about being a creative thinker and less about being a computer boffin. Experiment, try new things and keep asking questions!"

Since attending the workshop Blessing has decided he would like to train to become a program developer or data scientist.

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