



ASA

FORGING THE FUTURE

African Science Academy
Prospectus

Welcome

from the Chairman

We welcome students from across Africa to our school in Ghana for a life-changing 11 month programme alongside some of the greatest young minds the continent has to offer. All of the young women who come to ASA, after successfully completing senior secondary school, will study three core subjects at Advanced Level and will sit the internationally recognised Cambridge International A-Levels at the end of an intense 11 month programme. These gold standard qualifications will open the doors to engineering, science, maths and computing degrees at leading universities and will set you apart from your peers.

If you are a highly motivated learner and a keen scientist who has achieved consistently excellent results in maths and science then we want you to join us.

ASA has a fully funded scholarship programme. Although ASA is a fee paying school, I can assure you that any young woman from any African Country who we select will be eligible for a means tested scholarship which can cover up to 100% of fees and expenses.

Tom Ilube CBE

from the Head Teacher

It is with great pleasure and pride that I welcome you to African Science Academy (ASA). The success of ASA has been a team effort. Planning for future developments has been my responsibility as Headteacher; this I have done with the support of a team of exceptionally dedicated staff, who are devoted to seeing each and every ASA student excel.

At ASA we ensure that the student experience is life changing. We challenge students to create solutions, excel in leadership roles and make an impact in their school and local communities.

There are high expectations on every ASA student, with regard to ability, work ethic and integrity. The International A-Level course is a rigorous and demanding one, which requires you to be exceptionally passionate and talented in maths and physics.

If you are an ambitious young woman with a passion for maths and physics, ASA is the school for you.

Efua Adabie



Photo: Laura Gallant / BuzzFeed News



Our Achievements

CLASS OF 2018

100% PASS RATE
All students passed all three A-levels

79% A*-B GRADES
With 27% of students achieving an A*

100% UNIVERSITY OFFERS
All students received admissions offers to university

95% RECEIVED SCHOLARSHIP OFFERS
90% Currently attending university

British Council PSGN
Overall best in Ghana
**MATHEMATICS
AWARD 2017**

British Council PSGN
Overall best in Ghana

**FURTHER
MATHS
AWARD 2017**

What is African Science Academy?



Honour Code

"I wear my acceptance to ASA as a badge of honour. I am a leader who ethically works towards excellence and innovation. I put the interest of the development of Africa first. I act with honesty and integrity; I will not steal, lie or plagiarise"

African Science Academy (ASA) is a girls-only, Advanced Level school for science and maths which opened in August 2016 in Tema, Ghana. It was founded by the African Gifted Foundation Ghana (www.africangifted.org), a Ghanaian registered NGO funded by the African Gifted Foundation, a UK registered charity founded in 2010.

The Academy is a pre-university boarding school for young women with outstanding science and maths potential. ASA is a pathway to undergraduate study and future careers in Science, computing, engineering and maths. Students attend from across Africa and are admitted after their senior secondary education in preparation for progression to the best universities in Africa and around the world.

We select academically gifted students, with a passion for maths and science. Means-tested scholarships and bursaries are available to all students.

Vision

The Academy aims to be the leading school in Africa for gifted young scientists. The many nationalities that make up the community create a rich and diverse cultural atmosphere, where maths, science and technology are delivered to young women in an inclusive environment.

Core Values

- **Excellence** – our students strive for excellence in everything they do
- **Diversity** – we celebrate the rich variety of culture, background and beliefs that make up the school community
- **Ambition** – students have a burning desire and determination to achieve their goals
- **Caring Community** – we foster a belief in the worth of all individuals, encouraging tolerance, independence and involvement in school activities
- **Empowerment** – every one of our students has the potential to take control of their own destiny
- **Innovation** – our young gifted women will develop creative, breakthrough solutions to some of the biggest challenges in Africa

"ASA is one of the most impressive academies I have ever visited. The outstanding potential of the students and the deep commitment of all the staff to values of excellence, diversity and inclusion mean ASA is well on its journey to realize its ambitious vision to be the leading school in Africa for gifted young women scientists."

Dame Sandra Dawson, Professor Emerita, University of Cambridge

Teaching and Learning



Classes at ASA are interactive

At ASA we fill students with confidence and the ability to pursue their dreams. Our approach to learning encourages critical thinking and curiosity. Students at our school become fluent in the use of technology and learn to programme, with every student being allocated their own laptop. Students are surrounded by proactive teaching and learning, which leads to a successful educational experience. We have a physics lab with equipment that aids learning through practicals, to make abstract concepts more understandable. Due to small class sizes, every student has the opportunity to use the equipment themselves to understand topics covered in lessons. It is important to celebrate success and we place great emphasis on celebrating our students' achievements.



Technology is widely used in the classroom

The Curriculum

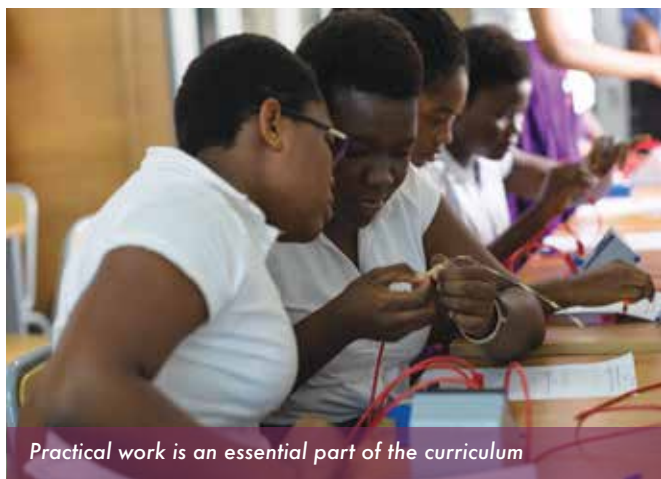
ASA prepares students to achieve internationally recognised Cambridge International Advanced Level qualifications within a single year. Our students go on to study sciences, maths, computing and engineering at universities in Africa and abroad.

ASA offers maths, further maths and physics A-Levels. It is important to emphasise that our students must love maths; our curriculum is extremely rewarding for those who enjoy abstract maths and complex problem solving tasks.

There is continuous assessment to ensure all students are on track to achieve excellent A-Level results. Students will have extra classes one-to-one or in small groups where needed. All students at ASA are given the means and support to excel. ASA is a springboard to outstanding success at university and beyond.



Programming skills learnt in programming and robotics



Practical work is an essential part of the curriculum

Outside the classroom

Outside the classroom

ASA provides a wide range of extracurricular activities, with a strong focus on creative problem solving and excellent communication skills. Activities include community service, robotics, sports, debating, choir and board games. Students are encouraged to start new clubs every year. A guest speaker program ensures that every week students enjoy interactive lectures with leading experts from Africa, UK, USA and around the world. We also organise school trips to enrich students' learning. These have included trips to the Ghana Planetarium and university campus visits.



Interactions with guest speaker, Dr Elsie Kaufmann



Learning is fun and also happens outside the classroom



Opportunity to impact the local community

Preparation for the future

ASA prepares students not only to do well in their A-levels, but to do well in life.

We inform students about university and course options and help them with their applications, including scholarship applications. We support students as they prepare for entrance tests and interviews they need to undertake to secure a place at university. Our one year intensive course introduces students to different career choices through talks and lectures and we organise visits to partner companies, businesses and universities. We have speakers from a diverse range of backgrounds and industries, ranging from Engineers to Architects and Filmmakers.

Students get the opportunity to interact with these professionals and ask them any questions about working in these fields.

Our school helps students develop an attitude of professionalism and excellence, which is sought after in the professional world.



Teamwork skills are developed in sports



One of our students, Edem, speaking on stage at Tedx Accra Women

"The best educational outcomes are achieved by motivated students who own the learning process and are challenged to excel. The African Science Academy has managed to create the environment where all these factors exist and girls with potential attain success previously thought impossible. ASA isn't leveling up the playing field in STEM, it's tipping it in favor of girls."

Tom Tagoe
Ghana Scientific

The ASA experience

As of September 2018 ASA Applicants have come from 12 countries identified on the map, some of the successful applicants share their thoughts about ASA

Aisha Akinola - Sokoto, Nigeria

Course - Architecture, University of Edinburgh - Mastercard Scholar



Since I heard about ASA, I really looked forward to studying there. I was going to study alongside intelligent young ladies from across the continent. It wasn't real to me so I wanted to see for myself. And I'm proud to say that I went, I saw and I conquered. I am now studying architecture at the heart of one of Europe's most loved cities as a valued student in one of the world's leading universities! I wouldn't be here without ASA. If you are interested in learning and exploring then ASA is definitely a place for you.

Wendy Essuman - Accra, Ghana

Course - Computer Science, African Leadership University - Mandela Scholar



Before the ASA study experience I was not sure what I wanted to be. All my thoughts then were to be a graduate who earns. It was through the numerous assemblies and discussions held in ASA that I realised I needed to stand for something.

Khadijatu Nayi Alhassan - Tamale, Ghana

Course - Mechanical Engineering, Ashesi - Mastercard Scholar



ASA provides the platform to do extensive research about the courses we are interested in and schools we want to apply to. There is a lot more to the STEM field than the medicine and pharmacy we are exposed to especially in the north of Ghana. ASA has helped me grow personally and intellectually and due to the enormous support from the whole ASA family, I received a full scholarship to study mechanical engineering. I cannot say all but ASA is a must-go place for every girl who wants to challenge her limits, grow personally and intellectually and contribute to change in their communities.

Doreen Marfo - Kumasi, Ghana

Course - Electrical Engineering, Ashesi - Mastercard Scholar



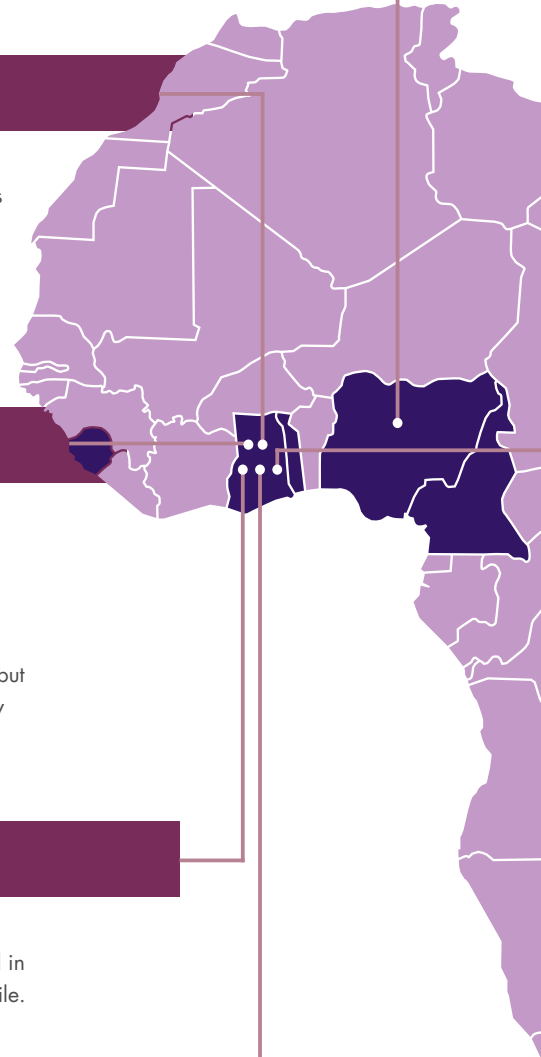
Going to ASA from Aburi Girls' Senior High School is one of the greatest opportunities that came my way. Having to meet diverse people who shared in different perspectives about mind blowing topics made my journey worthwhile. ASA has contributed to my positive attitude and wider viewpoints towards situations. My transition to Ashesi has been a journey full of reminiscences from ASA as most things I'm experiencing now had been echoed and grounded by ASA, making the journey interesting and much easier.

Zainab Ahmed - Wa, Ghana

Course - Computational Science & Artificial Intelligence, Minerva - Minerva scholarship



I fell in love with the idea of Africa Science Academy (ASA); I was open to taking a gap year for yet another adventure!, and this decision is one of the best I've made yet!. Honestly, it is thanks to ASA I'm here in Minerva. There's no rush in education because I think that's the fear most SHS graduates share, remember education is not a rush, relax and seize every opportunity but most importantly enjoy the journey! One last thing you will need to know now that you've made up your mind to join the ASA family is; "Hard-work beats talent any day!" You will need it.



The ASA experience

Hallelujah Kebede - Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Course - Software Engineering, University of Edinburgh - Mastercard Scholar

It was a really transforming experience to have attended ASA. It was all so enriching from the guest speakers who inspired me with their experiences to the programming class, everything was aimed at making a better person and a better leader out of me. The intensity of the classes taught me to persevere and be strong as well as patient. I see the effects of having attended ASA in simple things like getting used to new food. I am more open minded towards experiencing new things and culture, which really helps when entering a new environment.



Ayshar Maponga - Harare, Zimbabwe

Course - Engineering, Ashesi - Mastercard Scholar

As confused as I was, straight out of Zimbabwe, with very little leadership experience, less than the average self esteem and a pretty much fixed mindset, I arrived at ASA where my story changed. I became the extracurricular activities, sports and assembly prefect, which were all great platforms to improve my creativity. They shaped me to become a responsible leader, with a growth mindset, who was always ready to take initiatives and come up with exciting activities that would counteract the intense times we spent in class. ASA also opened a door for me at University, a place where I will continue to grow and become a better ASA alumni.



Getrude Akunlibe - Bolgatanga, Ghana

Course - Electronics & Communication Engineering, Academic City - Presidential Scholar

Before I came to ASA I had always wanted to be a medical doctor and if you ask me why?; I will say because I love to help people. The incredible support and opportunities at ASA exposed me to experienced people from various fields. I came to understand that there should be a unique reason for one to commit her life to a career. I sought deep in my self and behold, I had a keen interest for the power that technology holds in providing quality and accessible education for all. Having identified my passion, I have commissioned my first project; an educational center in Dulugu (a small village in Upper East). Exploring various opportunities at ASA has made my career path clearer.



Claris Nadini - Nairobi, Kenya

Course - Mechanical Engineering, Ashesi - MasterCard Scholar

As much as we were doing A-Level in 10 Months instead of the normal two years, we still had time to develop other skills, do university applications, volunteer as teachers in one of the local schools, have prominent people from all over the world visiting to speak to us, do sports and a lot more things than what I had imagined before I joined the school. I am happy and proud of my school when I mention that this is exactly what ASA is doing, it is bringing girls who are interested in Engineering together and helping them in writing a new script for themselves. It helped me to be able to change my own story.



Melissa Penyai - Bulawayo, Zimbabwe

Course - Computer Science & Engineering Academic City - Presidential Scholar

My stay at ASA gave me an experience of a lifetime that will be difficult to forget. I come from Zimbabwe in southern Africa. Being part of this African community exposed me to new languages, cultures, religions, values and ideas which have resulted in me being a different young lady. I have more appreciation of other peoples cultures. I have also gained a good education in maths and physics which will be invaluable as I further my studies at university as an engineer. I also enjoyed the life skills lessons with members of staff and the various educational tours and outings. Tinotenda



Life at ASA

Our Community

ASA students are open-minded and learn from each other. Our students come from different countries, traditions, beliefs and financial circumstances. ASA students have come from Ghana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Kenya and Uganda.

We welcome students from any African country, as long as applicants speak a good level of English. Students interact with each other, make friends from other cultures and create a global network of ambitious young women who stay in contact far beyond their time at ASA.



Our Campus

We have female progression mentors living on the campus, to act as mentors and role models, guiding our students.

In addition, we have an experienced hostel guardian and an out-of-hours supervisor, who are present to look after students and respond to their pastoral needs.

We also have a link to a local hospital, where we register all of our students in case of medical emergencies. Our school has a well-resourced library and ICT facilities for use in classes. Our students can also use these facilities to research university courses and communicate with home.

Students live in a highly secure, well-furnished dormitory.



Boarding Life

All students board at ASA during term time. We know the importance of caring for our students and making sure every single one of them feels at home. We have a strong pastoral team and every member of staff member looks out for the students and aims to be approachable. Students feel comfortable to discuss any issues of pastoral or academic concern.

It is important to us that students take on different responsibilities in the school. Each student takes on a role in making the school a success, which includes student prefects, areas of responsibility and leading on clubs and initiatives. We also have a student representative council, who voice suggestions and concerns raised by the student body to the staff.

All students become a member of one of the four 'houses' at ASA. These create small groups, in which students are expected to help each other and develop as a group.

Ruby

Diverse and memorable
often the trend setters

Obsidian

Power from within, some
of the most expressive
characters

Citrine

Unique characters who
excel in different fields

Emerald

Great team works skills
usually work well together
to excel



The campus also has casual areas for students to relax and unwind in an informal setting. In this common area we also hold entertainment on weekends, which include dance competitions, movie and poetry nights.

Sports such as badminton, basketball and netball are played on the school campus; for other sporting activities we visit the nearby sports fields.

"ASA is a small school with a big vision to train the next generation of female scientists and engineers from Africa. The education atmosphere breeds more than a STEM training, the virtues and values imbibed into these young girls is what Africa needs to inspire leaders."

Felix Nartey, Open Foundation West Africa

Our Parents



Mrs. Mabel Adehenu Tawiah
Mother of Rosemond Tawiah

I started seeing a great change in my daughter after the first semester of her stay in ASA. This made me asked a lot of questions to know about the magic behind the great change. The exposure of student to female role models occupying top positions in the country has made her ambitious to learn more.

There is no single day that my daughter gets up from bed without a planner, she prepares, itemizing the activities by allotting time to each activity which she follows strictly. This piece will not be complete without mentioning the cordial relationship that exists between the students and staff of ASA. Even when students are on vacation, they are at liberty to call or mail their tutors to ask questions, which the tutors readily assist. I have not regretted nor will I ever regret allowing my daughter to go through the doors of ASA. By God's grace and the good work done by the head teacher and her staff, my daughter is now enrolled at Ashesi University College pursuing a degree in Engineering on a full MasterCard scholarship.

My daughter got admission to ASA at a time when I least expected to be able to finance her education. At that point in time I had lost my job due to ill-health. Adwoa's admission came in as a major relief to my family. In fact I didn't know what would have happened to her if she hadn't gotten admission. We were invited to visit the place for orientation. I was so much impressed with the set-up of the place, and after that my hopes for a better future for my daughter went so high. After an intensive one-year course, she graduated and was fortunate enough to have won a MasterCard scholarship to study in the University of Edinburgh in the U.K. To us (my family and myself), this is a God-sent miracle and a blessing, and I don't have the words to express how elated we still are. I still can't believe whether I'm dreaming or everything is real. My sincere gratitude to the management, principal and staff (both teaching and non-teaching) of ASA.



Mr. Isaac Appiah
Father of Adwoa Konadu



Mrs Cecilia Penyai
Mother of Melissa Penyai

As a parent I am so grateful for the world class education which ASA offers to gifted girls from across Africa. My daughter has turned out to be more knowledgeable and more perceptive after her stay at ASA. The environment was so refreshing and conducive for learners to explore all their potential and capabilities. I also appreciate the rich cultural diversity which ASA enable as the girls spend time as a family this teaching each other various African languages and forming friendships. My daughter can converse in a number of languages from Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya and Sierra Leone. Thank you ASA.

"It was an absolute privilege for me to teach at ASA. The students there are exceptional. Their level of understanding and sheer determination to their studies is astonishing, but what stands out just as much is their abundant humility and zest for life. The students at ASA are an inspiration to every young woman across the world"

Agniete Geras
Physics teacher
St Paul's Girls School,
London

Success stories



Ibukun Aribilola

I couldn't have asked for a better time and place to 'reinvent' myself than in 2016 at the African Science Academy. I had my first taste of diversity - 6 different African countries and several cultures were represented in the pioneering year - which was initially overwhelming.

I quickly found my niche after some moments of insecurity. That realization opened doors to great opportunities, friendships, relationships, and networks that would always work and be there for me in this journey called life. The staff, and my peers helped me to nurture my potential and abilities, especially after taking up the role of the first ever Head Girl, this opened doors for me to represent the school at the home of the Lord Mayor of London during a school trip to the UK and many others.

The academics are top-notch and the great news is that it keeps getting better every year! I recorded excellent grades of A*A*A in my A-levels which led me to receive British Council Awards for the Best Mathematics and Further Mathematics student in 2017. I also volunteered as a Progression Mentor during my gap year where I applied all that I learned at ASA to provide extra assistance for the students and in several cases, had a nice chat with them!

ASA is much more than great academic achievements and co-curricular activities - it is a place where you find family and receive plenty of support. Through the help of the personal relationships I developed, I completed internships at 37 Military Hospital, Kumasi Hive, Ghana Ports and Harbors Authority, and an awesome experience of shadowing Doctor Elsie Effah Kaufmann for a day.

I am currently on another journey to re-inventing myself in The Golden City, San Francisco as a freshman of Minerva Schools at KGI. It might not come as a surprise that it is another multicultural environment. I am very excited to see how I evolve in the next few years and hopefully share that experience with you (yes you!) again.

Joana Amessouwee

As a Science student, I planned to go to university and read medicine. My career goal was not just out of passion, but it was mainly out of ignorance and lack of guidance. I thought medicine was the best course for me since I am smart, and I did Science. I was so fortunate to get admitted to African Science Academy (ASA) because it shaped me to be who I am today.

I came across other amazing people from across Africa and the world who constitute my network in the future. During my stay at ASA, after a series of education about career paths and inspirational coaching I realized how much I limited myself in the past. We often had guest speakers series where other women in Science and Technology such as the head of Computer Science Department at Ashesi University Dr. Ayokor Korsah, Jane Egerton-Idehen an Engineer at Ericsson, and many others were invited to come and share their experiences with us. I was really inspired by their stories and advice. I am currently a sophomore at Ashesi University.

At ASA, I developed the habit of volunteering.

I am currently part of a student initiative on Campus called Tech Area where I volunteer to teach students of Akropong School for the Blind, how to use computers. I am also a Calculus tutor for the Freshmen (First-year students) this year, I assist them in their learning of Mathematics. My dear sisters

out there, It is going to be a year of rigorous studies because the Cambridge International A-level examination is more advanced than most of the examinations that prepare us to go to university. Don't limit your career paths. Be open-minded, think outside the box, challenge yourself and apply to African Science Academy.



Sunitha Jenarius,
Director of Strategy,
Academic City College.

"Post my first ASA interaction in late 2017, we at Academic City have quickly developed a strong bond with ASA given our aligned focus on well-rounded, quality student education. 4 ASA graduates are now Academic City Presidential Scholars; looking forward to a long-standing relationship."

Admissions

We are a strongly academic school and we only select students who we believe will flourish in our intellectual environment. Our selection process is designed to help us identify such students.

1

APPLICATION

Apply through the online portal or,

Download forms from the [africangifted website](#)

Pick up a form from an ASA volunteer

ESSENTIALS

Recent exam results

6 High School report cards

Teacher recommendation

2

ENTRANCE EXAMS

Selected applicants will sit entrance exams in their home countries and regions under the supervision of ASA volunteers

Applicants are expected to submit essays on the exam day

KEEP IN MIND

Exams consist of;
Maths aptitude tests

Physics aptitude test

Essay topic will be communicated before the exam day

3

INTERVIEWS

Shortlisted applicants are interviewed by the ASA team in order to know more about the applicants

INTERVIEW TYPES

Face-to-face with Ghanaian students

Video interviews with applicants from other African countries

4

ENROLMENT

Admitted students stay at ASA for 11 months where they sharpen their academic skills and unravel their talents

Early decision Application deadline is 1st December while regular application deadline is 31st January.

We welcome applications from girls from across Africa, typically aged 16 years or older, who have completed their Senior Secondary School Certification, IGCSEs or O Levels. Applicants must have a passion for maths and science. Amongst the subjects studied at senior secondary school, applicants will have achieved impressive grades in maths and physics.

Fees and Scholarships

Details of our fees and the scholarships and bursaries available can be found on the enclosed sheet.

ASA awards up to 100% scholarships on need basis.

To apply for a scholarship, visit

www.africangifted.org/how-to-apply/

or pick a scholarship form from ASA volunteers.

Contact Us

For further information and on how to apply please contact us at admissions@africangifted.org,

Tel: +233(0)553244291 or +233303976165

Website: www.africangifted.org

Facebook: African Gifted Foundation

Twitter: @africangifted

Instagram: @africangifted

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RP/6/21/2
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TEMA, COMMUNITY 6
GHANA

Let's do it together

Your support will have great impact.

Donate to the African Gifted Foundation by contacting us or visit our website www.africangifted.org to know more.



Inspiring vision! Extraordinary students! Perfect execution!! I can't wait to see the Africa of the future being led by ASA girls in a diverse array of roles firmly rooted in STEM - Esi Tunde-Anjous, Tullow Ghana.



African Science Academy

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