# WEEKLY BULLETIN

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#### At TIS.

we believe that service, as one of the four pillars for student balance and ensuing success, provides a hands-on experience to how we can make the world a better place through action and an understanding that success comes from helping others grow and becoming empowered.

#### COVID-19

- Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water, before and after eating, and after going to the washroom. Dry your hands thoroughly or the advantage of asking your hands is lost.
- Cover your cough and sneeze, dispose of tissues, and use alcohol-based hand sanitisers.
- If unwell, avoiding contact with others (stay more than 2 metres from people).

#### Thought for the Week

The butterfly does not look back upon the caterpillar self, either fondly or wistfully; it simply flies on.

- Guillermo del Toro



#### In These Difficult Times...

The official mid-semester break commences tomorrow for two weeks and comes at a great time.

Online learning and lockdown have brought us many (new) challenges in continuing student learning during the COVID-19 crisis.

I congratulate those students who have been principled (and fortunate) to join every scheduled lesson. This has been no easy task with regular power and internet failures frustrating most of us on a daily basis. When schools re-open, our students and staff may have a greater appreciation for the TIS network!

I thank those parents who have been ensuring their son/daughter have maintained a focus and commitment to completing scheduled work, often when completing their own work requirements. Well done.



Do the right thing, even when no one is watching.

It's called integrity.

#### **Online Learning**

Please observe the following protocols:

- Create a regular study space at home for the purpose of online learning.
- · Stay organised.
- Treat an online class/ meeting like
- a 'real' class/meeting.
- Dress appropriately
- Practise timemanagement (no excuses)
- Be respectful to all participants. Allow others to contribute
- Share relevant content
- Keep the discussion within the topic. Actively participate.
- Avoid profanity and Pidgin English.

Online learning is different. It is not easy. But it should suit many of our 21c learners.

Please contact your class teacher, programme coordinator, or myself, if you are experiencing any difficulties. Kudos to teachers who have jumped into the abyss of online learning, experimented and varied approaches to try and adapt their teaching style to a completing foreign learning environment.

I hope by 20 April that there is a bit more clarity about the re-opening of schools. I hope we can enjoy May back in schools so we can finish this year strongly.

Please note: if schools remain closed in April, all classes at TIS (K-G11) will resume on Wednesday, 22 April. 20-21 April will be staff planning days to ensure a successful end to this academic year.

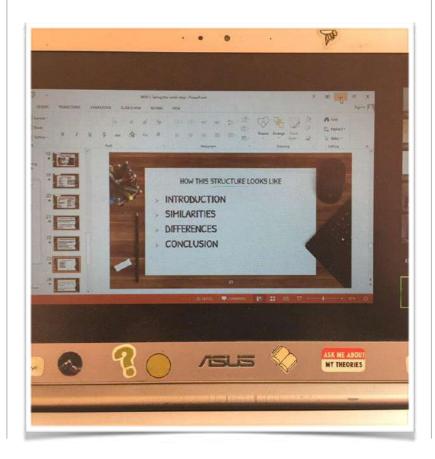
The next Bulletin will be published on 17 April.

#### Admissions 2020/2021 Update

- The second round of admissions' testing and interviews will commence on 20 April. This whole process application, testing and interview will be conducted online, while schools remain closed.
- Re-enrolments for 2020/2021 closed on 31/3/20. I thank those parents who confirmed. For pending families, please advise by 20 April, as we will proceed to fill any new vacancies from our waiting lists.

Happy Easter. I appreciate your support. Stay healthy.

Dr Ken Darvall (Principal)





### TEMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



Primary School Campus
Admissions Open For 2020/2021 Academic Year

Flexible admission screenings and interviews





#### **Early Years**

Kinder 1 (3-4 years) Kinder 2 (4-5 years) Kinder 3 (5-6 years)

#### Entry Points in 2020

**Junior Primary** 

Grade 1 (5.5 - 7years) Grade 2 (6.5 - 8 years) Grade 3 (7.5 – 9 years)

#### **Senior Primary**

Grade 4 (8.5 -10 years) Grade 5 (9.5 years-11 years) Grade 6 (10.5 - 12 years)

All admission applications will be online via Open Apply: https://tis.openapply.com

A social readiness screening will be required, as part of the admission process, along with a compulsory interview with parents.

TIS is an IB World School, authorised to offer MYP and DP. The Primary School campus has been approved as a Candidate PYP School.





#### Tema International School



#### **MAIN CAMPUS** SECONDARY ADMISSIONS ARE OPEN FOR 2020/2021 ACADEMIC YEAR

A family school, a unique experience.

#### Flexible online admission testing is available

ENTRY POINTS: Grade 7 (MYP 2) | Grade 8 (MYP 3) | Grade 9 (MYP 4) | Grade 10 (MYP 5) | Grade 11 (IB Diploma Programme)

#### Grade 7 (MYP 2)

Students should:

- a) Have completed Primary 6.
- b) Be aged 11+(at the time of admission).
- c) Complete a general aptitude test and interview.

#### Grade 8 (MYP 3)

Students should:

- a) Have completed JHS 1 or in JHS 2.
- b) Be aged 13+(at the time of admission).
- c) Complete a general aptitude. test and interview.

#### Grade 9 (MYP 4)

Students should:

- a) Have completed Year 8 or Basic
- Education Certificate Examination (BECE).
- b) Be aged 14+(at the time of admission).
- c) Complete a general aptitude test and interview.

#### Grade 10 (MYP 5)

Students should:

- a) Have completed Year 9.
- b) Be aged 15+(at the time of admission).
- c) Complete a general aptitude test and interview.

#### **Grade 11 (IB Diploma Programme)**

Students should:

- a) Have successfully completed MYP 5, the IGCSE (Or its equivalent) or awaiting the results of the IGCSE.
- b) Be aged 16+(at the time of admission).
- c) Complete a general aptitude
- test and interview for non IGCSE
- & GCSE students (i.e. WASSCE,
- OCR, AQA).

To learn more scan this.



To enrol scan this.

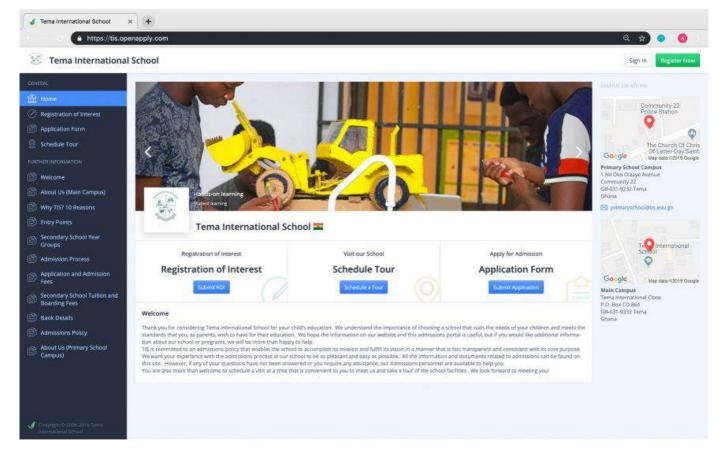


The online application process can be completed at: <a href="https://tis.openapply.com">https://tis.openapply.com</a> For further information contact us on phone: +233 303 305134; +233 303 308737; email: admissions@tis.edu.gh Or come and visit the school (Opp Afariwa Farms, Off Tema-Akosombo Road) www.tis.edu.gh



## **TIS Application Procedures**





Please have the following documents available (scan onto a flash drive) before you begin with online application;

- 1 recent passport-style photo
- passport biodata page/ birth certificate
- 3 recent school reports (Grade 2-11 Applicants)
- Letter of recommendation and academic transcripts (Grade 11 Applicants)
- 1. Go to our admissions portal tis.openapply.com
- 2. Click on the **Sign In** button found at the top right corner of the page.
- 3. Click on **Sign up** here if this is your first time using OpenApply otherwise type in the email and password you used the last time you used OpenApply.

#### For first time users please proceed to 4. For existing users please proceed to 5.

- 4. Fill in **User Details** and proceed to application.
- 5. Ensure you fill out details correctly and attach all required documents where necessary (passport picture, passport biodata page/ birth certificate, school reports, transcript, recommendation).
- 6. When forms have been completed kindly proceed to make application fee payment using any of the 3 options:
  - www.expresspaygh.com/tis
  - At the Finance Office on TIS campus
  - At any Barclays Bank into the TIS Account number 1798808 or Ecobank into TIS Account number: 1441000974289
- 7. You will receive an email to confirm receipt of your application and the next steps towards admission **only** when the application fee payment has been received.
- 8. Please note that your child will be taking a Cognitive Ability Test (CAT4) as an Entrance Exam for admission at TIS. (Grade 7-11 students)

Thank you for choosing TIS. We look forward to a fantastic relationship in the coming years!

# **PLEASE NOTE**

Tema International School is **CLOSED** until further notice due to the **COVID-19** pandemic.

Deliveries should be handed to security at the Promise Street entrance.

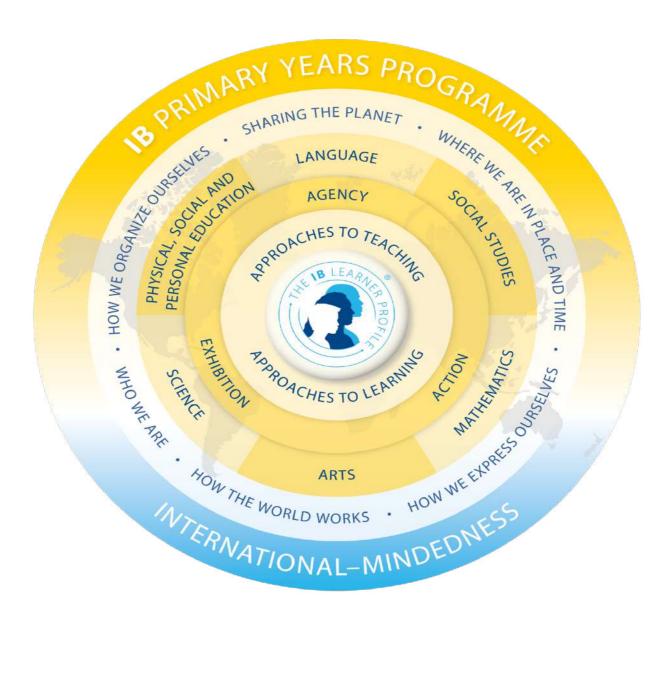
To make contact with TIS during this period of closure, please email: info@tis.edu.gh

We apologise for any inconvenience.

Stay healthy by observing all recommended health practices.

**TIS Management** 

#### **PYP CORNER**



#### **PYP Online Learning**

TIS PYP is working towards coping with the global challenge resulting from COVID-19. The virtual online learning challenge! Who would have thought that in our first year of PYP learning and teaching, virtual learning would become the essential element for engaging the learning and teaching community of students, parents and teachers at this time. Teachers have collaborated together to positively engage all primary learners through virtual learning, utilising tools such as ManageBac, Zoom, Epic, Twinkl, Edmentum amongst other great online learning and teaching resources. We would like to share with our readers comments from teachers about how our online learning and teaching are progressing and meeting learning outcomes for all students.

"Online learning has challenged me positively and the online resources have been helpful.

After recently conducting 3WIs online, I'm eagerly looking forward to Zoom classes with the Early Years learners."

Ms Angela, Early Years teacher

"During my three-way interviews, I was able to contact a significant majority of families.

The parents were happy about the progress of their child. One parent was impressed about how his daughter was relating what she is learning to real-life situations. Another parent commented on the amount of reading that their child has recently started engaging in."

Ms Michelle, Early Years teacher

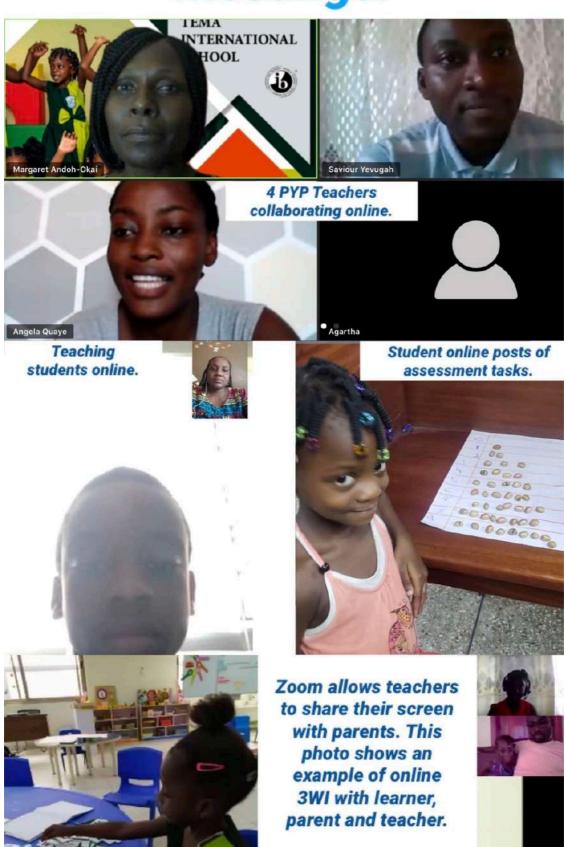
"I have been having successful Zoom meetings each morning at 9am with my class, and I have received great feedback from parents. Edmentum and Epic have been highly successful tools for engaging students in learning."

Mr Saviour, Primary teacher

"Teaching performing arts virtually is definitely new territory. Students are engaging in individual dance creations instead of whole class learning experiences. This is compelling each student to put in a good effort. For drama, we have started script writing to explore students' creativity. All in all, I'll say, progress is ongoing. Students in the midst of internet connectivity challenges continue to send through completed work, putting in the extra effort to ensure they are meeting the learning outcomes. This is highly commendable."

Ms Ekua, Dance and Drama Instructor

# PYP Zoom collaborative meetings.



Be INFORMED
Be PREPARED
Be SMART
Be SAFE



# Be READY to fight #COVID19

For the latest health advice, go to: www.who.int/COVID-19





## **BE A RESPONSIBLE DINER**

How to keep clean and carry on when you're dining



# Monitor your temperature

To be considerate, ensure that you're well enough to dine with friends and family.



#### Wash your hands before and after you eat

Use soap, or an alcohol-based sanitiser. Scrub your fingernails, palms, and backs of your hands.



#### Eat with utensils

...unless you are entirely sure that your hands are thoroughly cleaned. Keep those fingernails short!



# Share food sensibly

Use serving utensils to portion out dishes. No double-dipping, please!



#### If you cough or sneeze, use a tissue or your elbow

Wash your hands immediately before touching anything else.



#### Avoid touching your face

If you have to touch it, remember the golden rule: Wash your hands!



#### CANCELLATION OF THE ON-SCREEN EXAMINATION

The IB will be taking the following actions for the 2020 May MYP eAssessment session:

- May 2020 MYP on-screen examinations are cancelled.
- · e-Portfolio and Personal Projects grades will be issued.
- MYP certificate will be awarded, reflecting achievements from a combination of Personal Project,
   ePortfolio subjects, and predicted grades for other subjects.

With the cancellation of the DP and CP examinations, one expected the IB to announce the cancellation of the on-screen examinations sooner or later. Even though it is disappointing that our pioneer MYP 5 students will not get the opportunity to experience the inquiry and the critical thinking skills that come with the on-screen exams, this decision according to the IB, "is in the interest of students, their well-being and their progression in the future stages of life". At this stage, the obvious reason is the COVID-19 pandemic which continues to affect our lives including the education of our young people. The most important thing now is preserving lives.

The good news, however, is that our students will still be awarded the IB MYP certificate based on their achievements in the Personal Project, ePortfolio subjects (Language Acquisition – French & Spanish, Arts – Drama, Music & Visual Arts, Design – Product Design & Digital Design, Physical Health & Education) and predicted grades for on-screen subjects (Mathematics – Extended & Standard, Science – Chemistry, Biology & Physics, Language Literature – English, Individuals & Societies – History & Geography, Interdisciplinary learning). The predicted grades that will be submitted to the IB will be based on a *best-fit judgment* of each student's continuous assessment grade since MYP 4 (Grade 9). This pandemic has brought to the fore the robustness of an IB education specifically with assessments. A good question to ask would be: What if the terminal assessment of the MYP was based on only examination?

One lesson all stakeholders (teachers, students, parents and school administration) can take away is the importance of continuous assessment in education.

#### **NEXT STEPS...**

Since the school closed on March 16, 2020, per the President's directive, our MYP 2-4 (Grade 7-9) students have continued with lessons remotely. Colleagues had to quickly switch gears to virtual learning.

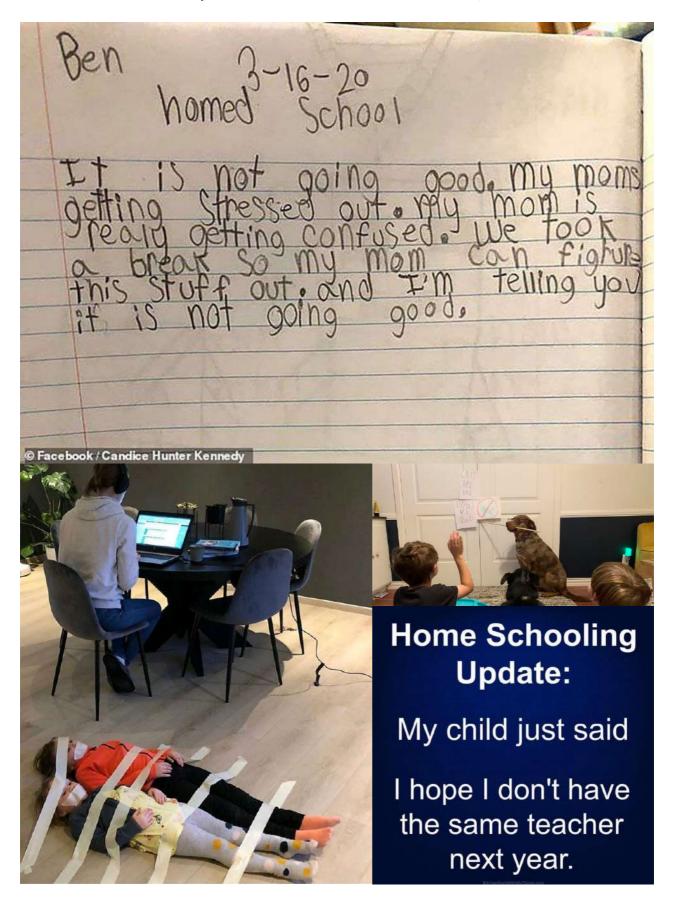
TIS is ahead in this area as we were already using some virtual learning platforms such as Kognity, AssessPrep, Myimath, and others. The BIG plus is the use of ManageBac, our official learning management system. The latest addition to the plethora of resources is Zoom (<a href="https://zoom.us/">https://zoom.us/</a>). It allows for live lessons to be scheduled. The technology natives did not find it difficult to switch on. The experience so far has been worthwhile, but there are admittedly a few areas that need improvement.

Lessons will resume on 22 April, depending on any further directive from the President. We will continue with virtual learning until schools reopen. The focus for Grade 10 across the subject groups will be to complete the syllabus if not already completed. Further, teachers will be required to begin an introduction to some DP content.

As colleagues work hard to keep our students engaged through the various virtual learning platforms, we encourage parents to complement our efforts by checking on their children to ensure they on track.



#### HOW COVID-19 HAS CHANGED THE WORD, SCHOOLING



#### HOW COVID-19 HAS CHANGED WORLD PERSPECTIVES

We slept in one world and woke up in another. Suddenly, Disney has no more magic, Paris is no longer romantic, and in New York everyone sleeps and the Chinese Wall is not a fortress anymore. Suddenly, hugs and kisses become weapons, and not visiting parents and grandparents becomes an act of love. Suddenly, we realized that power is not that valuable and money is not that powerful.

#### **CAS-SA Corner**

#### How to stay safe in these times. Salma Roland - G11

Hey there!



It's your quarantine buddy checking up on you. How have you been? What a past few weeks they have been! Who would have thought that we'd be on full lockdown and be restricted to the places we go. Just this week, we have recorded a number of cases (over 160!). Nonetheless, I encourage you to stay physically and mentally healthy.

Here are some quick tips on how to stay safe during this pandemic:

1. STAY AT HOME! I do not know how much to stress on this point. Take some time off

all the places you need to go to and all the friends you have to see. Take this social distancing seriously: your health is very important!

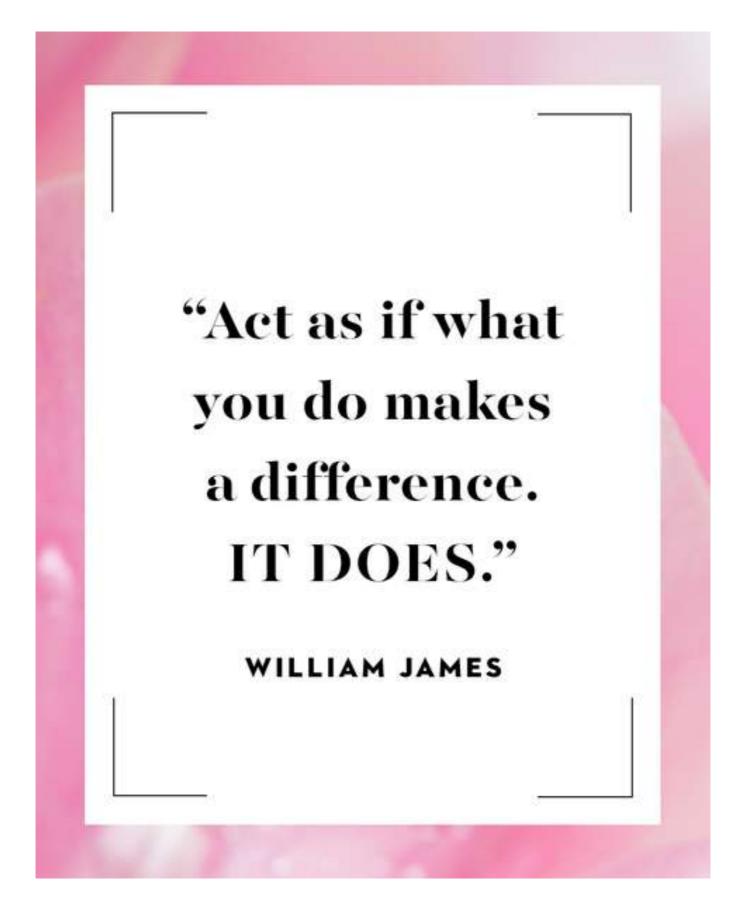
- 2. Make sure to thoroughly **wash your hands** every now and then for a minimum of twenty seconds. Also remember to shower and brush your teeth regularly. (At least twice a day).
- 3. Avoid touching your face, eyes and mouth as much as possible. You do not know where you touched since the last time you washed your hands!
- 4. Let us practise our coughing etiquette we learnt from Dr KK, during assembly. We have to be mindful of the people we live around.
- 5. AVOID SPREADING FALSE INFORMATION. At this time, there is a plethora of **fake news** and information about this disease. Please make sure the information you may want to share is from a trusted source. These can lead to unnecessary paranoia and anxiety.
- 6. Lastly, remain calm. Use this time to perfect a hobby, exercise, and continue your CAS Projects or experiences. A great approach will be Advocacy or Research when comes to taking action for your service projects. You can catch up on school work. Stay connected with your family and friends, too! Oops, mid-semester break commences tomorrow. Enjoy!



These times can be scary, but we'll make it together. That's all for now. Hang in there!

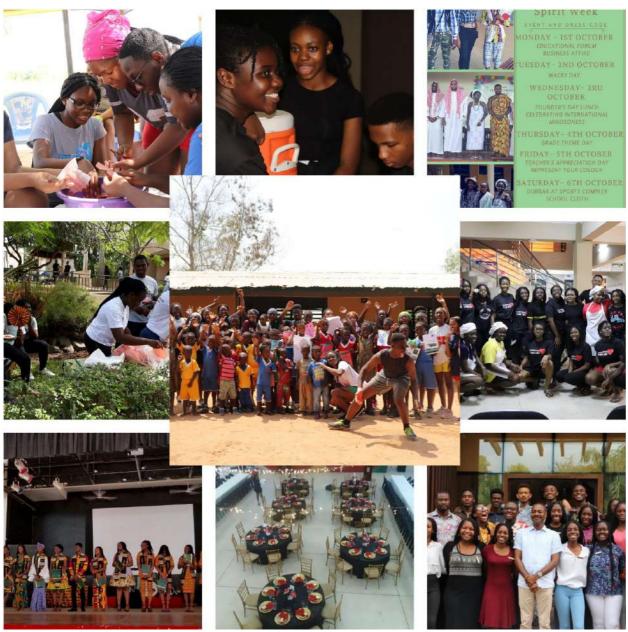






#### CAS #Reflection – IB Class of 2020

## Defining myself



CAS resulted mutually in the simplest experiences I undertook during my DP experience. Initially I believed it might be stressful to incorporate all the activities into my study plan. In the end I realized how all of them together helped me grow not only as a learner but also as an individual. I not only learnt a way to better organise my time to incorporate all the CAS experiences, but I actually have understood the importance of undertaking challenges and collaboration. This is definitely important for a student looking forward to a balanced and complete educational maturity. I often found myself improving, discovering, or strengthening some qualities during these past eighteen months. A number of these are described within the next paragraphs, I hope to take you through so far the best moments of my high school journey.

One thing I feel the CAS program left me with is bravery. Finding new activities to pursue and



accomplish definitively helped me to push my limits and exit that comfort zone I had created for myself. The first time I noticed this was at the start of DP1 when we had our CAS Shai Hills. orientation camp at Everyone knows I'm far off from adventurous, so much so that I hate travelling at midnight. However, on this trip I hiked for several hours, slept in tents within the forest and abseiled. All of those activities were things you would never find me doing but I had to place aside my fears to

enjoy the experience. I definitely enjoyed it. We were broken up into groups and I was the leader of my alpha and it was there that I understood the importance of leadership especially when you are isolated.

Pushing my limits is definitely the key sentence to describe my 18 months of CAS. I began doing something I never thought I would. Participating in sports. My grade mates used to give me a standing ovation whenever I made it to the sports complex in sports gear. However, I challenged myself and started doing soccer and shot put. Dedication was key especially when there were moments when reverting back to my old self would have made my life easier. But I continued to persevere and made it to ISSAG. Although I did not place, I am proud of myself for taking that leap and it completed my profile and I can proudly say I am a balanced student.

Health walk is organised once every semester and the DP1s are tasked to plan and execute it. In the first semester, we decided on a Hepatitis B awareness campaign with the help of Rabito Clinic. After the long walk, medical personnel were present to screen all interested persons. A breast cancer awareness campaign was organised in the month of October, breast cancer awareness month. The whole school was decked in pink and white with pink ribbons the grade had made. These campaigns were mainly for educational purposes and so presentations were



made regarding these conditions for the TIS community to learn. With these experiences, I learned the importance of learning about conditions because there are a lot of assumptions and in some cases, stigmatization. And this is all because of the lack of knowledge about these illnesses.

Elmonds, a corporation funded by the Walking Shoes Foundation, gave me the chance to play the role of the Human Resource Director and Chairman of the board. Here, organisational skills were key and I learned that a frontrunner must also motivate its colleagues because it makes the work that much easier, productive, relevant, and of course enjoyable.

Moreover, I feel that becoming a student leader gave me the chance to serve my school. In being a student leader, I spotted the importance of being a decisive person. Some decisions that had to be made didn't favour everyone but those bold decisions had to be made for the greater good. Moreover, serving my school community enabled me to become principled because people looked up to me. I saw the necessity to guide by example. As the Head of Council, I realised I had to share my time judiciously with each department because everyone needs you. I also realised that there is no such thing as the good cop, bad cop. My partner and I had to both

be stern to ensure the students stayed in shape because I was previously the laid back one. I am aware being a member of the Student Council does not count as a CAS Experience of Project. Well, that leadership opportunity enhanced every aspect of my school life, especially CAS. You lead, you collaborate, you must be ethical, committed, and persevere as a CAS student, so there is no way that part of the story will not be told.



I'd also wish to mention my experience working in a public hospital (Tema General Hospital). In there, I discovered an entire new world. I experienced my first real job, and I saw myself becoming more responsible. I could say that everything I learnt through CAS may well be summarised by this activity because it involved tons of organisation, perseverance and empathy. Being open-minded was also key so as to not judge anyone.

A fulfilling project was the Healthy Heart, Healthy Life CAS project. This was the initiative of three students in my class who organized to raise funds to pay for a hole in heart surgery for Millicent. In this project, the initiators sought the help of the grade to organize a restaurant night for TIS students, I helped out in the kitchen. The restaurant was organized on two nights and parents, teachers and alumni also donated to the cause.

The target was exceeded and so we were able to pay for two children's surgery in the end. The smiles of the children and their parents made the hard work we put in worth it. Here, I learned about the importance of perseverance and not settling for your goal if there is an opportunity to make it better.

The highlight of my CAS journey was the planning and execution of the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations of Tema International School. This anniversary was filled with more activities and programs than the ones in the previous year. The student organisers decided to split the work. There were people in charge for specific events although I was the head of the committee. This gave other members of the committee the opportunity to lead the groups. In this group, we were able to switch roles quickly between leaders and helpful committee members.

Within the anniversary week, there was an educational forum, a durbar, international day, a thanksgiving service and, of course, spirit week. The celebrations were a success and although planning required a lot of dedication, we did it joyously. This experience also built up my



leadership skills and revealed the importance of details when planning an event.

CAS definitely helped me change, the shy kid staying in the corner to the one taking her chances, the one taking opportunities and making the most out of them. I actually have learnt so much from these past 18 months of CAS and I am very happy with what I have achieved.

As I step outside the walls of my school, I will take with me the various skills I learnt, the memories, and the lessons.

At TIS we are given so many opportunities to discover our talents, try new things, fail, try and fail again and celebrate. Celebration comes in many forms, at the Notice Board, at the morning Assembly, the Annual School Magazine, and the CAS Corner, or at Dr Ken's 'Making us proud' corner in the Weekly Bulletin, something that I always looked forward to.

Watch out for me, you will see the outcomes of CAS and the IB Learner Profile attributes in my actions. I will end here thankful for each experience. I will take with me the smiles of those little children with whom we engaged at the Graceland Academy in Akorlikope and at the ROHI School. I expected to put smiles on their faces and 'make things better for them' each time we spent together. Well, they were the ones making me feel like the happiest person in the world, and I never left those places the same. From the breast cancer awareness to the Hepatitis B campaign, to the unforgettable, colourful and beautiful anniversary celebration of our school, I have attained a host of attributes and lessons. All this and much more will be kept in a very special place in my heart. Not to mention the people, my teachers, peers, juniors, alumni and my parents.

Akua Okyere IB Class of 2020

#### NO to FAKE NEWS - COVID-19



In such difficult times of a pandemic around the world we become more vulnerable. Be mindful of the content you share on social media and especially WhatsApp.

For the past weeks we are overwhelmed with Fake News about COVID-19.

Make sure the news you are sharing is from a trustworthy source.

Be kind. If not sure, don't share.

### Time to introduce "Namaste" globally 🙏





#### Basic protective measures against the new CoronaVirus

#### https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public



Stay aware of the latest information on the COVID-19 outbreak, available on the WHO website and through your national and local public health authority. COVID-19 is still affecting mostly people in China with some outbreaks in other countries. Most people who become infected experience mild illness and recover, but it can be more severe for others. Take care of your health and protect others by doing the following:

#### Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth

Why? Hands touch many surfaces and can pick up viruses. Once contaminated, hands can transfer the virus to your eyes, nose or mouth. From there, the virus can enter your body and can make you sick.

#### Practice respiratory hygiene

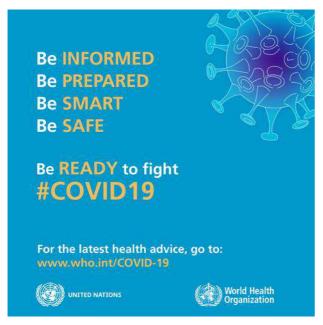
Make sure you, and the people around you, follow good respiratory hygiene. This means covering your mouth and nose with your bent elbow or tissue when you cough or sneeze. Then dispose of the used tissue immediately.

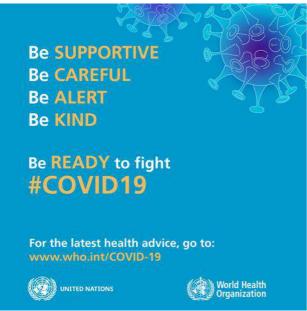
Why? Droplets spread virus. By following good respiratory hygiene you protect the people around you from viruses such as cold, flu and COVID-19.

# If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early

Stay home if you feel unwell. If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical attention and call in advance. Follow the directions of your local health authority.







Why? National and local authorities will have the most up to date information on the situation in your area. Calling in advance will allow your health care provider to quickly direct you to the right health facility. This will also protect you and help prevent spread of viruses and other infections.

# Stay informed and follow advice given by your healthcare provider

Stay informed on the latest developments about COVID-19. Follow advice given by your healthcare provider, your national and local public health authority or your employer on how to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

Why? National and local authorities will have the most up to date information on whether COVID-19 is spreading in your area. They are best placed to advise on what people in your area should be doing to protect themselves.

# Protection measures for persons who are in or have recently visited (past 14 days) areas where COVID-19 is spreading

- Follow the guidance outlined above.
- Stay at home if you begin to feel unwell, even with mild symptoms such as headache and slight runny nose, until you recover. Why?

Avoiding contact with others and visits to medical facilities will allow these facilities to operate more effectively and help protect you and others from possible COVID-19 and other viruses.

• If you develop fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical advice promptly as this may be due to a respiratory infection or other serious condition. Call in advance and tell your provider of any recent travel or contact with travelers. Why? Calling in advance will allow your health care provider to quickly direct you to the right health facility. This will also help to prevent possible spread of COVID-19 and other viruses.

https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public

To register for the DoEIA during COVD-19 quarantine kindly email the CASSA team, or send a message via ManageBac.



#### **COUNSELLORS' CORNER**



Dear students, enjoy the quiet Easter time, when it comes... Staying at home may not be the most pleasant thing right now, but it is an opportunity to stay safe, spend time with family and also do lots of reading, sharpen certain useful skills in the arts, learn to play a musical instrument, study, among other interesting pastimes. So enjoy this time at home! Help your parents around the house too. We pray that God keeps us all safe and healthy and for healing for all those afflicted in our world.



CONGRATULATIONS ONCE AGAIN TO ALL OUR DP2s for the exciting university offers received so far! We are so proud of you!

#### **DP2 IMPORTANT REMINDERS:**

✓ Please be sure to email us your completed, updated IBIS FORM, which informs us about your top schools to which you want IB to send your final IB Reports. Failure to submit your IBIS form to your counsellor could result in the withdrawal of your admisson offer. SO PLEASE TREAT AS URGENT. Thank you!

- ✓ STUDENT VISA ISSUES: With some embassies closed due to COVID-19, please continue to check for updates on the official country-specific embassy websites, for updates. This way, you can track what happens and know when they resume services, so you can put in your student visa application right away, as soon as they open. Also communicate directly with your preferred universities, if you have any challenges applying for the visa on time. We are hopeful that things will return to normal soon, so you can apply for your student visas for universities abroad in May.
- ✓ UNIVERSITY ENROLMENT DEPOSIT: Please note that, most universities have an enrollment deposit deadline. For many schools this falls on MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>. By this date, you should ensure that you pay some amount of money to confirm your decision to enroll at the university and to secure your admission spot. Kindly contact your preferred university and follow instructions on how to pay this deposit ahead of the deadline.
- ✓ REPLYING TO YOUR OFFERS: Be sure to respond to your schools, and accept offers for universities you wish to attend. If you don't respond by the required deadline, you can lose your offer.

Check out this link for information on the deadlines to reply to your UK OFFERS;

- If you received your last decision on or before 31 March 2020, your reply date is 19 May 2020.
- If you receive your last decision on or before 20 May 2020, your reply date is 4 June 2020.
- If you receive your last decision on or before 4 June 2020, your reply date is 18 June 2020 (except if you're using Extra to find a place).
- If you receive your last decision on or before 13 July 2020, your reply date is 20 July 2020 (including Extra choices)

https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/after-you-apply/types-offer/replying-your-ucas-undergraduate-offers

Regarding bragging rights, here are some new offers that have trickled in within the past couple of weeks! Well done DP2s!

Illinois Institute of Technology, USA – Full financial aid package

Hofstra University, USA- Full financial aid package

Dickinson College, USA

Lehigh University, USA

Syracuse University, USA

Marist College, USA

University of Cincinnati, USA

University of Connecticut, USA

Clark University, USA

Fordham College, USA

Bentley College, USA

Purdue University, USA

University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, USA

Drexel University, USA

Univ. of San Francisco, USA

Georgia State University, USA

University of Toronto, Canada

University of British Columbia, Canada Carleton University, Canada University of Manitoba, Canada Lakehead University, Canada Stay tuned for more offers ahead....

#### Again, DP2s:

- Completion of Ghanaian applications was due toclose on 20 March 2020
- Respond to your universities, after discussing your preferred choices with your parents. Most schools in Canada have an early reply deadline, which you need to adhere to, in order to secure your admission offer. Check and reply ahead of time or you could loose your admission offer.

**Deadline- yesterday, 2 April 2020.** Failure to submit a completed IBIS form will result in your universities not receiving your final report and your admission offer could be withdrawn if this is not completed. **So please submit it right now.** 

So kindly update and submit your completed IBIS form. Please do not leave out any details. Provide information on all your university offers and decisions as well as financial aid/scholarship details before submitting it to us.

Remember that this will inform us on the school you want to submit your final results/report to directly from IB. For your top 6 schools, we need your university-specific applicant numbers too. Find a copy of the IBIS form on Managebac.

#### **UPDATE- GUIDANCE LESSONS ON MANAGEBAC;**

Thank you to all students who have submitted their Guidance Class assignments within the last week. For those who have not yet submitted their work, please do so right away. All assignments were posted under the Guidance Class on ManageBac.

Grade 7-10; Please check Managebac frequently and follow through on all assignments.

#### Grade 11/DP1

- Kindly work on your school selection sheet together with your parents to select the best-fit schools for you, taking into consideration affordability. Others include:
  - ✓ Admission Rate
  - ✓ Graduation Rate
  - ✓ Freshmen Retention Rate
  - ✓ Curricula specifically, course content and teaching modules
  - ✓ Location
  - ✓ Safety
  - ✓ Class size
  - ✓ Cultural diversity % of black representation and inclusion
  - ✓ Reputation and academic prestige of the university

- ✓ Scholarships available if you looking for one
- ✓ Internships /Life skills development
- ✓ Quality of professors
- ✓ Life on campus
- ✓ Job after school
- √ <a href="https://www.moneycrashers.com/factors-choose-college/">https://www.moneycrashers.com/factors-choose-college/</a>

Check ManageBac regularly for guidance assignments during guidance lessons this week and next week. We will also email you invidually. Most of you have not yet submitted last week's guidance assignment on financial aid which Aunty Eyram posted last week. Have you even taken a look at the presentation slides? Do you have any questions we can help you answer? Use the time you have at home to complete all university searches and get ahead in the university application process. No lazying around!

The following must be completed and submitted to your assigned counsellor right away!

- Brag Sheet
- School selection sheet / university selection sheet
- Financial aid ISFAA and COF forms- see Managebac
- Review and full completion of essays and personal statements
- Study, Study, and Study! It's an accumulation of your academic performance that we send to your respective schools
- Offer help to mummy and daddy at home

#### **DP1s!!!**

Please although we are no longer meeting in person for one-on-one meetings, keep in constant communication with your guidance counsellor! We will be posting messages via Managebac, Bridge-U and to your personal emails.

You are in the hot seat now! Navigating successfully through the university application process in a highly competitive applicant pool takes a lot of hard work! So put in the needed diligent effort, regardless of the fact that you are not on campus at the moment. We are ready to give you all the needed support.

Your university application journey will end with a smile of contentment if you take this process seriously! Focus, focus, focus! Discuss your university choices with your parents and put together your college application list.

Also please review the financial aid application presentation that Aunty Eyram posted on Managebac. Complete the ISFAA and COF financial aid application forms with your parents and email them back to your counsellor this week.

# A guide to making your firm and insurance choices (DP2 UK University decisions).

It's always a good idea to be prepared for every stage of the university application process.

One of the toughest parts of applying to university can be choosing your top universities and confirming with UCAS. Here's everything you need to know before making your firm and insurance choices.

- What are firm and insurance university choices?
- When do I have to decide? Picking firm and insurance
- Understanding your offer and what is expected of you
- What if I'm given an unconditional offer before I get my exam results?
- What happens with my offers on results day?

#### Picking your firm choice university and course

Your firm choice university **should be the one that you most want to go to**, and that's realistic given your expected grades. On results day, if you meet the grades for your firm choice then that is where you'll be going. Where you live and what you're going to study for the next three years is a hugely important decision. You'll want to make sure that you do your research and think about it carefully.

#### Some advice when it comes to settling on your firm choice university:

- If you really can't visit the university (perhaps you're an international student), then there will be videos of open days and online campus tours on university websites. Yes, these will be biased (they are trying to sell you their university), but at least you can see what the university looks like.
- Don't base your decision purely on reputation, prestige or league tables. Picking the
  right university for you is more important, and league tables change every year
  anyway. Being happy with your course and university will help you to perform well
  academically and get the most out of student life.
- Make sure you check out the student union website to find out all about the university's clubs and societies, as well as the student support offered. This will give you a really good idea of what your social life might be like at university.
- Finally, think about the cost. London and other major cities tend to be more expensive, which could affect your budget and how much you can do. It's not just the rent on first-year university accommodation: look at the cost of second and third-year rent,

public transport, food, social life stuff, and the cost to travel home for the weekend, too.

#### Picking your insurance choice

Your insurance choice is your back-up university. It will probably have less demanding grade requirements than your firm choice. This means that if you miss your firm choice you still have a chance of going to university this year — and most importantly, to the one you want to go to.

- You can have an unconditional offer as your insurance even if your firm is a conditional offer. If you have an unconditional for, however, then you won't have an insurance choice because you won't need one in that case, you'd be going to your firm no matter what happens on results day. And if you apply through UCAS Extra then you won't get an insurance choice at all.
- A few things to think about when you're deciding on your insurance choice:
- Make sure it's sensible in terms of the difference in offer conditions from your firm. If the grade conditions are too close, you could potentially lose out on both your firm and insurance if you miss your grades on results day.
- Remember, your insurance only comes into play if your firm rejects you. If your firm
  accepts you (even with lower grades than the offer conditions), you cannot at that
  point decide that you'd rather go to your insurance.

https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/university/apply/firm-and-insurance-choices

#### **COMPLETION OF GHANAIAN UNIVERSITY APPLICATIONS- DP2s**

Please note that as of this past Tuesday- 24 March 2020, we have completed all Ghanaian university applications for DP2s.

DP2 students who still wish to apply to Ashesi University or any other universities in Ghana, should please complete the process at home and submit their applications directly to the respective universities, following the university-specific guidelines provided below.

Remember that you would have to submit your official transcript from TIS with predicted grades, as well as your IGCSE results, as these tend to me the basic requirements of most universities, in addition to national IDS, essays among others. Please check for specific requirements of the university and be sure to complete the application process right away.



#### **Ghanaian University Applications are open!**

At TIS, we strongly advise all students to have at least 1 Ghanaian University on their university application list. This can be a plan A, plan B or plan C option.

Ghana has quality universities to choose from, and we highly recommend that each DP student considers adding at least 1 or 2 suitable ones to their list.

Follow the links below;
Apply online! - Ashesi University
<a href="https://www.ashesi.edu.gh/">https://www.ashesi.edu.gh/</a>

https://admissions.ashesi.edu.gh

How to Apply? Click: <a href="https://www.ashesi.edu.gh/admissions/how-to-apply.html">https://www.ashesi.edu.gh/admissions/how-to-apply.html</a>

Parents should please pay application fees using the directions below, and email a copy of payment receipt to your child's college counsellor, for assistance completing the application.

#### **Pay Application Fees**

GHs100 for Ghanaian nationals; \$50 for international applicants. (How to pay application fees)

The Late Admissions period attracts an extra GHs50. We also do not accept the scholarship and international applications for the Late Admissions period.

• Application Payments can be made as follows

#### a. MTNMobile Money

- a. Transfer application fee to merchant mobile number: 024 526 4831
- b. Name of the recipient should be Ashesi University College
- c. Applicants should quote the following information on their application form or in the task box in the online application portal:
  - i. Mobile number used for the transaction by applicant
  - ii. Transaction ID
  - iii. Reference Number (Applicant's Name should be used as the reference)

#### b. ExpressPay

 For Applicants who will like to pay via Visa, Mastercard, Amex, Discover or Mobile Money (MTN, Airtel Money, Tigo Cash, Vodaphone Cash) please click here: https://expresspaygh.com/ashesi.

Applicants should quote the expressPay generated transaction reference number on their application form (paper applications) or in the task box on the online application portal.

#### c. Direct Deposit/Rapid Transfer at any Ecobank Branch in Ghana and West Africa

Account Name: Ashesi Admission fees Account Number: 0200014411600905

Bank: Ecobank Branch: Osu

#### d. Wire Transfer from within West Africa

SWIFT CODE: ECOCGHAC

Account Number: 02010 144 116 009 01 Account Name: Ashesi University College

Branch: ECOBANK, OSU BRANCH PMB CT443, ACCRA-GHANA

#### e. International Payments (All other countries)

SWIFT CODE: ECOCGHAC

Account Number: 02010 144 116 009 01

Account Name: Ashesi University Branch: ECOBANK, OSU BRANCH

PMB CT443 ACCRA-GHANA

- \* Attach a copy of your payment receipt to your complete application
- \* Attach a copy of your payment receipt to your complete application



#### How to Apply for University of Ghana 2020/2021 Admissions,

To apply for the University of Ghana admission for the 2020 academic year, prospective applicants are expected to meet some basic requirements.

Click on the link for more information:

https://admission.ug.edu.gh/applying/content/how-apply-ghanaian-applicants

#### 1. GHANAIAN APPLICANTS

<u>University of Ghana online application</u> E-VOUCHERS can be obtained by Ghanaian applicants for GH¢200.00 at the following banks: Ecobank, Republic Bank, Agricultural Development Bank, Ghana Commercial Bank, Zenith Bank, Universal Merchant Bank, Consolidated Bank Ghana (CBG), Prudential Bank and Fidelity Bank. Ghanaian applicants in the following categories are expected to apply using the E-VOUCHER:

#### 2. STUDENTS AND GHANAIANS APPLYING FROM ABROAD

International applicants and Ghanaians applying from abroad should **NOT** buy the evoucher. They should use the following link to access the online application form for completion and submission.

Online Application for International Undergraduate applicants

All applicants are expected to pay to the University a non-refundable application processing fee of US\$110.00. This fee can be paid directly or wire transferred into the University of Ghana ECOBANK Account.

#### Details of the Account are:

Account Name:	University of Ghana Foreign Students Account
Account Number:	0161014409780401
Bank Details:	Ecobank Ghana Limited, Legon Branch
Swift:	ECOCGHAC

or International Transfer through Ecobank (0161014409780401 or 0161094409780403

or Payment with Credit Card on the GT payment platform.



https://ghstudents.com/knust-admission-forms/

Are you a **KNUST** Prospective Student? Stay up to date with absolute **Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology** Latest Admission News and Updates for the 2020/2021 academic year.

ALL COMPLETED APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BYPOST (EMS/DHL/UPS/FEDEX) TO THE DEPUTY REGISTRAR (ACADEMIC AFFAIRS) KNUST, KUMASI, GHANA ON OR **BEFORE JULY 31ST, 2020** except for MATURE APPLICANTS WHO ARE TO SUBMIT ON OR BEFORE **FRIDAY, 29TH MAY, 2020**.

POINTS OF SALE: All Ghana Post Regional and Designated Post Offices

#### APPLICATION PROCESSING FEE

GHANAIAN APPLICANTS - GH¢ 200.00.
 FOREIGN APPLICANTS - USD 150.00.

GHANAIAN APPLICANTS ARE REQUIRED TO PURCHASE THE E-VOUCHER FROM

APPLICANTS ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT TWO (2) COPIES OF THE ONLINE APPLICATION AND OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS.

FOREIGN APPLICANTS ARE TO GENERATE AN E-VOUCHER FROM THE UNIVERSITY'S WEBSITE (HERE!) AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS.

For more information on other universities of your interest please click https://ghstudents.com/ghana-admission-forms-update/



#### Central University - Welcome

#### https://www.central.edu.gh

Welcome to Central University, the largest private Christian University in Ghana. We welcome you to the place where dreams are born. Here transformational leaders are trained to serve as a positive influence on society through the values of Faith, Integrity, and Excellence.

#### **HOW TO APPLY**

#### **APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

#### ONLINE APPLICATION

Applicants may also apply online by clicking <a href="http://online.central.edu.gh">http://online.central.edu.gh</a> to buy an E-voucher for GH100.00 (for Ghanaian applicants) or the cedi equivalent of US 100.00 (for foreign applicants) at Ecobank branches. Use the PIN and SERIAL NUMBER on the E-voucher to apply online at apply.central.edu.gh. VISA branded cards and MTN Mobile Money can also be used to purchase E-vouchers online.

#### APPLICANTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO:

• Upload their 2 passport size photographs, certificates/ Results slips All Online applicants are required to present original copies of their supporting documents to the Admissions office before semester registration will be allowed.

Applicants are advised to check thoroughly all details entered before finally submitting their online applications. <a href="https://www.central.edu.gh/96">https://www.central.edu.gh/96</a>

A form once submitted can only be viewed but cannot be edited.



#### **Apply Online**

Our online application is simple and takes 5-7 minutes to fill. You can create a login and always return to continue the application where you left off. Keep handy your parents' contact information, academic qualifications and program of interest. Applications that are complete and include a personal essay will be looked upon favorably.

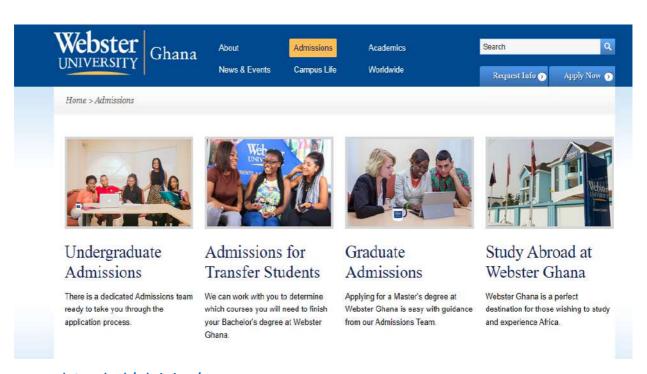
https://acity.edu.gh/admission.php Apply Now!

Tuition and Fees details here: https://acity.edu.gh/admissions.php



#### **Academic City University College**

Our mission is to educate future-ready leaders who can innovatively solve complex problems within an ethical, entrepreneurial and collaborative environment. <a href="https://medium.com/acity-journal/academic-city-holds-2nd-international-education-conference-on-defining-future-ready-69527eb96c6e">https://medium.com/acity-journal/academic-city-holds-2nd-international-education-conference-on-defining-future-ready-69527eb96c6e</a>



www.webster.edu.gh/admissions/

**Apply Now** 

Request Info

#### 3-Step Streamlined Application Process

Call or email us for assistance: +233 (0)540120849 / ghana@webster.edu

**Quick Step 1:** Click on the <u>Apply Now Online</u> button and start by creating a login profile.

Apply Now Online

#### http://www.webster.edu.gh/admissions/apply.html

**Quick Step 2:** Go back to the application page, login with your username and password to start your application. Complete the application in 15-20 minutes. There is an application fee of 200 Ghana Cedis (outside of Ghana: US\$50) that will be collected later **but** at the payment screen, you can enter a Fee Waiver Code before you can submit the application. **Request a code** by sending an email to ghana@webster.edu

**Quick Step 3:** We send you a confirmation and ask you to submit all the supporting documents by email, drop-off or mail. Download and read the Admissions Handbook for details. Find the links below. You will also need to sit in for a 1.5-hour entrance examination.

You will receive the admissions decision within a week if all required documents are submitted. Then you can start telling your family, friends, and colleagues that you've been accepted into a top American university, the first one to have a campus and deliver fully accredited degrees right here in West Africa.



Due to COVID-19, Unfortunately College Board's May SAT has been cancelled by College Board.

Here is a copy of the official note from College Board accessed, 19 March 2020:

#### **Important Updates**

May SAT and March Makeup are Canceled Due to Coronavirus

In response to the rapidly evolving situation around the coronavirus (COVID-19) and guidance from public health organizations, the College Board is canceling the:

- May 2 SAT® administration
- March 14 makeup exams (scheduled March 28)
  - March school-based students are still able to test through SSD window.

We will provide refunds to all students who are registered for May, whose March test centers were closed, or who do not receive March scores due to an irregularity.

The June 6 SAT administration (Subject Tests only outside the U.S.) is still scheduled and we will continue to assess its status

Due to the administration cancellations this spring, we expect there will be a high demand for the June 6 and August 29 test dates.

The next SAT exam at TIS will be in <u>August 2020</u>, as we are not open for <u>June SAT</u>. See the new upcoming SAT test dates below:

#### SAT 2020-2021

- August 29, 2020
- October 03, 2020
- December 05, 2020
- March 13, 2021
- May 08, 2021

#### **PSAT 2020 Exam Date:**

Saturday, October 17, 2020

DP1's don't wait until the eleventh hour to register. Register now to avoid any disappointments!

#### https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register/international

Test takers please come along with your <u>valid unexpired passport</u> as the only form of identification! Photocopies are not acceptable.

• Number 2 pencils (buy from the Tuckshop), approved calculator, eraser, admission ticket and sharpeners required.

SAT Registration Fees (To complete registration online full payment with credit card only. Visit www.collegeboard.org)

SAT I - U.S. \$107.50 SAT II: 1 subject (\$117), 2 subjects (\$127), 3 subjects (\$137) (estimates).



#### 2019-2020 TEST DATES (COMPUTER-BASED TESTING ONLY!)

ACT April Exam has also been cancelled by ACT Inc., USA due to COVID-19 concerns.

Parents and Students, please take note. Find below, the message from ACT received today- March 19 2020. TIS WILL CONDUCT THE NEXT ACT EXAM ON 13 JUNE 2020. PLEASE TAKE NOTE AND SIGN UP FOR THE TEST RIGHT AWAY.

"Dear ACT examinee,

ACT has made the difficult decision to reschedule the 3 and 4 April, 2020 international ACT test date to our 12 and 13 June and 17 and 18 July, 2020 test dates in response to concerns regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. There will be no April ACT test. We regret any inconvenience this may cause you.

You may change your registration to the June, July, or later ACT test date at no cost to you. You may also change your test center at no cost. To change your registration, you must go to your MyACT student account and request a test date change to either the June or July test date. Please make your selection for the new test date no later than 22 May. If this date does not work for you, contact <a href="https://www.actstudent.org/contactus">www.actstudent.org/contactus</a> by 22 May.

PLEASE NOTE: Availability for ACT testing in June and July may be limited initially, but it will be expanding. In the coming days and weeks, ACT will be working to add new test centers to these test dates and to increase capacity at test centers that were already scheduled to administer the test. We ask that you please be patient as we work through this process. If you do not see an opening that works for you initially, please continue to check back.

If you have specific questions, contact ACT at www.actstudent.org/contactus. ACT is committed to serving you and meeting your needs in this unprecedented time and hope you and your loved ones are healthy and safe.

Sincerely, ACT Customer Care

#### **NEXT ACT EXAM DATE- 13 JUNE 2020.**

ACT Registration Fees (Online payments only: Visit <u>www.actstudent.org</u>): ACT plus writing – U.S. \$166.50. (TIS Test Centre Code: 870390, but inform counsellor first).

\*To complete registration, payment must be made online in full with a credit card.

ACT April DEADLINE coming up. DP1s especially are encouraged to sign up for the April ACT exam this year! Aim to complete registration right away! STEM students have an edge when they take the ACT.



NEW TEST DATES FOR ACT FOR NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR

#### ACT 2020-2021

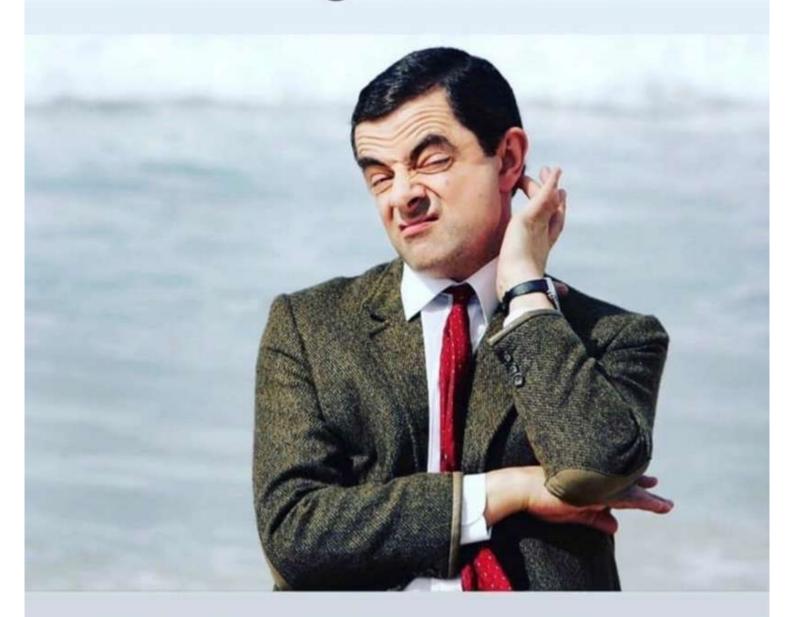
- Saturday, June 13, 2020
  - Saturday, September 12, 2020
- Saturday, October 10, 2020
- Saturday, December 12, 2020
- Saturday, April 17, 2021

#### We will keep you posted. Thanks! HAPPY MID-SEMESTER BREAK!



### Yea...

# I still haven't decided where to go for Easter



debating between the bedroom or the living room

When this ends, AND IT WILL, every game will sell out, every restaurant will have a 2 hour wait, every kid will be glad to be in school, every one will love their job, the stock market will skyrocket, and we will all embrace and shake hands. That's gonna be a pretty good day. Hang in there, World

