

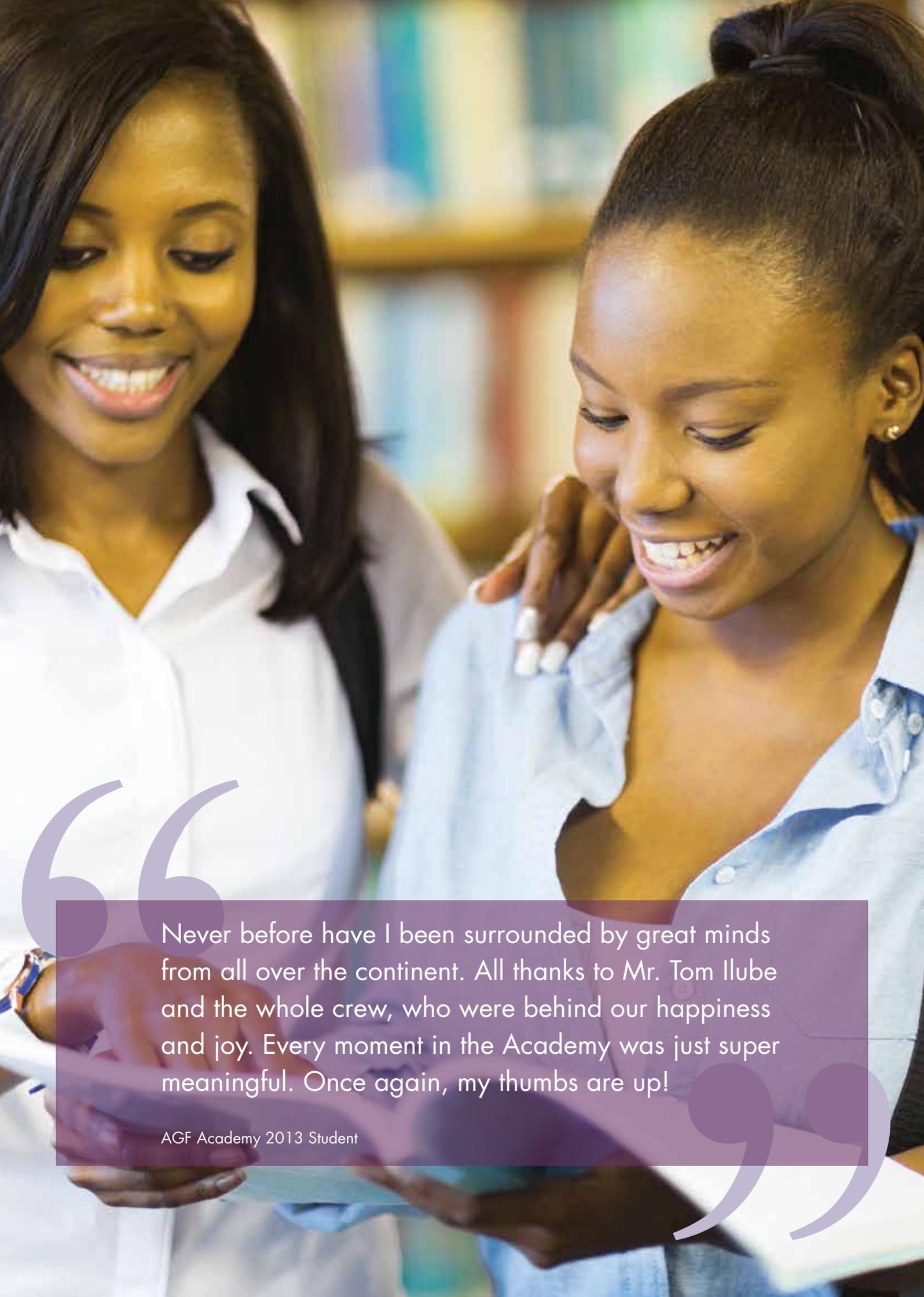
The ASA logo consists of the letters 'ASA' in a white, serif font, centered within a magenta hexagonal border. The background of the entire page is a dark blue with a repeating geometric pattern of interlocking shapes.

ASA

African Science Academy

Prospectus 2016-17





“ Never before have I been surrounded by great minds from all over the continent. All thanks to Mr. Tom Ilube and the whole crew, who were behind our happiness and joy. Every moment in the Academy was just super meaningful. Once again, my thumbs are up!

AGF Academy 2013 Student

Chairman's Welcome

I am delighted to welcome you to African Science Academy (ASA).

ASA is Africa's leading specialist science and maths secondary school for girls. We welcome students from across Africa to our school in Ghana for a life-changing 12 month programme alongside some of the greatest young minds the continent has to offer. If you are an ambitious young woman with a passion for maths and science there is no better school for you to complete your secondary education before you progress on to a leading university.



All of the girls who come to ASA, after successfully completing senior secondary school, will study three core subjects at Advanced level – Maths, Further Maths and Physics – and will sit the internationally recognised Cambridge International A Levels at the end of an intense 12 month programme. These gold standard qualifications will open the doors to engineering, science and computing degrees at leading universities and will set you apart from your peers. You may even be selected to travel to the UK on our unique, week long study programme at Oxford and Cambridge Universities!

We have been running science academies for hundreds of students from ten different countries across Africa since 2010. The experience of meeting so many gifted young people convinced us that we should take this bold step and open an iconic school for you. 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 girl 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.

When you leave African Science Academy to progress to university, you will have impressive gold standard international qualifications, and you will be a confident, hard-working, articulate and successful young woman.

Tom Ilube,
Chairman

What is the African Science Academy?

African Science Academy (ASA) is a new, girls only Advanced Level school for maths and science. Opening in August 2016 on the outskirts of Accra, Ghana, ASA is a “Sixth Form” college leading to globally respected Cambridge International A Levels.

ASA was founded by the African Gifted Foundation Ghana (www.africangifted.org), a Ghanaian registered NGO which is a subsidiary of the African Gifted Foundation, a UK registered charity founded in 2010.

The Academy is an Advanced level (“sixth form”) secondary, boarding school for young women with outstanding science and maths potential. ASA is a pathway to undergraduate study and future careers in Engineering, Science & Computing. 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 will make up the community will 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

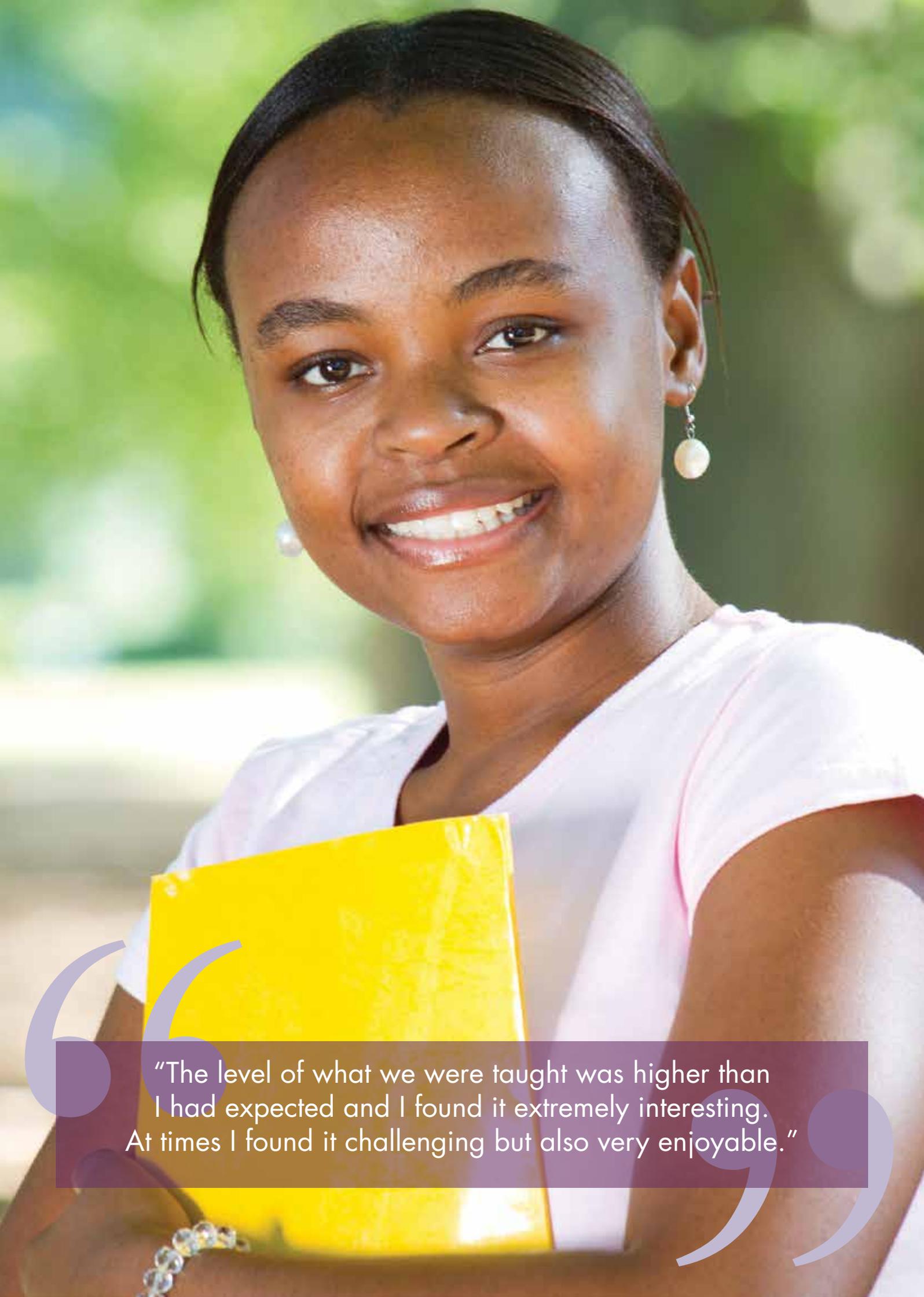
Ambition – students have a burning desire and determination to achieve their goals

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 gifted young women will develop creative, breakthrough solutions to some of the biggest challenges in Africa today





“The level of what we were taught was higher than I had expected and I found it extremely interesting. At times I found it challenging but also very enjoyable.”

Teaching and Learning

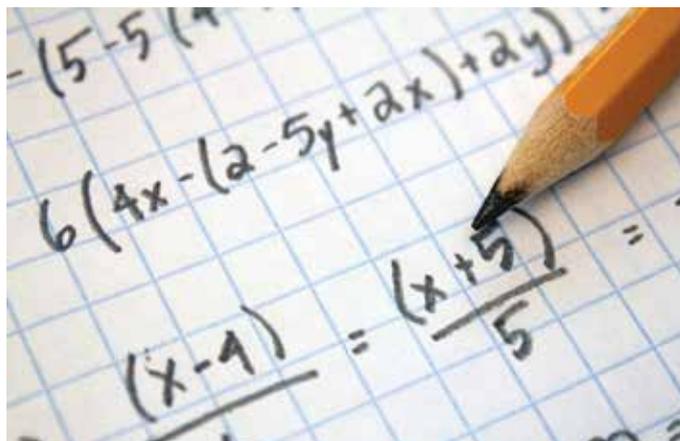
At ASA we aim to fill students with confidence and the ability to pursue their dreams. Our approach to learning encourages critical thinking and curiosity. Students will also become fluent in the use of technology and will learn to program with every student being allocated their own computer.

Students are surrounded by proactive teaching and learning and we encourage a close, interactive partnership between students and staff, which will lead to a successful educational experience. It is important to celebrate success and we place great emphasis on celebrating our students' achievements.

The Curriculum

ASA prepares students to achieve internationally recognised Cambridge International Advanced Levels qualifications within a single year. We expect our students to go on to study Engineering, Computer Science, Maths & Sciences at universities in Africa and abroad.

All students study A Level Maths, Further Maths and Physics. 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.



Our Teachers

Our inspirational teachers share their love of Science and Maths with the students. Classes are places for students to ask questions, think creatively and learn with passion. There will be a maximum of 22 students in a class and often students will learn in smaller tutor groups of five or less students to one teacher.

Our Teaching Assistants work alongside the teachers and come to us from world renowned universities. Each student will be individually mentored by graduates from institutions including Oxford and Cambridge.

There is continuous assessment to ensure all students are on track to achieving excellent A Level results. Students will have extra classes one-to-one or in small groups where needed. Often students will be stretched even further to go beyond the curriculum and reach their full potential.

All students at ASA are given the means and support to excel. ASA is a springboard to outstanding success at university and beyond.



“I have learned a lot. Before I came to this Academy, I never knew that asking a lot of questions can really make you understand lessons better.”

Our Community

ASA students are open-minded and learn from each other. Our students come from different countries, traditions and beliefs and different financial circumstances. 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.

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 music, art, sports and chess. A guest speaker program ensures that students enjoy frequent interactive, online lectures with leading experts from Africa, UK, USA and around the world.



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 is expected to look out for the students and be approachable. Students will feel comfortable to discuss any issues of pastoral or academic concern.

It is important to us that students from different African countries share their culture with the other students. We celebrate all students' national holidays, holding events where students can share local traditions and try food from the many different nationalities that make up the school.

We have British and Ghanaian volunteers living on the campus, to act as mentors and role models, caring for our students. An experienced matron and nurse is also present to look after students and respond to their needs.

Our Campus

Our school has a well-resourced library and ICT facilities for use in classes, and for students to use for extra research and to communicate with home. Students live in a highly secure, well-furnished dormitory. The campus also has casual areas for students to relax and unwind in an informal setting.



“Learning about the different countries and being able to view our continent as a whole was humbling and eye-opening. The way the academy changed students’ perspectives and ambitions was commendable and definitely the peak of the experience for me.”

Preparation for the future

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

All students are assigned to a mentor group. Each group is assigned a mentor who meets with them regularly to discuss academic and any other issues encountered by the students and to help the students with their further education and career choices.

We inform students about University and course options and help them with their applications, including scholarship applications. We also help students prepare for the entrance tests and interviews they need to undertake to secure a place at University. Our one-year intense course also introduces students through talks and lectures to different career choices and we organise visits to partner companies, businesses and Universities.

Once in a lifetime opportunity

ASA has formed partnerships with colleges at both Oxford and Cambridge Universities in the UK. As a result, at the end of the course some of our students will be selected to travel to the UK for a unique study programme, spending a week at both Oxford and Cambridge and receiving lectures and tuition from leading academics there.

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



“If you have passed through the Academy, your mentality is different, and all you see is a bright future. Just add enough effort and realise the dream. We are African. We are the same family.”

Admissions

I am Helen Denyer and I manage ASA admissions. I look forward to receiving your application to join ASA in August 2016.

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.

How to apply

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.

Step 1:

Please complete the enclosed application form (covering personal and family details and educational background) and return it to us at the address on the back page, by the date on the application form, with the following documents:

- Recent exam results
- Recent school reports
- Predicted final grades
- Recommendation from teacher

Step 2:

Successful candidates in the first round will be invited to write an entrance exam. Students will also be asked to submit a short essay on a topic given to them by ASA before they sit the exam.

Step 3:

The final stage of the selection process will be a face to face interview.

Fees and Scholarships

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





Contact Us

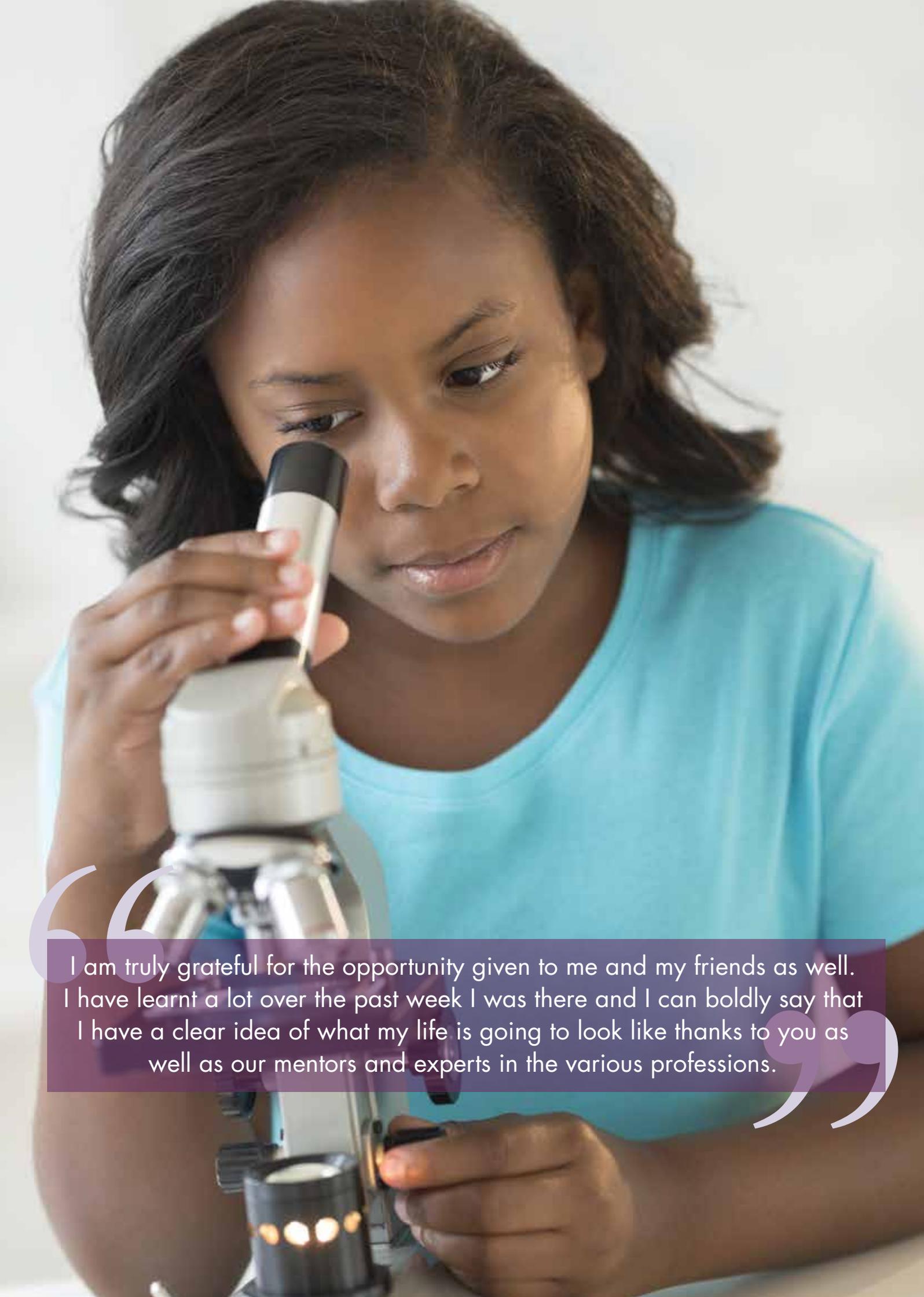
For further information on how to apply please contact

Helen Denyer at admissions@africangifted.org or on
+233 (0)200 465 644

African Science Academy,
12 Osu Avenue Extension,
Cantonments, Accra,
GHANA



AFRICAN
SCIENCE
ACADEMY



I am truly grateful for the opportunity given to me and my friends as well. I have learnt a lot over the past week I was there and I can boldly say that I have a clear idea of what my life is going to look like thanks to you as well as our mentors and experts in the various professions.



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