

ACHIMOTA SCHOOL



UT OMNES UNUM SINT
(THAT ALL MAY BE ONE)



A BRIEF HISTORY

The Governor of the Gold Coast from 1919 – 1929, Sir Gordon Guggisberg was the founder of the school. He believed that the Gold Coast needed a school of which the standard could be compared to any international high school. It was to be a model school designed to produce the intelligentsia of Africa that would be drawn from across the length and breadth of Africa. Guggisberg himself as a surveyor acquired the land in 1921 and paid for it outright at the cost of Four thousand pounds (£4,000). Construction of the building started in 1924. The school was officially opened in January 1927 by the admission of six children to lower primary classes. A year later, the students of the government training college, Accra, were transferred to the college and in 1929 the first upper primary and secondary section were also opened. The first principal of the school was Rev. A.G. Fraser and was assisted by James Kwegyir Aggrey (the only black person in the administration then).

PRESENT ADMINISTRATORS

Headmistress	-	Ms. Marjorie Affenyi
Asst. Head (Admin)	-	Mr Paul Abankwah
Asst Head (Acad.)	-	Mrs Evelyn Essuman
Asst Head (Domestic)	-	Ms Lydia Bantey

COUNSELLORS

Rev. Fr. Gyimah Agyeman
Rev. K.K. Gyekye
Very Rev. John Tetteh-Donkor

PURPOSE AND IDEALS

- The best use of mind and body God has given us.
- An equal opportunity for girls with boys in education.
- Respect for all that is true and lasting value in the old African culture, beliefs and ways of life.
- Willing and humble service of the educated for the uneducated.
- Friendship, respect and co-operation between all races on equal terms.
- Mutual understanding and co-operation between Christians of all denominations, and the growth of that spirit in which the churches shall one day be united again.
- The belief on which all else rests, in Jesus Christ as the revelation, for all time and all people of the love of God, and as the guide and pattern of our lives.

VISION

To be the best school both locally and internationally by training the Head, the Hand and the Heart holistically.

MISSION

To educate the total being of boys with girls not just in the academics but to make the best use of the minds and bodies, and have respect for all that is true and of lasting value in the Old African Culture, beliefs and ways of life.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

Achimota School is located in Accra, the capital of Ghana, an English speaking and democratic, politically stable and economically growing country in West Africa. Achimota School is a public school which offers General Science, General Arts, Agric Science and Vocational programmes, leading to the awarding of West Africa Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE). English is the language of instruction. Currently, the academic curriculum is divided into a three years as approved by the Ghana Education Service. In the contents of its curricula, Achimota seeks to turn out a total product, a complete person, whom upon passing through the school would be academically and intellectually prepared with practical hands on skill and sound moral ethical training and a deep sense of African values. We serve the Ghanaian community as well as international community. The school crest explains the school's motto-black and white keys of the piano put together. 'Ut Omnes Unum Sint,' meaning "that all may be one", which was designed by Dr. Kwegyir Aggrey – His idea was that the black and white race can live together in harmony; also, boys and girls can be educated together to bring about harmony.

ACTIVITIES

Achimota School recognizes that students' involvement beyond the classroom is vital for full emotional, intellectual, physical and social development. Our activities or programs offer a wide variety of options ranging from academia, theatre, dance, gardening, swimming, and music to numerous team sports. Speech & Prize Giving Day is celebrated by the school in November during the first term of the academic year. On this day exceptional students and staff are rewarded thereby encouraging all to work hard to maintain the high standard of the School.

The first Saturday of March is reserved for Achimota School Founders' Day celebration. During this day, the rich culture of Ghana and Africa at large is displayed by students.

Achimota School believes that quality education nurtures responsible citizenship. Therefore students are required to give back to the community.

THE STUDENTS

Total number of students presently is four thousand (4,000). Students come from local and international countries.

Approximately 95% are local and 5% international students.

ADMISSIONS

Achimota School admissions are as follows:

- The School receives a list of students selected by the performance from BECE from the Ghana Education Service.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

Students are at the center of our instructional design and delivery. Teachers strive to apply an enquiry approach at all the grade levels, with constructive methods helping teachers build on students' previous knowledge and create meaningful context for their learning. The school authorities are committed to making teaching quality meet international standard. The success and well-being of the students is our primary aim.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The satisfactory requirement for graduation of student is a minimum aggregate of 24. This is made up of the sum of the best three core subjects and best three elective subjects. The core subjects are English, Mathematics, Social Studies and Integrated Science

GRADING SYSTEM/CLASS RANK

All marks are given according to the assessment criteria established by the West African Examinations Council. Marks are given on a scale of A to F, with 'A' being the highest mark attainable. For those not familiar with the WASSCE scale, the following chart indicates the equivalent letter grades and percentages and their interpretation.

Scale	Grade	Percent	Interpretation
1	A1	80-100	Excellent
2	B2	75-79	V. Good
3	B3	65-74	Good
4	C4	60-64	Credit
5	C5	55-59	Credit
6	C6	50-54	Credit
7	D7	45-49	Pass
8	E8	40-44	Pass
9	F9	39 and Below	Fail

SUBJECTS AVAILABLE

Achimota School selects their courses from the Ghana Education Service programmes

CORE SUBJECTS

English Language
Integrated Science
Mathematics
Social Studies
French
I.C.T

In addition to the core subject each student must undertake three or four elective subjects chosen from one programme/option. The programme options available and the elective subjects in them are as follows:

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

General Science

Physics
Chemistry
Biology
Elective Maths

Agricultural Science

Animal Husbandry
General Agric

General Arts

Economics
Government
Geography
History
Christian Religious Studies
Music
French

Visual Art

Picture Making
Gen Know In Arts
Graphic Design
Textiles
Jewellery
Ceramics

Home Economics

Mgt in Living
Food & Nutrition
Clothing & Textiles

WASSCE PERFORMANCE 2017 2018 2019

Total students taking exams	812	970	1044
Percentage Passed	100%	99%	100%

SPORTS

Soccer (boys & girls)
Field Hockey (boys & girls)
Volleyball (boys & girls)
Basketball (boys & girls)
Cricket (boys & girls)
Handball (boys & girls)
Athletics (boys & girls)
Swimming (boys & girls)
Golf (boys & girls)

The school has the corresponding facilities to organize the above sporting activities.

CALENDAR AND SCHEDULE

The school's academic year as in the case of all other senior high schools in the public system runs from September to July. This consists of 2 Semester:

1 st Semester	Sept. – Feb.
2 nd Semester	April. – Aug.

Approximately 40 weeks are spent in school each year and twelve (12) weeks for vacation.