The Learning Jigsaw

Learning is a series of jigsaw puzzles. There are many different types of jigsaws. Some are easy. Some are hard. Some are easy to put together while others test our patience and skills before all the pieces come together. Some just seem impossible. Levels of difficulty will often depend on interests, ability and maturity. As a learner, you need to know and show. You have to know what each piece is and understand how it fits within the puzzle. Your inquiry into each piece will involve questions to elicit knowledge and understanding. This knowledge of each piece is important to understand how each piece fits together. This learning will involve trial and error, and using this information to form your knowledge of each piece.

Once you know each piece, you then need to show your understanding by putting all pieces together to complete the jigsaw. Along the way, you will be asked to explain what you know about a piece and why you think it fits in a certain place within the puzzle. This questioning is to support your learning by helping you to clarify what you know and understand. Putting a puzzle together the first time is satisfying, but
does it show what you know? Showing you can complete the puzzle several times and decreasing the time allowed to complete the puzzle on subsequent attempts will clearly show your level of success.

As a teacher, you need to personalise, engage and challenge each learner. Each learner is different and we know one size does not fit all. Therefore, each learner needs to start at the appropriate level, so they can know and show. Each learner must be engaged in the learning process and the teaching strategies employed must be personalised to engage each learner in the inquiry process. This engagement will be reflected by the level of questioning by the learner. The teacher must articulate the essential understandings required for each puzzle and the concepts that are the building blocks to these understandings. Ensuring each learner starts at the right level is critical: too easy, the learner loses focus easily; too hard and the learner often quits in frustration. Ensuring each learner is challenged to complete each puzzle and enjoy the success for each completion of a puzzle is the challenge for the teacher.

Each learner is different and this is recognised by personalising the experiences. Nevertheless, many learners will enjoy working on a puzzle with other learners. These are valuable opportunities for learners as they question, explain, justify and clarify their knowledge and understanding. Collaboration is successful when each learner is an active participant in the process.

Stay healthy. I appreciate your support.

Dr Ken Darvall (Principal)
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Legend:
- School Closed/ Holidays
- Teacher in-Service Day (no school for students)
- Main Campus Event
- First and Last Day of School (Main Campus)
- Primary Campus Event
- First and Last Day of School (Primary Campus)
- SAT Test
- ACT Test
Public Holidays
4/12/20 Farmers’ Day 8/3/21 Independence Day
3/5/21 Labour Day 13/5/21 Eid Al Fitr (TBC)

S1/ Internal Dates: Main Campus
1/8/20 2020 MYP Results Released; 2020 MYP Enquiries Upon Results Open
3/8/20 Senior executive staff resume
10/8/20 Teachers resume
12/8/20 Newbies’ orientation commences online
21/8/20 Newbies’ orientation ends online
24/8/20 Secondary School classes commence
29/8/20 SAT
12/9/20 ACT
18/9/20 MYP/DP Parent Information Session
26/9/20 SAT (TIS Students)
3/10/20 TIS Founders’ Day; SAT
10/10/20 ACT
12-16/10/20 Mid-semester break
15/10/2020 MYP Enquiries Upon Results Close; Language Acquisition Inter-Colour Competition
17/10/20 PSAT
22/10/20 G12 TOK Presentations
26/10/20 G12 EE Cafe
29-31/10/20 Dukies Camp (Shai Hills)
30/10/20 G9/G11 Subject Selections close
6-7/11/20 Annual Performance
7/11/20 SAT (Subject test)
18/11/20 GIS Competition
1/12/20 Admissions open for 2021/2022
3-5/12/20 Dukies Camp
5/12/20 SAT
10/12/20 Virtual 3-Way Interviews; (In person) 3-Way Interviews; Last day for first semester

S2
7/1/21 Teachers resume
10/1/21 Students return to hostels
11/1/21 Second semester commences
11-17/1/21 Alumni Week
23/1/21 Health Walk
27-29/1/21 IDU Days
31/1/21 Thanksgiving Service and Student Leadership Induction Ceremony
6/2/20 Pre-ACT
11/2/21 TIS Junior Tennis Championships
12/2/21 TIS Badminton Championships
13/2/21 Interschool Soccer
19/2/21 TIS Senior Tennis Championships
22/2/21 MYP Mock eAssessments
27/2/21 TISSA Athletics; TISSA Badminton
6/3/21 MYP Community and Personal Projects Exhibition
TIS Basketball Championships
9 - 19/3/21 DP Mock Exams
12/3/21 Interschool Soccer; TIS Squash Championships
13/3/21 SAT; Interschool Basketball; Interschool Tennis
14/3/21 Pi Day; Maths/Science Intercolour Quiz
20/3/20 TISSA Tennis Championships; TISSA Basketball
25/3/21 Hostels General Inspection
26/3/21 3-Way Interviews
29/3-9/4/21 Mid-semester break
11/4/21 Students return to hostels
12/4/21 Classes resume
17/4/21 ACT
8/5/21 SAT
10 – 21/5/21 MYP eAssessments
29/4 – 21/5/20 DP Final Exams
2/6/21 Hostels Cleaning
5/6/21 Achievers’ Day and Graduation
11/6/21 Last day for teachers
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Admissions Open For 2020/2021 Academic Year

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.
Assessment and Evidencing Learning at TIS Primary School

Assessments in the PYP

Assessment is a key element in the PYP which shows evidence of students learning. Assessment focuses on learning, teaching, and outcomes. It provides information for improving learning and teaching. Assessment is an interactive process between students and teachers that informs teachers how well their students are learning.

The purpose of assessment (formative and summative) consists of three components which include assessment for learning, assessment as learning and assessment of learning. Formative assessment such as quizzes, homework, thoughtful reflective class dialogue, and oral questioning can be considered as assessment for learning as it is designed to give teachers information to modify and differentiate learning and teaching activities. Assessment as learning develops and supports metacognition for students. This will require students to be active, engaged and become critical assessors. Summative assessment is a form of assessment of learning as it measures learning at the end of a unit.

Assessments at the TIS PYP School are engaging and authentic. Assessment is authentic when it is connected to real life experience of students and they find it easy to identify and connect with. It is a collaborative process between the students and the teacher making the students responsible for their own learning.

Evidencing Learning in the PYP

As students actively engage in learning in the PYP, there is a constant need to document and showcase evidence of their authentic learning experiences and one ideal means of doing so is through the creation and sharing of Student Portfolios. What are these? How are they organized in TIS Primary? And what purpose do they serve? Kindly read along as we answer these 3 key areas.

What are Student Portfolios?

A Portfolio is fundamentally a child’s record of achievement and progress over time. Portfolios can be a physical collection of student work that includes materials such as: written assignments, journal entries, artwork, lab reports, physical projects such as dioramas or models, and other material evidence of learning progress and academic accomplishment, including awards and self-reflections written by students.

Portfolios may also be digital archives, presentations, blogs, or websites that feature the same materials as physical portfolios, but that may also include content such as student-created videos, multimedia presentations, websites, photographs, or other digital artifacts of learning. It is an open working document which is updated consistently over time.
How are they organized?

In TIS Primary, **Student Portfolios** are organized **digitally** on **ManageBac** and are popularly referred to as the **E-Portfolios**. To keep them organized and updated, learners play a key role in exercising their agency by selecting two preferred soft copy samples each of their work with student reflections, across the different subject disciplines and upload them into their respective Portfolios. In the Early Years, however, learners are given some support by their teachers to **upload** their preferred work samples into their respective portfolios, whereas the choice of work samples and reflections are largely dictated by the early learner.

**What is the purpose of Student Portfolios?**

Student Portfolios serve quite a number of purposes in the lives of PYP learners and below are a few:

- They provide an avenue to celebrate the achievements and accomplishments of the PYP learner when they are shared with Parents and other members of the school community during **Student Led** and **3 Way Interviews**.

- They enable the learner to exercise their voice and choice since learners are fully in charge of selecting their portfolio materials.

- They give learners a sense of ownership for their learning.

- They afford learners the opportunity to reflect on their learning since all portfolio entries go with a student reflection.

- They show the progressive development of the learner’s **ATL** Skills as well as the **Learner Profile Attributes**.

- They show evidence of a child’s learning and conceptual understanding over time.

**Below are work samples of students with their reflections**

![Image of a poster showing migration and exploration](image1)

I’m Nana Kwame and I made this poster to show my understanding on migration and exploration.

![Image of a chart showing healthy and unhealthy foods](image2)

Grade 2 ONYX class collaborated to make this chart to show their understanding of healthy and unhealthy foods.
First graders had an exciting time working on their group poster by coming up with different numbers and then sorting them under odd or even numbers.

Juanita Quarcoopome – Grade 5

Slums around the world made me realize that other people don't have the life we have so we should be thankful for what we have.

Paa Kwesi Oppan – Grade 5

This poster challenged me to explore my creativity. I was able to use my knowledge of shapes combined with my art skills to create a poster on settlement patterns. I learnt that a good poster always starts with a good plan.

Juanita Quarcooopome – Grade 5
At TIS, we believe that the academics, as one of the four pillars for student balance and ensuing success, provide a theoretical lens for inquiry, critical thinking and conceptual understanding, as well as the opportunity to demonstrate our knowledge and understanding across many areas of learning.

EDUCATION FOR A BETTER WORLD
THINGS I CAN CONTROL

- MY ATTITUDE
- MY BEHAVIOUR
- MY ACTIONS
- MY EFFORT
- LOGGING ONTO MANAGEBAC

THINGS OUTSIDE MY CONTROL

- COVID-19
- GLOBAL PANDEMICS
- OTHER PEOPLE’S ACTIONS
- OTHER PEOPLE’S FEELINGS
- OTHER PEOPLE’S MISTAKES
- OTHER PEOPLE’S OPINIONS
- ADVERSITY
The IB learner profile represents 10 attributes valued by IB World Schools. We believe these attributes, and others like them, can help individuals and groups become responsible members of local, national and global communities.
PERSONAL PROJECT

The Personal Project is a compulsory element of the MYP program that each student from Grade 9 (MYP 4) moving to Grade 10 (MYP 5) needs to complete individually. At Tema International School, the 25 hours requirement completion period is spread throughout second semester of MYP 4 (Grade 9) to first semester in MYP 5 (Grade 10).

In the Personal Project, each student is completely independent and responsible for coming up with a long-term project and seeing it to its logical end. Students will get support from their supervisors (teaching and non-teaching staff) who will ensure that they are on track with the project. During the process, the students have to find and define their own learning goals, understand and plan their way through to achieving the goals, and be able to reflect along the way as well as at the end of the project. The Personal Project provides an opportunity for students to explore, research, and develop skills in a topic that they are passionate about, which is not directly related to their daily school work.

The Personal Project is a culminating examples of inquiry because it reflect students’ ability to initiate, manage and direct their own inquiry. The inquiry process in MYP projects (Community and Personal Project) involves students in a wide range of activities to extend their knowledge and understanding and to develop their skills and attitudes. These student-planned learning activities include:

• deciding what they want to learn about, identifying what they already know, and discovering what they will need to know to complete the project
• creating proposals or criteria for their project, planning their time and materials, and recording developments of the project;

• making decisions, developing understandings and solving problems, communicating with their supervisor and others, and creating a product or developing an outcome; and

• evaluating the product/outcome and reflecting on their project and their learning.

As students become involved in the self-initiated and self-directed learning process, they will find it easier to construct in-depth knowledge on their topic as well as to develop an understanding of themselves as learners.

In the beginning of the Personal Project, students need to identify a goal, based on areas or topics of interest to them. It is useful for students to have the opportunity to brainstorm and think about ideas, as well as discuss ideas with other people—for example, other students, friends outside the school, relatives and teachers. This will help them to finally settle on the type of project on which they would like to embark. However, parents, supervisors, friends and others have to balance providing support with objectivity and must not take over the project from the student. Ownership of the project must remain with the student.

The Personal Project encourages students to practise and strengthen their approaches to learning (ATL) skills, to consolidate prior and subject-specific learning, and to develop an area of personal interest. The Personal Project provides an excellent opportunity for students to produce a truly personal and often creative product/outcome and to demonstrate a consolidation of their learning in the MYP. The project offers many opportunities for differentiation of learning and expression according to students’ individual needs. The personal nature of the project is important as the project should revolve around a challenge that motivates and interests the individual student. Each student develops a Personal Project independently. The MYP Personal Project is student-centred and age-appropriate, and it enable students to engage in practical explorations through a cycle of inquiry, action and reflection.

MYP projects help students to develop the attributes of the IB learner profile, provide students with an essential opportunity to demonstrate ATL skills developed through the MYP, and foster the development of independent, lifelong learners.

The aim of the MYP Personal Project is to encourage and enable students to:

• participate in a sustained, self-directed inquiry within a global context
• generate creative new insights and develop deeper understandings through in-depth investigation
• demonstrate skills, attitudes and knowledge required to complete a project over an extended period of time
• communicate effectively in a variety of situations
• demonstrate responsible action through, or as a result of, learning
• appreciate the process of learning and take pride in their accomplishments.
The role of parents and members within the community

Students may decide to seek out and use specialists within the community who facilitate access to research and evidence, provide information to extend skills and knowledge, and model good practice. In these cases, the community member guides and supports the students throughout the process; however, he or she does not assess the project. When this option is used, it is important that students still receive guidance from a supervisor in the school relating to the project objectives and assessment.

Parents can play the role of a mentor if they are skilled and are professionals in the topic area of their wards.

They can also remind students about important deadlines and keep track on the progress of their wards.

Successful completion of the personal project is a requirement for awarding the IB MYP certificate.

Sylvester Wellington.
Personal Project Coordinator.
swellington@tis.edu.gh/sylvesterwellington@yahoo.co.uk
To Do List

FOCUS
WORK HARD
BE CREATIVE
OPEN YOUR MIND
SPREAD POSITIVITY
STAY AWAY FROM DRAMA
ENJOY THE LITTLE THINGS
PUT IN 100% EFFORT
TAKE CHANCES
SMILE MORE
BREATHE

FLIPANDSTYLE
ONLINE LEARNING PROTOCOLS

As a TIS student, I will:

Achievement
• Be online and on time for my virtual learning sessions.
• Submit all learning tasks.
• **Check email and ManageBac everyday.**
• Communicate with my teacher/s regularly via email.
• Advise my subject teacher if I am finding the work challenging or I am requiring further support.
• Have my laptop or computer fully charged and ready, my microphone working and webcam enabled.
• Engage fully in online work without any background distractions. Log out of all social media so I am not distracted during the lesson.
• Have pens and paper ready if required.
• Utilise break times with a healthy and mindful focus.
• Observe all assessment notifications.

Respect
• Only turn my microphone on when I am asked to speak or when responding to questions.
• Make sure that I am dressed appropriately for learning (something I would wear for an out of uniform day)
• Keep my online chat focused on the learning. Ensure chat is respectful of all participants.
• Keep my mobile phone off and away from me whilst I am learning online.

Commitment
• Complete all online and offline learning tasks.
• If I have technical issues, refer to MB to access each aspect of missed lessons.
• Single-task focus during online lessons. Don’t be chatting, gaming or checking social media while trying to do your schoolwork.

Community
• Contribute to online discussions.
• Offer support and assistance to my peers.
• Identify myself online with my first and last name. No alias or pseudonyms are allowed.
• Join in and contribute to forum style activities as **participation in these activities/reflections will inform attendance.**
• Be patient but also alert the teacher to ways things may be improved.
• There is to be no filming, recording or sharing content (I must not take screenshots or record staff members presenting information to me.)
• I will inform all members of my household that I will be joining a video conference and that they can be seen (if your camera is on) and heard (if your mic is on).

*Online learning is different. It is not easy. But it should suit many of our 21c learners. However, evidence is required to validate your learning. Please contact your class teacher, programme coordinator, or myself, if you are experiencing any difficulties.*

Dr Ken Darvall

15/8/20
At TIS, we believe that culture as one of the four pillars for student balance and ensuing success, develops and enhances the creative, artistic and performing skills and talents in each student.

EDUCATION FOR A BETTER WORLD
SCIENCE CORNER

KNOWING THE FACES OF LIGHT

Our understanding of light has improved over the years. Different physicists have studied the first thing commanded by the Creator, light, and laid out their perspectives according to experimental evidences they have observed. Sir Isaac Newton, an English physicist, argued that light is a stream of particles (corpuscles), while his fellow physicist Christiaan Huygens, a Dutch physicist, argued that it is a wave. They all had experimental backing to their chosen perspectives, and the community of scientists could not help but accept both theories and termed it the wave-particle duality of light.

MYP 5 physics students have been studying waves this semester and have learnt about the various types of waves including sound and light waves. To improve their understanding about certain characteristics of light that proves that indeed it is a wave, some experimentation was done to confirm it wavelike features. This consisted of refraction, reflection, dispersion and total internal reflection. Here are a few reflections:

On Friday, 30 October, 2020, we conducted an experiment to determine the refractive index of material, we tried to manipulate our results by using five different angles of incidence. The experiment was conducted in a dark room so as ensure less interference of external light. Overall, I got to work with colleagues I had not worked with previously (one at home and one physically present in school), and this helped me improve my collaboration and communication skill.

– Brenda Anthonio

In our last physics class, we conducted an experiment to demonstrate refraction of light and also find the refractive index of a glass block. I was able to see how a ray of light changes direction as it entered the glass block. From the results of the experiment, I was able to calculate the refractive index of the glass block. This experiment also revealed to me how a rainbow is formed via dispersion of light. The light is transmitted at the boundary of the surface between two media and separates into its component colours.

- Jason Van-Tay

Throughout the unit we learnt more on the reflection and refraction of light. Reflection is the change in the direction of light or bouncing of light from a surface whilst refraction is the process where light bends passing from one medium to another. One striking thing which was in no doubt the highlight of the unit was the concept of total internal reflection. This is when light really does not get absorbed or transmitted or refracted from the boundary separating two media. In addition, we conducted an experiment which enlightened my learning experience. In this experiment with a glass block as our medium, we used a single light ray to help us determine the refractive index by measuring both the angle of incidence and the angle of refraction and applied Snell’s law.

- Maame Ama Osei
Conducting these experiments in real life has made me understand how light moves through different media. I now understand how rainbows are formed through the dispersion of light by glass prisms, as well as how light changes direction as it moves through different media. I can now conduct this experiment on my own and I am proud of that.

- Nuku Dzakuma
Essay Competition

Win a scholarship for a unique online or residential academic programme. Designed and taught by Oxbridge academics.

Free entry for students aged 13–18

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, SEARCH ‘IMMERSE EDUCATION ESSAY COMPETITION’
We are counting down to our first-ever Festival of Plays, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, we are not able to engage our talented students in one of the most amazing experiences we offer here at TIS, our Annual Production. However, we could not also just let the occasion pass by, so we thought of revisiting two of our outstanding productions.

So join us as we travel back in time and share fond memories and lessons learnt through the adaptations of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat* (2011) & *Beauty and the Beast* (2018), our 15th anniversary production at the National Theatre.

We look forward to travelling back in time with you as we 'Reflect on our Journey and Inspire New Directions!' From:

Personal Project
DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY

Statistically about 1 out of 5 teenagers suffer from mental disorders worldwide and that is 20% of our population but only about 4% out of the 20% seek medical attention or talk to anyone about it. # WE CAN OVERCOME IT is my Personal Project initiative and it’s all about educating and talking to teenagers with depression and anxiety. I would like to invite you all to join this meeting so that we can be informed about these topics and also talk about our experiences with it. The resource person for these sessions will be Dr. Sandra Thompson Hassan. Thank you so much. And I hope you will have fun and also be well educated on these topics. Nina Issah, Grade 10

Saturday, 14 November 2020
Sunday, 15 November 2020
At 7:30pm on each day

Join the zoom meeting:
Zoom ID:
Meeting ID: 633 533 3964
Passcode: 7R8509

Nina's personal project initiative:

Photo credit: https://thisisafrica.me/
COVID-19

Back to School – Post-Lockdown

Coming back to campus has been very nice. I spent seven months at home as a result of this merciless pandemic and I can finally say that coming back to school has increased my rate of productivity by far. **Andrew Opuni, G10**

I was really excited about coming back to school and seeing all my friends, grade mates’ teachers and staff. What I did not expect, however, were the precautions the school took to ensure our safety. Honestly, having only two roommates is fun. The hostel is really quiet and peaceful but sometimes I miss the presence of my other friends in the other grades.

Meals times are what gave me a surprise. I understand that precautions should be taken, but boy! I feel really self-conscious with the new queues because the spacing is a lot and everyone has a clear view of you. Lunch time is better though because it is only with my grade so I feel more comfortable. The table spacing (5 on a table) I think is okay even though I wish we could be more so that the conversations would be more interactive. In class, I really wish we could be seated like old times and easily converse during a class instead of sitting so far apart. Classes are still interactive though but because we wear face masks, hearing is quite hard.

I also really wish I could hug my friends but I have to stay put and just tell them how I wished I could give them a big hug. So far school has been fun, despite the safety measures. **Chelsea Davis, G10**

Back to school, although filled with fear of contracting the now famous COVID-19 and with the restrictions kept in place made the experience alien to me. But three weeks in and it has become part of me. A mask with you wherever you go while keeping social distance might feel a little off, but there is still the feeling of togetherness that TIS provides. **Samuel Lumumba, G12**
COVID-19

Back to School – Post-Lockdown

Before coming back to school, I was very skeptical about it if the decision was a smart one or not, considering the fact that we are still in the middle of a pandemic.

However, I can say that because of the measures the school has put in place, I feel very safe and secure and the learning experience is much better. **Nuku Dzakuma, G10**

Coming back from home has become a great blessing. Online has personally been a struggle for me, with keeping up with all the work.

Now, I am able to learn and complete tasks simultaneously. I am so happy to be back and see all my peers and teachers. **Moyosola Fajemirokun, G10**

Sitting in the MPH always apart from one another has never been this unusual. Wearing the face mask all around campus has been very uneasy and uncomfortable for me.

But we do all this just to keep one another safe. 2020 has been an uncertain year and I am looking forward to what 2021 will bring. **Brad**

This academic year, things have obviously been totally different. From having to follow the strict COVID protocols, such as social distancing during meal times, we no longer have that clustered group-centered table setting in class and finally we have to wear our masks in and out of class. On a more positive note, the reduction in the number of students in school, makes it very easy to stay focused on my studies. **Olives Sanda, G12**

This semester, life in school is completely different than it was two semesters ago. Due to COVID-19, we are required to wear masks and socially distance. At first the protocols are hard to follow but as the days go by they become really easy to follow. Life in TIS is very interesting due to the huge impact COVID-19 has had on us, but aside us having to follow the protocols, learning has become very easy because we are a few in school and this makes everything much easier. **Fawzaan Saani, G12**
**COVID-19**  
**Back to School – Post-Lockdown**

Being in TIS, at this moment, has been very interesting. We are required to wear our masks in and out of classes, a lot of sinks have been installed all around the school, prep is in the hostel and finally, the lack of students around, makes it extremely easy to learn. **Gwen Agbesi, G12**

It feels good to be back! Although all activities don’t feel as normal, I am definitely glad to be at school and taking advantage of all the given resources. As compared to online learning from home, I have easier access to my teacher whenever I find a question difficult. Also, my time management skills have increased tremendously upon arrival at school. At the MPH, all COVID-19 protocols are observed with strict supervision. I do, however, miss Saturday night entertainment and sporting events like TISSA. **Eyako Eli Dzantor, G12**

Coming back to school has been really interesting to me mainly because I have had to transition from a more related schedule to a heavily packed and controlled one, especially for times when I sleep and I eat. I have, however, noticed a major improvement in my understanding of topics taught in class. This could be attributed to the fact that the teachers are now in front of me and communication between us is easier and faster. I also have less distractions in school than I did at home so it is easier for me to learn. **Awo Apreku, G10**

Coming back to school has definitely been a huge transition for me. Certain topics have also been easier to understand because coming back to school has made me realize that we need to appreciate our teachers more. The food on the other hand has improved greatly, however, the social distancing has been quite a challenge. **Brenda Anthonio, G10**
**CAS Project - Aspire to Inspire**

**Type of Service:** Direct  
**Learning Outcomes:** Strength and Growth, Global Engagement, Collaborative skills, Ethical choices, and Action  
**CAS Strands:** Creativity and Service  
**Group Members:** Charlene Noye, Jayden Afrifa, Khadidjatou Yandja, Ashley Gaba, Chimelum Moghalu, Kwasi Dankwa, Terry Ansah. (G12)

Rare diseases, although they make up only 10 percent of the world’s population, have affected over 300 million people worldwide. Most people are unaware of this and go about their lives forgetting how privileged they are to wake up happy and healthy every morning.

However, we were taught to use this privilege to help other people and make a difference in someone’s life. Aspire to Inspire is a CAS project, started by Charlene Noye and Jayden Afrifa. Our initial goal was to help raise funds and resources for a group of children who required financial aid in order to get tested and diagnosed for their disease. COVID-19 has forced us to put these plans on hold but we refuse to allow this incident to prevent us from trying to make a difference and changing people’s lives for the better. Through our collaboration with the Rare Disease Initiative in Ghana, we are creating posters, info graphics, and inspirational videos in order to help spread awareness on different types of rare diseases. Every week a poster or infographic will be posted talking about a different type of rare diseases. It's time we become aware of this condition and help out however we can.

Thank you all for your time and if you would like to know more about our project kindly follow us on our Instagram@aspir.e.to.inspire for weekly updates and more information about our group.
CAS Project - Aspire To Inspire

WHAT ARE RARE DISEASES?

Rare Diseases reflect a group of conditions with low prevalence, often accompanies the individual from birth and cause cause functional or structural abnormalities. Rare diseases represents health conditions that affect on the average 5-76 cases/100,000 people

STATISTICS

Though individually the prevalence of rare diseases are low, Collectively they pose huge public health burden to the people affected and the country. There are more than 7000 rare diseases. 80% of rare diseases are genetic in origin, and thus are present throughout a person’s life, even if symptoms do not immediately appear.

WHO’S AT RISK:

EVERYONE, AT ANY TIME

WHAT TO DO:

Don’t stigmatise! Show support and raise awareness about their current situation.
CAS Project - SDG Ghana – COVID-19 AWARENESS WEEK

CAS Strands: Creativity, Service
Type of Service: Advocacy

SDG Ghana

SDG Ghana is a student initiative to introduce and educate citizens of Ghana to sustainable development goals. We were inspired by the #ACT4SDG goals, and then decided to extend it because we realized it was so important. Our initiative includes monthly campaigns for the different SDGs.

For the month of October, the SDG Ghana Team focused on Sustainable Development Goal 3, Good Health and Wellbeing. We highlighted four major health issues and created online campaigns for each of them. These health issues were Mental Health, Breast Cancer, HIV/AIDS and the Coronavirus.
The SDG Ghana team would also like to introduce November's Sustainable Development Goals, (Goals 12 and 13), Responsible Consumption and Production, and Climate Action.

Climate calls for urgent action to combat climate change and its effects. Climate change is a topic that needs to be addressed because every country is experiencing the effects of climate change.

Sustainable Consumption and Production (known as SCP) is about doing more and better with less. It is also about decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation, increasing resource efficiency and promoting sustainable lifestyles.

We are currently consuming more resources than ever, exceeding the planet’s capacity for generation. In the meantime, waste and pollution grow, and the gap between rich and poor is widening. Health, education, equity and empowerment are all adversely affected.

As a team, we chose these SDGs because we have acknowledged their importance to the survival of the planet. Stay tuned for more articles about Climate Action and Responsible Consumption in the subsequent bulletins.

Please visit our Instagram page to check out more of our posts, interact and share!
https://www.instagram.com/p/CFzSqsfAQY0/?igshid=149zpyipqpowv

Visit https://dodoolena.wixsite.com/sdghan to learn more about our Goal of the Month.

**By: The SDG Ghana Team**
CAS Experience – Students’ Articles – Physical Health & Nutrition

Type of Service – Advocacy/Research
Learning Outcomes – Global engagements, ethical choices

CAS Strands: Creativity
Angela Williams, Grade 11

Josh Billings once said, “Health is like money, we never have a true idea of its value until we lose it.” Education on physical health and nutrition is a vital tool in improving our lives, habits with food, physical activity and our overall wellbeing. Physical health involves physical activities, sleep, hygiene, and relaxation. Nutrition is an important part of the development of our health because smart health and nutritional choices help you pay attention to what you eat, improve or maintain your health and prevent diseases, such as diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, heart diseases, stroke and cancer.

About 70 million people around the world suffer from eating disorders, such as anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa or binge eating disorder. Also, about 72% of men and 63% of women worldwide suffer from obesity. One might say, “I eat vegetables so I’m eating healthy”, however, that is not entirely correct, healthy eating means eating a variety of foods which give essential nutrients to maintain one’s health, feel good and have energy. Healthy eating must be accompanied by physical wellness or activities because these bring balance in one’s life and keeps the body in its best state.

This segment will tackle issues regarding physical health and nutrition stereotypes, food groups, physical activities, water consumption, portion control, diseases, as well as provide information to create good habits to improve your daily life. Physical health and nutrition should be taken seriously. As the saying goes, “prevention is better than cure.”

Respect your body.
Fuel your body.
Challenge your body.
Move your body.
Most of all, 
LOVE YOUR BODY

I really regret being healthy
- said no one
CAS Experience - Students Articles – Congo is Bleeding

Type of Service – Advocacy/Research

Learning Outcomes – Global engagements, ethical choices

CAS Strands: Creativity

Chelpang Alhassan, G11

#CONGOISBLEEDING

Many of you who are active on social media platforms may have recently noticed the hashtag, #CongoIsBleeding. The “bleeding” of Congo, its natural resources and its people did not start in August as some people think. It goes as far back as when Congo was PRIVATELY owned by King Leopold II of Belgium from 1885 to 1908. Just try to imagine that the Democratic Republic of Congo was owned by someone. Unfortunately, Congo still has not recovered or healed from what Leopold did. After taking hold of Congo, “It quickly became a brutal, exploitative regime that relied on forced labor to cultivate and trade rubber, ivory and minerals.” (BBC News, 2020). Killing and injustice are major parts of Congo’s history and it is still ongoing as you are reading this. The people of Congo everywhere continue to hope, cry, and pray for peace and it is high time the rest of the world listens. Since 1996, the violence in Congo has killed over 6 million people. Over 6 million people dead and the world remains silent.

Congo had two major wars which were vicious, and the effects are still felt all throughout Congo today. These wars are sometimes called the “African World Wars” because of the wide involvement of African countries, such as Rwanda, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Angola, Libya, Namibia and many others who were either on Kabila’s side looking to overthrow Mobutu, or those on Mobutu’s side looking to help him maintain control of the country. The world is largely still silent when it comes to the over 6 million Congolese people killed, of whom about half of them were children. This is largely due to the instability and lack of leadership after the Congo Wars, and there is an estimate of over 100 rebel groups.

“As a result, fighting continues in the eastern parts of the country, destroying infrastructure, causing physical and psychological damage to civilians, and creating human rights violations on a massive scale. Rape is being used as a weapon of war, and large-scale plunder and murder are also occurring in efforts to displace people from resource-rich land”. (World Without Genocide, 2020).

All the murder and oppression in Congo have worsened because of the exploitation of Congo’s resources. Unfortunately, the unrest in Congo is beneficial to other parties. The unrest is of great benefit to many actors whether in the country, Africa or around the world. Ever watched the movie Blood Diamond or became aware of the situation? Although the movie focused on Sierra Leone during the Civil War, blood diamond has been unending in Congo for years. Children work under harsh conditions often with no pay or little pay just so big companies can profit. Women continue to be raped and used as weapons so that others can profit from the natural resources.
CAS Experience - Students Articles – Congo is Bleeding

One people’s cry is another people’s joy; one people’s suffering, is another people’s revenue, and one people’s fleeing for their lives, is another people’s fortune. This is just what has been happening in Congo for countless years. Therefore, you have seen the hashtag, #CongoIsBleeding, because Congolese people are sick and tired of suffering, torture, fleeing and dying. Congolese lives are black lives, so where is everyone?

As IB students and Africans who pride ourselves on our global awareness, it is important that we are aware of what is happening around us. The fact that it does not directly affect you does not mean that is not your concern. As students what we can do is rather limited but just raising awareness is an act of service. Hopefully, the more people who know about it the more the international community will do to help end the crisis. We each must do as much as we can to help the people of Congo.
CAS PROJECT- **TeenMTH**

**Purpose:** To spread awareness and to bring to light mental health issues that we as teenagers face today.

**Type of Service** – Indirect

**Learning Outcomes** – Strength and Growth, Global Engagements, Planned and initiated activities, Collaborative skills, Ethical Choices and Action.

**CAS Strands:** Creativity & Service

**Initiators:** Deborah Gomado, Adeline Adjei, Bernard Obeng, Theodora Tekpor, Alvin Appiah and Shaun Adjei. (G11)

We can all agree that mental health is a very important topic that is every so often paid little attention. And even worse, the current pandemic has given rise to things like abuse, (both physical and mental), depression, among other problems. As it is, many people, especially teenagers, are unable to speak out about their predigams and thus, continue to suffer under the hands of their abusers, who you never know could have some sort of psychological issue or trauma, which is the cause of their behavior. The victims on the other hand are then severely anxious and or depressed.

**Our goal?**

We choose not to be silent about these mental health issues and we want to spread awareness of them and how they can be managed and treated.

Below is our Instagram handle, email address and link to our YouTube video. Please follow our Instagram page, like, share, repost and comment on all our posts as well as our YouTube video.

Please note down our email address and don't hesitate to email us, about any questions and or concerns you may have; we are more than HAPPY to help you with anything you need. We have so many AMAZING things coming up as part of the project and you won’t want to miss them. Stay tuned for more and enjoy your day.

**Instagram Link**
https://www.instagram.com/teen.mth/

**Youtube link** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=htdC5TtR01c&t=13s

**Email Address**
teen.mth@gmail.com

**Teen Mental Health Campaign (@teen.mth) • Instagram photos and videos**
53 Followers, 12 Following, 4 Posts - See Instagram photos and videos from Teen Mental Health Campaign (@teen.mth)
CAS Experience - Buddies Without Borders

CAS Strands: Creativity, Service
Type of Service: Research/Advocacy
Learning Outcomes: Demonstrate the skills and recognize the benefits of working collaboratively, Demonstrate engagement with issues of global significance, Recognize and consider the ethics of choices and actions.

Participants: Naa Adjeley Anang-la, Araba Egyei-Mensah, Cyril Davis (G11)

The Buddies Without Borders Forum has been an amazing experience for me. The theme of this forum is ‘Access to Quality Education’. For the past month, we have been conducting research on the status of education in both our countries and the countries they assigned to us. This has given me the opportunity to share what is going on in Ghana and also learn about different countries. The forum coordinators also put us in groups with people from all over the world to write our final paper. This has made me much more open-minded because all my group members are from different parts of the world (Thailand, Kazakhstan and the Netherlands) and so have different views on almost everything. My group was assigned to India and so creating solutions which ensured equality to all parties involved was quite difficult, but we managed to pull through.

I’m very grateful to have been a part of this experience to research how education is like around the world, and I will definitely recommend that everyone participates in it. Araba Egyei-Mensah, G11
Buddies without borders is perhaps one of my favourite CAS experiences. I am always looking forward to meeting my team mates and other friends during every session and having amazing discussions on our Facebook group.

I am always excited to meet a large group of creatives from all over the world who are passionate about making a difference globally. I have met with some of the most down to earth, open-minded and critical thinkers in the world. They hail from all over the world: Taiwan, Jordan, Ireland, Bolivia, Indonesia, India, Japan, Brazil, China and many more! I am truly happy to be a part of this experience.

Our topic addresses, **Education Inequalities**, in the world. We often take for granted the opportunities given to us by virtue of our ability to afford quality education. In many areas in the world, it is not so, many people don't have access to good education. **COVID-19** has exposed the inequalities of the world, as many people are left to go on months without any forms of schooling. This has affected their mental health and development and teachers who are unable to get paid. This conference has really taught me to value education and often evaluate the social, political and environmental implications of every decision on education. As IB learners, we have all been encouraged to develop the skill of inquiry, to which I interpret as asking the right questions. By this we are able to question the way the world works and identify problems and solutions so we can address SDG number 4, **Quality Education.** By addressing the inequalities that separate and divide communities, this includes gender, class, language and socio-economic status. We have a detailed analysis towards our own country’s problems in our kick off and now our assigned countries.

This is my team, Edu-Vance, and we have been discussing the education crisis on Morocco and we are working on our Team Paper soon. I have learnt a lot from this conference, I have learnt to ask relevant questions and I have improved my analysis of world issues. I am excited to be a part of this conference and I hope to grow and develop more to a more analytical and critical thinker. **Naa Adjeley, G11**
I joined Buddies Without Borders because I wanted to meet new people and hear about how education happens in their countries. It’s been three weeks of collaborating with others in order to find solutions to problems we face in our education.

I must admit, although for most of the time Buddies Without Borders felt like a lot of work, it has been a really fun experience for me. I have met lots of new people, whom I would not normally meet if I stayed in my comfort zone and we have collaborated on stuff we feel is important to make sure we have access to quality education across the globe. At times, I felt surprised that people my age had such different and vivid ideas about how education should be. It took a lot of analysis and discussions for us to come up with a plan of what we think education should look like, although we aren’t done yet with our planning.

I can say for sure that the discussions I have had during this experience have opened my mind to some minor details I would have overlooked. For example, did you know that during the period when double-track students come home some children cannot attend extra classes because their families cannot afford it, so they are left at a disadvantage? Discussion surrounding issues like this have made me realise the purpose of education and how that purpose is carried or played out.

There are challenges, although most of it has been a enjoyable experience, differences in time zone have really played games with my head. Sometimes I had to wake up at 1.00 am just so I could attend a session. I couldn’t text some of my group members at the times I wanted because of time zones. Hopefully, by the time I am done with this experience, I will have gained new friends with different backgrounds and we will keep learning from each other.

We mainly communicated via text and did our work on a shared Google doc.

Cyril Davis, G11
CAS Experience - Buddies Without Borders
Register for the upcoming forums

Find out why this is the future, and how you can participate in making a difference locally and globally, visit www.GlobalEducationDestinations.org

For more details contact the CAS Coordinator, Mrs King – surama.king@tis.edu.gh
THIS WEEK ON THE DofE CORNER

A Gold Award holder Steven Kingsley Opuni an IB class of 2019 shared with us how ready he is for change, a new normal and our new world with the help of the Duke of Edinburgh International Award scheme.

“The Duke of Edinburgh award scheme is both challenging and rewarding. It causes you to think critically in terms of problem-solving and be more creative in your approach to issues you are faced with, by the end of this programme, a change in everyday thinking is guaranteed. This experience helped me improve being more balanced and open to new opportunities presented to me. The time I spent learning new things over the course of this experience has aided me in adjusting to this ‘new normal’ and I personally advise students to participate in this amazing award scheme in the near future. This will also improve your transcript when applying for your dream universities and definitely impress any potential employers.

This scheme will unlock many abilities you never thought you had.” – Steven Kingsley Opuni, Alumni, TIS IB Class of 2019

BE PART OF THE GLOBAL AWARD ALUMNI NETWORK

I recommend all Duke of Edinburgh’s Awardees to join the Global Award Alumni Network. Network locally and globally and stay connected with people and ideas that empower young people to be #WORLDREADY Here is the link to sign up:

https://alumni.intaward.org/alumni/signup

“We all know that our experience of the Award has given us powerful memories (mostly good ones!) and created strong friendships forged through our common endeavours. It may also have shaped our future, influenced our careers and the choices we have made. Although we have all been helped by the Award to develop our own individuality and character, we all share a unique bond; a bond which crosses boundaries and generations. That, it seems to me, is what makes the case for our alumni association; it’s not only about the past or the present, but also the future. Welcome to the Global Award Alumni Network – life beyond the Award and a whole new opportunity.”

HRH The Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex KG GCVO
Chairman, The Duke of Edinburgh’s international Award Foundation
I have uploaded a video on ManageBac explaining the Award Scheme in details and also forms for you to sign up.
Dear Dukies,

Time management is very important especially in this new normal. Being able to balance your class hours and your after school activities are very important. Remember to login your activities onto the Online Record Book, and also add pictures as evidence. Here are some Time Management tips for you.

#1. Audit your time
Write out how long you spent on different activities. Where are the gaps? Can you move things around to do them at times when you know you are most productive?

#2. Plan
Use our new DofE weekly planner to map out what you need to get done and make sure that you have time available for everything.

#3. Routine
It may be that you call your elderly neighbour for a chat every Monday evening, or you learn to cook a new meal for dinner each Thursday.

#4. Factor in exercise
Exercise is known to boost your mood and help with concentration and focus, so when you're trying to fit lots of things in, exercise can give you a lift.

#5. Avoid distractions
If you don't need it for the activity you are doing, try switching your phone off or muting notifications.
**Dukies’ Corner**

**Activities you can do whilst social distancing:** Running, Mentoring, DIY, Cooking, Yoga, Photography, Wii Fit, Coding, Guitar Playing, Knitting, Cycling, Sign Language, Walking, Painting, Website building, Quizzing, Jogging, Campaigning, Money management, Vlogging, YouTube, Fitness, Dancing, Helping neighbours, Languages Tutoring, Singing, Martial arts, Sewing, Pilates, Gardening, Crafting, Driving skills, Blogging, App design, Filmmaking, Cyber safety, Family tree research, Book reviewing, First aid, Aerobics, Programming, Skateboarding, Combatting loneliness, Online learning, Foodbank collection, Circuits.
Dukies’ Corner – CAS & DoEIA Expedition Camp, 2020
CAS Experience - CAS & DoEIA Expedition Camp, 2020
Challenging & equipping young people, transforming lives, changing the world.

CAS Strands: Creativity, Activity.

Learning Outcomes – Identify own strengths and develop areas for growth. Demonstrate that challenges have been undertaken. Developing new skills in the process. Demonstrate the skills and recognize the benefits of working collaboratively. Demonstrate engagement with issues of global significance. Recognize and consider the ethics of choices and actions. Show commitment to and perseverance.

DoEIA requirements: Physical Fitness, Skills, Adventures Journey, Expedition.

Award Level: Bronze & Silver

Camping has actually helped me a lot because I have been able to adjust to new environment and do certain things that I never thought I would actually do. I have been able to use the collaboration and communication skills because I had to talk to most of the people. I didn’t know most of them well, so through the camp I have been able to make new friends and also make use of the ATL skills. The first day that we arrived was challenging to the point I wish I hadn’t come because I didn’t sleep well on the first night. The second day I actually enjoyed myself, everyone was engaging with each other and encouraging one another and helping everyone to be on track, motivating people to push their limits. The motivation from the team helped me a lot especially the abseiling which was the most difficult activity I did during the camp.

I really look forward on going on the next camp with the school because I have been able to move out of my comfort zone to an unfamiliar zone which is literary preparing me for life adventures. #WEareWorldReady!!! Cynthia Natsuakor, G11 - Bronze Recipient.
CAS Experience - CAS & DoEIA Expedition Camp, 2020
Challenging & equipping young people, transforming lives, changing the world.

My experience at the camp exceeded my expectations. During this trip, I wanted to be open-minded to whatever came my way. I was pleasantly surprised at my willingness to do certain things and none of the events at the camp resulted in annoying me, therefore causing me to isolate myself. I also liked the amount of positivity and zeal individuals who went on this trip showed. I was also looking forward to interacting with some of my grade mates, teachers and other people on this trip. I believe I involved myself in every activity and improved my skills and learnt some more. Deborah Eyram Gomado, G11 – Bronze Recipient.

It's really hard to pick the best moment. I think my top two would be singing and talking all through the 11-kilometre hike and the long chats we had together as we waited for the food. As a new student, I was a little scared since I didn't know anyone. But the trip has given me long lasting friends I never thought I could make. When I was abseiling, I was a little terrified when I couldn't feel the rock under my feet. The scare led me to let go of the rope. As I held the rock, I kept telling myself I can do this. I eventually grabbed the rope and started singing songs to distract myself as I descended. It was fun and scary. At the end of the expedition I didn't even feel like going back home. A wild, scary and insightful experience. Nicole Aggrey Fynn, G11 – Silver Participant.
CAS Experience - CAS & DoEIA Expedition Camp, 2020
Challenging & equipping young people, transforming lives, changing the world

The Camp experience helps build up courage and pushes your limits to new boundaries. The best moment was abseiling. It helped me learn how to trust ‘the process’ and to make me more comfortable with heights. My biggest challenge was my stamina. I overcame this by pushing myself and with the encouragement of others. Communication skills, social skills, thinking skills and collaboration skills were learnt throughout. This was amazing and challenging. **Abdul Bawumia, G11 – Bronze Participant**

My favourite moment was abseiling, though I have an undeniable fear of heights and I struggled throughout that activity, I felt a sense of accomplishment and relief once I was done with it. It also allowed me to see life from a different perspective.

My biggest challenge was on the first day of the camp, when we had to hike for 11 kilometres. I was inactive in relation to exercise throughout the year, hence I really struggled to walk such a long distance. I tried to drive myself from within and focus on the positive side of things. That was I kept saying to myself ,'we are almost there'. I learnt that once I am determined to achieve a goal I could overcome, when I stretched myself. Throughout the experience, I learnt collaboration skills.

I truly enjoyed this experience. It had a lot to offer and it taught me many life lessons that I will treasure. Adventure. Excitement. Togetherness. **Esslfua Efua Anasah, G11 – Gold Participant.**
The Camp was a genuine challenge and a great experience overall. The most amazing moment was when I came off the rock during the abseiling. It was an exhilarating and remarkable feeling. I learnt how to bike and discover that I am resilient. We did it! **Felix Djanie Osei-Amoako, G9 – Bronze Participant**

Yes, I do recommend the CAS & DoEIA Camp for everyone because it is an amazing and once in a lifetime experience. Most people want to gain confidence in themselves but looking at it from my angle this is the best way to gain that confidence. No pain, no gain.

Abseiling was the most fun for me because I didn't know where the confidence came from at once. Suddenly, I felt courage to be the first member to go and then I overcome my fear of not opening up. I love to try new things but when around people, I could just relax and watch. This time I took upon myself that I wouldn't allow it. As they say, if you want it, go for it.

Actually, I didn't really have a big challenge, it was a minor one and that is the map reading. But it was worth being a leader of my group, and I learned with the help of my group members.

We walked about 28 kilometres in total which is very interesting, as I never thought about walking that far. Team work was much needed during the trip and I am very proud of the team that went for the camp because it was amazing, fun with all the excitement in the air. Bonding with the adults, and also younger grades, was much more fun because it did not feel awkward and isolating but everyone had fun. I want to complete Gold Level and go for this amazing trip again.

**Energetic. Ready and confident.**

**Elizabeth Anatsui, G12 – Silver Recipient**
Guide for Silver Award Participants

Start here!

The Award’s structure really is quite simple.
So, you’ve decided to start your Silver Award and you should now be registered on the Online Record Book (ORB). Good start! To begin with, you need to set up your Award by choosing an activity to do in each of the four sections. You can start a new activity or develop your skills further in activities you have already been doing.

Service
Challenge yourself to be a responsible, caring member of the community.
See pages 10–11

Physical Recreation
Challenge yourself to improve your health, fitness and performance.
See pages 12–13

Skills
Challenge yourself to improve your skills and widen your interests.
See pages 14–15

Adventurous Journey
Challenge yourself to journey and explore with your eyes open.
See pages 16–17

Your Award programme

You’ll create your own programme, choosing activities for each section of the Award.

If you need advice, you can always ask your Award Leader.
This is your Award and it is entirely up to you what you do for each section. It is about setting yourself a challenge and feeling good when you see yourself progress and achieve your goals.
You can take this as an opportunity to start an activity that you always wanted to do or develop your skills further in the activities you are already involved in – your Award, your choise.
Next step, you have to find an Assessor for each section and agree your aims for the sections with them. This person should be knowledgeable or experienced in the activity and can’t be a relative of yours. Your Award Leader will confirm whether your Assessors are suitable for your chosen activities.
When you are ready, register your activities and your goals for each section on the Online Record Book (see pages 6–7).

Timescales

You can start your Silver Award if you are 15 years old or more. You need to do your activities in each section regularly for a minimum amount of time, for an average of an hour a week:

- Physical Recreation: minimum 6 months
- Skills: minimum 6 months
- Service: minimum 6 months
- Adventurous Journey: 3 days + 2 nights

Remember to regularly log your activities on the Online Record Book (ORB). See pages 6–7.

How to record your Award

The Online Record Book (ORB) is an easy-to-use online system in which you will record your activities and achievements as you work towards your Award.

- **Sign in to the Online Record Book**
  If you are reading this guide, you must have completed your registration. To access the Online Record Book, go to https://inform.edinburgh.ac.uk or if you have a smartphone or tablet you can scan this QR code to go straight there.

- **Register your chosen activities**
  See pages 10–17 for some activity ideas, or come up with your own, and then speak to your Award Leader, who will need to approve your choices. Don’t forget to then enter the info and your goals on the Online Record Book.

- **Find your Assessors**
  Find someone (not a relative) who is an expert in your choice of activity (such as a coach). Your Award Leader will need to agree on your choice of Assessor for each section. You can record your Assessors’ details on the Online Record Book.

- **Do the activities**
  Do your activities regularly to the set amount of time. Log your activities regularly on the Online Record Book and follow your progress on the progress bar.

- **Assessor reports**
  When you’ve finished a section, you can download the Assessor report to be signed by your Award Leader, upload it onto the Online Record Book or talk with your Assessor and submit your section for your Award Leader to approve.

- **Celebrate!**
  When you’ve completed all four sections, your Award Leader will submit it for approval to The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award Foundation and they will authorise your Silver Award – congratulations! Now it’s time to sign up for your Gold Award!

ORB Frequently Asked Questions

- **What’s my username?**
  Your username will be the email address you used when you first registered on the Online Record Book.

- **Help, I’ve forgotten my password!**
  Click on the ‘Forgot’ your password’ link and the password you chose will be emailed to you.

- **I’ve confirmed my email address, but still can’t log in.**
  Your Award Leader has to authorise your access to the Online Record Book. Do check with them if this has been done already.

- **Can I change my password?**
  Yes, however remember ‘Welcome [your name]’ and you will pop up. From here you can change your password, update your personal details and also change your profile picture.

- **I’ve got evidence I want to save, can I save it in the Online Record Book?**
  Yes, you can upload photographs, videos and scanned documents into your library.

- **How are the percentages worked out for my Award progress?**
  For the Skills, Physical Recreation and Service sections of the Award, you must undertake regular activity over a set period of time. On the Online Record Book, all logs are recorded in quarters, half and full hours. The general requirement for Skills, Physical Recreation and Service is to undertake regular effort of one hour of activity per week or two hours per fortnight and so on over the required time frame. You can’t achieve your Award by working more intensely over a shorter time.

- **My Assessor needs to sign off my logged activities, how can I do this?**
  Once you’ve completed a section, you can either download and print a summary of your activities for your Assessor to sign or ask them to provide another form of proof, then upload it and upload it to your library. If you don’t have access to a scanner, speak with your Award Leader about other ways of getting your summary onto the Online Record Book.
Example ideas
Here’s a list of some Service ideas that you could do or use as a starting point to create a programme of your own.

People in the community
- Visiting people in need, such as orphans or disabled people, on a regular basis to provide assistance with housekeeping, gardening or other domestic tasks, or simply to keep them company.
- Volunteering in nursing homes or care centres.
- Volunteering at animal shelters or wildlife centers under the auspices of the right authorities.
- Helping with a local community radio, newspaper, or blog.
- Sports coaching or leadership.
- First aid – doing a course and then making these skills available to the benefit of the local community, or being a first aider at football matches or dance competitions and so on.

Youth work
- Acting as a leadership role in a youth club or an informal youth organization.
- Befriending in the teaching of primary school children.

Community education and Health education
- Working with organized persons to educate the local community, or specific groups within it, on important issues such as protection against malaria, controlling BVD/AIDS, primary health care, immunization campaigns, drug or alcohol awareness education.
- Teaching a person to read or write.

Environmental service
- Participating in a conservation project such as cleaning woodland, cleaning a river, or caring for threatened wildlife or forests.
- Caring for a public or school garden.
- Recycling, reusing, and encouraging the use of public waste collection.
- Caring for animals.
- Working in a clean-up campaign.
- Promoting environmental sustainability.

Charity work
- Raising money for a charity.
- Creating or maintaining a charity website or newsletter.

Emergency services
- Joining an emergency service team, such as the fire service, St. John’s Ambulance, volunteer paramedic or a fire rescue team.
- Assisting with local or national disaster operations.

Example ideas
Here’s a list of some Physical Recreation ideas that you could do or use as a starting point to create a programme of your own.

Ball sports
- Football (of any description such as rugby, soccer, Gaelic, Australian rules, American football)
- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Netball
- Handball
- Cricket
- Baseball
- Softball
- Hockey
- Tennis
- Squash
- Table tennis
- Lawn bowls

Athletics
- Running
- Jumping (high or long)
- Throwing (hammer, javelin, discus)
- Sprinting, triathlon, heptathlon or decathlon

Water sports
- Canoeing
- Kayaking
- Swimming
- Water polo
- Sailing
- Surfing
- Windsurfing

Teacher
- Water skiing
- Snowboarding
- Surfing
- Skiing
- Canoeing

Martial arts
- Karate
- Taekwondo
- Judo
- Kendo
- Muay Thai
- Brazilian jiu-jitsu

Animal sports
- Horse riding
- Polo

Fitness activities
- Aerobics
- Running
- Snorkeling

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Skills

Through the Skills section you can develop your personal interests, and practical and social skills.

You could choose to improve on an existing skill or try something new. It’s all about seeing a go, learning something and getting better at it, giving yourself a sense of achievement and well-being. Colleges, universities and employers like to see that you have life skills too!

"It has been the best thing I have ever done because not only have I had so many new, exciting experiences but also I have made a lot of friends and I have learnt new skills."

Frederik Alfelefeldt
Laurvig Lehen, Denmark

Musical
- Playing an instrument
- Learning musical theory
- Singing
- Music ensemble

Sports related
- Sports coaching
- Sports coaching and refereeing
- Sports replacement maintenance
- Sports ground maintenance

Arts and crafts
- Ceramics
- Clay modeling
- Embroidery
- Dressmaking
- Glass painting
- Jewellery making
- Calligraphy
- Drawing
- History of art
- Photography
- Pottery
- Sculpture
- Graphic design

Nature and the environment
- Agriculture

Communication
- Film and video making
- Film studies
- Sign language
- Brochure
- Foreign language
- Newspaper and magazine production
- Reading
- Writing
- Presentation skills
- Public speaking anddebating
- Digital media
- Journalism
- Information technology
- Website development

Games
- Blitz chess
- Table tennis
- Board games

Life skills
- Business management
- Financial literacy
- Entrepreneurship
- Health awareness

Technical and vocational skills
- Accounting
- Marketing
- Vehicle maintenance
- Engineering
- Economics
- Furniture making
- Furniture restoration
- Metal work
- Retailing
- Carpentry
- Cookery

Performance skills
- Drama and theatre skills
- Circus skills
- Pop singing

Example ideas
Here’s a list of some Skills section ideas that you could do or use as a starting point to create a programme of your own.

Music
- Adventure in singing
- Astronomy
- Art history
- Bird watching
- Conservation
- Deep sea diving and handling
- Fishing
- Forestry
- Gardening
- Herbalism
- Home care and nursing

Performance skills
- Acting
- Dialects
- Dance
- Motorcycle
- Other table games

Example ideas
Here’s a list of ideas that you could do for your Adventurous Journey, expedition or exploration, or use as a starting point to create a programme of your own.

Adventurous Journey
- Exploring the natural world
  - Geology, wildlife, weather
  - Coastal studies, rock pooling, plant study, bird watching
  - Animal studies, nature studies

- Exploring historic locations
  - Prehistoric man, historical periods
  - To investigate the rural or urban environment
  - To investigate human impact, visitor pressure in national parks, pollution monitoring, surveying of numbers of walkers in remote areas
  - To carry out health surveys or health education in remote areas
  - To complete a particularly demanding journey
  - To carry out an adventure
  - To investigate group dynamics in challenging conditions
  - To sail the world or a route in a stretch of water
  - Following an ancient pilgrimage trail
  - Climbing along an ancient trail

For the Adventurous Journey section, you’ll need a sense of adventure and discovery as you go on a team journey, expedition or exploration.

You’ll have the opportunity to learn more about the wider environment, as well as to develop self-confidence, team work and health. It is a tough challenge and you might be taken out of your comfort zone for a bit but you will be safe with supportive training and supervision, and you won’t regret it!

"I discovered that the award can be productive and is challenging, for disabled and able-bodied alike. The award pushes participants to their personal limits and recognizes them equally by the acclaim of the Award."

Spencer Aston, UK
Virtual

BRONZE & SILVER AWARD
PRESENTATION CEREMONY

Celebrating Young People

SPECIAL GUEST OF HONOR:
Hon. Isaac K. Asiamah, MP
Minister of Youth and Sports.

PREMIERING ON

Tema International School
@TIS Ghana

Sat. 28 November, 2020  7:00pm

All COVID-19 Protocols Will Be Observed.
The significance of the Duke of Edinburgh International Award/Head of State Award Scheme, apart from the thrill and sheer enjoyment, is the impact it leaves on our young participants. Dukess have pushed themselves through a challenge (be it a fear of camping outdoors, or performing in front of a large audience), Dukies have created and carried out services in our school (and the wider community); they have become mentors and they have set examples for their peers by their determination to complete their award. The Duke of Edinburgh International Award/Head of State Award Scheme has made our students resilient, selfless, well-rounded and beacon of light for other young people. Indeed, these are some of the traits for becoming future leaders (in our communities in Ghana and elsewhere) and you first heard about them here - The Dukies of TIS.

Yvonne M Tagoe  
MYP COORDINATOR  
Award Leader DoEIA/HOSA

On day one, finishing the entire journey seemed like a lot of hassles when my first few hours at the Camp were completed. I thought to myself and wondered if I would pull through till the end. Failure is inevitable but what happens after was what mattered to me. I failed sometimes but kept a steady mind to be stronger than my excuses and push through. If there's one outstanding thing about this process, it's learning to not give up and to be pro-active at all times. Looking back, if I kept the same mentality of day one and gave in to my excuses, I probably will not be as proud of myself for reaching this great feat as I would have crumbled along the way.

Kendric Effiah-Gyan  
Alumni IB Class of 2020  
Gold Award Recipient
Attaining the Duke of Edinburgh’s Gold Award in such unconventional times feels extremely surreal. I am privileged to receive such a prestigious award just by doing the things I love and do it on a regular basis. To anyone considering signing up for the Duke of Edinburgh’s award scheme, this is the opportunity that you were looking for. Go for it. As an International Baccalaureate candidate especially, whether MYP or DP, you already qualify to be a recipient of the award because IB students play a vital role in helping their community. This award serves as the final fulfillment that you need after you attain whichever certificate or diploma that you get. Thank you to the Award Leaders and everyone who contributed in any way to my success, God bless you all.

Princess Asiudu
Alumni IB Class of 2020
Gold Award Recipient

Looking back at the journey behind this award brings to memory the difficulty of balancing my extra-curricular activities along with my academic duties. It certainly requires commitment, dedication, and motivation, and all these things do not come easy and are essential in building a holistic individual. One thing I am truly grateful for is the life skills I learned at the camp; it was not easy to go from a comfortable environment to one that seems to lack everything you are used to. Completing the program is truly a great accomplishment because it incorporates essential life skills, such as time management skill and balance. It most certainly gets tough so never forget to always do activities you enjoy and most importantly reach out to people in similar situations because that support goes a long way in completing the program.

Ewurakua Obeng-Nkansah
Alumni IB Class of 2019
Silver Award Recipient
"Participating in the DoEIA was an amazing opportunity to develop myself through the various skills I acquired. TIS provided me with the opportunities to satisfy the requirements of the award through CAS, After School Activities, Leadership and Sports. As I look back on my time at TIS, I'm so grateful to the CAS team and award leaders for guiding and equipping us to become valuable members of our community. This was definitely the most memorable journey of my high school because in more ways than one it showed me how to make a difference in society and helped me find avenues for change."

Nana Ohene-Kyeyi
Alumni IB Class of 2020
Silver Award Recipient

"I am honoured and privileged to be a recipient of the DoEIA Silver Award. My goal was to end the challenge a better person than I was. Through the Camps and Service Learning trips, I learnt to build tents, abseil, help my community and communicate better with people. I made long lasting memories and friends throughout my journey. It was worthwhile, taking each day at a time, being disciplined and balanced in my activities allowed me to reach my goal. I appreciated my award leaders and assessors."

Betty Ajayon
Alumni IB Class of 2020
Silver Award Recipient
The journey that has led me to attaining this award has been filled with impactful projects and experiences. Healthy Heart, Healthy Life CAS Project, and the Beauty and the Beast production were unforgettable. These experiences taught me how to efficiently work in a team, and be a better leader. They opened me up to things outside of my comfort zone and I hope to keep working on improving myself. Participating in so many different activities while keeping up with your academics can prove challenging but trust me it’s worth it!

DavinaYawson
Alumni IB Class of 2020
Silver Award Recipient

Being in a school like TIS exposes you to several opportunities that’ll help in self-improvement and at the same time meet the requirements of the DoEIA Truly, thanks to the award, I acquired so many new skills and learned more about the issues going on around me which I would like to be more involved and help in whatever way I can. My advice to any upcoming Dukes is that they shouldn’t limit themselves, take up any opportunity you get that will help you widen your scope.

Frimpoma Afranie-Adjei
Alumni IB Class of 2020
Bronze Award Recipient
Receiving the Duke of Edinburgh’s Bronze Award stirs up happiness within you that is unparalleled. The DoEIA is one which I will encourage many individuals to undertake. It makes you a resilient individual ready to face the challenges that life throws at you. One of the best experiences out of the many I had was raising money to pay for the open heart surgery of Millicent and Desmond, who were in need of over US$8000. Planning, creativity, passion, compassion constituted the many values I took from this experience. Deciding to participate in the DoEIA is an achievement in itself. Have a goal and day-by-day work towards that goal and at the end of it all, you will be beaming with smile upon completing your journey.

Maame Ama Hammond
Alumni IB Class of 2020
Bronze Award Recipient

Initially, I thought that obtaining the prestigious DoEIA would be challenging, so I set my sights lower and decided to strive for the Bronze award. However, I soon realised that TIS had an abundance of activities available which I could involve myself to help complete my award requirements. Not only that, but we are routinely encouraged to undertake after school activities, so we did something every day. Though I am extremely happy to obtain the Bronze award, I know I could’ve easily gone for the gold with the sheer amount of opportunities available for TIS students. I now have much more developed skills than before and increased awareness of the world around me, and I plan on using these newfound strengths to make better contributions to society.

Malaika Webb
Alumni IB Class of 2020
Bronze Award Recipient
The Duke of Edinburgh International Awards Expeditions teach many lifelong lessons through hands-on experiences. The days spent away from everything 'home' teach participants the importance of negotiating for what is needed, rather than living on entitlements. Being denied any familiar luxury, yet required to live while on an expedition, participants get to appreciate in real terms what it means to make do with little, and improvise in the absence of the ideal. DoEIA expeditions give meaning to J.R.R Tolkien’s saying, "not all those who wander are lost."

EBENEZER ASIEJE
THEATRE TEACHER
AWARD ASSSSOR DEIA/HOSA

Sport is one of the pillars of the TIS culture. It challenges students to go beyond their limits in acquiring techniques that will enable them to enjoy sporting activities as a competitive event and for fun. They not only learn a variety of useful skills, they learn to express themselves, go on a journey of self-discovery, and grow into adulthood with an authentic set of characteristics and values. The DoEl Awards present our students with an opportunity to exhibit their techniques and skills in various sporting disciplines for their personal and academic development.

GABRIEL ATSEKU
PHE TEACHER
AWARD ASSSSOR DEIA/HOSA
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.

EDUCATION FOR A BETTER WORLD
Festival of Plays, 2020

Throwback Friday! Join us as we travel back in time. Let's revisit the amazing TIS Productions throughout the years.

**Saturday, 7 November, 2020** - we will revisit the making of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat, 2011.

**Sunday, 8 November, 2020** - we will revisit the making of The Adaptation of Beauty and the Beast, 2018.
COUNSELLORS’ CORNER

“Gratitude is the healthiest of all human emotions. The more you express gratitude for what you have, the more likely you will have even more to express gratitude for.”

—Zig Ziglar.

Dear students, always show gratitude, even for the little things.

Grade 8 Guidance Lesson: Email Etiquette

In a tech-oriented era, email etiquette is an essential part of everyday conversations. For example, how do I start an email? Sending an email to a specific receiver - formal, informal, or semi-formal - what should be the content of the email? Etc... In light of this, the Grade 8 class was introduced to the golden rules of writing emails. Key points as indicated in the above diagram and others were discussed extensively.
Students’ Reflections

“Today in our guidance class we learnt about email education. It was a very enjoyable session, revealing that most emails I write are very dull. Our teacher, Aunty Constance, was very helpful in showing us the right thing to do when writing an email. She told and showed us that when writing our emails we should keep it short and straight to the point and after writing we should proofread what we have written. If you have received an email, you must notify the sender but not reply rudely. These are some of the key things we talked about and we even played a game that taught us some things we should and should not do when writing emails.” ~ Ryan Lokko

“In this class, I learnt about email etiquette which means certain steps to take when writing an email. I learnt that we should keep our emails short and straight to the point. Also, we should give a subject line so the person we are writing to know why we are sending the email. I also learnt that we should be careful with our language, check the name of the receiver and also read over the email before sending it for any grammatical errors.” ~ Joseph James

“During the guidance class we learnt that if you are sending an email you should not rush and we should use formal language. We should add a subject to the email we are sending.” ~ Abdul Sallam Abanga

Information SESSIONS

DP2

✓ Sneak Peek into University Applications for 2020/2021
- Student applications for Medical and Science related programmes in the UK with 15 October 2020 deadline have been completed.
- 1st Round of U.S. Applications 1 November 2020 applications have gone through successfully.
- 2nd Round U.S. Applications 15 November 2020 will completed by the close of this week.

✓ DP2 Reminders
- SAT Score Report. The submission of SAT scores through the College Board requires payment with a credit card. All students applying to the U.S. must report their scores, if specific universities require scores. NOTE: Not all do. It takes approximately two weeks for your schools to receive your scores. Alternatively, you can go for the express pay option if you want to, but note that, not all universities accept express score reporting. In the meantime, students are advised to download pdf versions of their SAT or ACT score reports and email directly to their respective universities that require them.
✓ UCAS Payment Required

Applying to the UK? You are required to pay an amount of GHC200 into the account details below. Kindly note on the payment receipt- UCAS Payment. Please send a copy of your receipt to constance.quaye@tis.edu.gh and copy eunice.aryee@tis.edu.gh

Extended Deadline is Friday, 13 November 2020.

Below are the bank details of TIS:
Account Name: Tema International School
Bank: Barclays Bank, Tema
Cedi Account Number: 1798808
Account Name: Tema International School
Bank Branch: ECOBANK GHANA LIMITED
Account number: 0022014471692201
SWIFT CODE: ECOCGHAC

(Grade 10, DP1 and DP2)

VIRTUAL VISITS
If you can't come to us, we'll come to you!

Universities across the world have deliberately put together virtual visits just for YOU. To access this information kindly go to:

✓ ManageBac
✓ Click on your year group
✓ Go to files
✓ Click on Counsellor Information Desk-Virtual Visits and More for detailed information.
CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES
Virtual Fairs in Africa

Thursday, November 12

12:00 p.m. (EST/UTC-5)
https://ryerson.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwlf--spzwGt2N_IkygyPhG0159j83pRU3

Register for November 12

Representative:
Sarah Kalisa
sarah.kalisa@concordia.ca

Representative:
Ernest Damalie
edamalie@uoguelph.ca

Representative:
Carolyn O’Keefe
carolynok@mun.ca

Representative:
Cyesha Craigwell-Forde
ccraigwe@ryerson.ca

Representative:
Freya Qi
rqi@upei.ca

Date: 7th November by 9 a.m. – 1 PM (Ghana Time) Venue: https://africa.educationinireland.live (Kindly register as it’s an online event.)
DATES AND INFORMATION

2020-2021 TEST DATES

See the new upcoming SAT dates below. Due to previous cancellations, 2 brand new dates have been added- September and November SAT:

SAT 2020-2021
- 29 August 2020
- 26 September 2020
- 3 October 2020
- 7 November 2020 – Subject test only
- 5 December 2020
- 13 March 2021
- 8 May 2021

DP1’s don’t wait until the eleventh hour to register. Register now to avoid any disappointments! [https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register/international](https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register/international)

Test takers for 7 November 2020 subject test should please come along with your valid unexpired passport as the only form of identification! Photocopies are not acceptable. All COVID -19 protocol will be fully observed. Remember No mask no entry!

Remember:
- Number 2 pencils, approved calculator, eraser, admission ticket, and sharpeners required.
- Facemask
- Hand sanitizer
- VALID UNEXPIRED PASSPORT IS THE ONLY ACCEPTABLE ID

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

SAT I - U.S. $107.50 SAT II: 1 subject ($117), 2 subjects ($127), 3 subjects ($137) (estimates).
2020-2021 TEST DATES (COMPUTER-BASED TESTING ONLY!)

ACT Registration Fees (Online payments only: Visit www.actstudent.org):
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. STEM students have an edge when they take the ACT.

NEW TEST DATES FOR ACT FOR NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR

ACT 2020-2021

12 September 2020
10 October 2020
• 17 April 2021

Exam Date: 17 February 2021

PRACTICE TESTS FOR SAT, ACT OR PRE-ACT, PSAT, AND OTHER TEST PREP RESOURCES FROM THE OFFICIAL TEST MAKERS CAN BE FOUND HERE: WWW.COLLEGEBOARD.ORG AND WWW.ACTSTUDENT.ORG

Christmas is just around the corner! All DP2 students are advised to complete all university applications before 1 December 2020, ahead of Christmas break because University Guides will be away for Christmas. Also note that submitting your documents gives you an edge over others and access to more scholarship and other financial aid opportunities. Ghanaian applications are an exception since they open in January. Be proactive, see your counsellors, and meet all deadlines as scheduled. Thank you!
At TIS, we believe that sport, as one of the four pillars for student balance and ensuing success, promotes teamwork, challenges personal best and emphasizes the importance of appreciating how to lose before knowing how to win.

EDUCATION FOR A BETTER WORLD
“TIS, as a family school that provides unique experiences, embodies a spirit of integrity and respect for others which are central to the personal, academic and ethical development of each member.

As a TIS family member, I promise to uphold and demonstrate its values, and protect the reputation of the school. I make this pledge in the spirit of honour and trust.”