

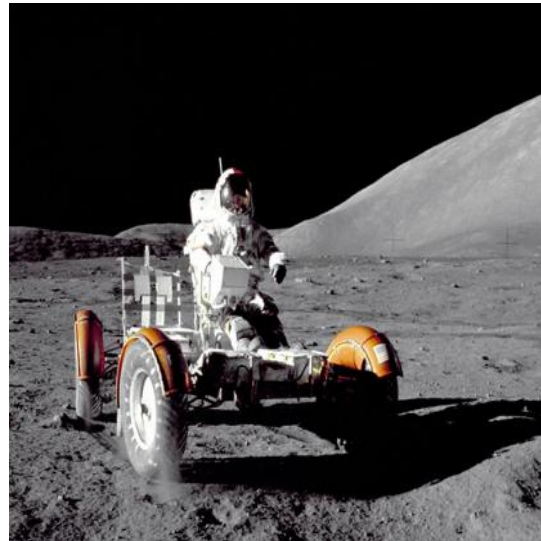


## AFLON DIGITAL ACADEMY

Computer Technology Basic Education School

Cambial Street, Sector Centre B, PO Box 177, Kuje, Abuja-Nigeria.  
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**Exploring New Frontiers of  
Technology:**



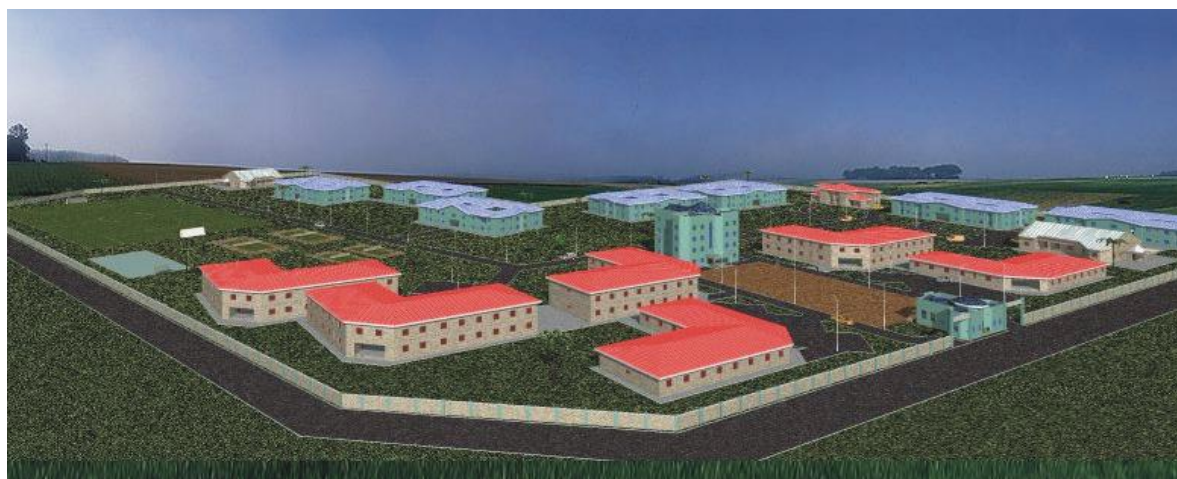
## **Information Pack For Prospective Students and their Parents**

### Background

The present Aflon Academy that was established in January 2005, with an initial intake of 60 students, and now having 220 students is transforming into Aflon Digital Academy (ADA). The Development Control Department of the Abuja Metropolitan Authority (AMA) and the Education Department of the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) have both granted approval for the development of a 6 Hectares of Land—Plot No. CP 9, 11, & 12, Cadastral Zone AA2, Sector Centre B, Kuje; located just 5 kilometres off the Abuja to Airport expressway, adjoining the Kuje Trans-National Market. The school will therefore relocate and commence educational activities at the permanent campus as from September, 2007 .

Aflon Digital Academy is a Model Basic Education (Pre—Primary, Primary 1—6 and JSS 1—3) School for the application of Information and Computer Technology (ICT) in instructional delivery, school administration and management. We shall educate children and equip them with a wide range of vocational skills in the areas of Computer Graphics, Web Graphics and Multimedia Design, Electronic and Engineering Repairs. **Each student will have a Personal Computer on his or her desk—the classroom and the delivery of all learning interactions will be managed digitally.**

Aflon Digital Academy will in essence produce graduants equipped with technology and technological skills that will stand them in good stead as they proceed further up the ladder of life.



3—D Impression of the Proposed Aflon Digital Academy , Kuje.

*School Colours—Blue and Gold;*  
*Motto—Aim to be the Best*

## Mission Statement

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Aflon Digital Academy (ADA) is a Model Basic Education School for the application of Information and Computer Technology (ICT). We shall strive to make it possible for each student to develop his or her full potential in all spheres of human endeavour based on the application of technology . We intent to do this within the context of a sound academic structure, a secure and stimulating environment for all students, regardless of sex, creed or race.

**Aflon Digital Academy, Kuje** will be the first of its kind in Nigeria in many respects:

- Whereas, existing schools merely provide a one room computer laboratory, ADA will place computers with Internet connectivity in every classroom.
- We intend to provide boarding facilities starting from Primary 4 as from 2008. This will cater to the special needs of parents and guardians whose working and living conditions might make boarding option quite a necessity.
- Our less than 10 minutes location from the International Airport will create a special attraction to Nigerian in the Diaspora, who definitely will want Nigerian -based early education for their children
- The official school hours will be 8.00 am to 5.30 pm, with a one and half hour break from 1.00—2.30 pm for school prepared lunch and recreation. The extended closing time will afford parents of day students the opportunity of closing at work , before end of day pick-up of their wards.

## Our Goals

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Our goal is the development of the individual to be self reliant, applying the instructions of Almighty God that were issued right at the beginning of creation as embodied in the Holy Book.

*God said ... “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.*

*... I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breadth of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” Genesis 1<sup>28–30</sup>*

Based on these divine principles that were part of creation, ADA will offer opportunities to all intending students to prepare themselves for participation in a rapidly changing world by applying the tools of technology; especially Information and Computer Technology (ICT).

In all, we plan to worship God, revere and marvel at His Might, while serving man and humanity with our talents and abilities developed to the highest possible level.

## Beliefs and Values

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While ADA is being established on a **Christian Institution of the Baptist flavour**, we SHALL not impose this particular system of beliefs on any member of the school staff or students. Rather we shall endeavour to create an atmosphere of freedom, tolerance and mutual respect for all forms of beliefs and or non-beliefs, seeking to emphasise what unites all humanity, as creations of God.

### **In practical Terms**

Guided by the above stated mission statement and goals, ADA will:

- help each student achieve his or her individual potentials through the provision of a broad and balanced education which will equip each student with skills and appropriate knowledge;
- provide each student with the foundation required for successful attainment of life long educational attainment,
- provide for each student the opportunities necessary to develop aesthetic appreciation and the skills to develop creative ability;
- maintain for each student a programme leading to healthy physical development, especially by means of a well developed sports programme catering for a range of abilities and interests;
- encourage, through field trips and excursions, an awareness of our dependence on our physical environment and a commitment to its preservation;
- help each student to develop the life skills necessary to flourish in the modern world;
- develop in each student a sense of responsibility towards the school, especially by the provision of opportunities for service to the community;
- guide each student towards the development of personal qualities of self-respect, self-reliance, tolerance and compassion; and

- encourage the continued development of the personal, moral and spiritual values that each student brings from his or her family and community as well as respect for the religious practices and beliefs of others.

## Our Expectations

In order that our students can obtain the most from their time at the school, we expect each student to

- come to school on time and be prepared at all times for classes and activities,
- ensure that the school is a good learning environment by respecting the learning needs of other students,
- help to make the school a tidy and pleasant environment in which to work,
- work to achieve the most possible within all classes and activities,
- respect the opinions and beliefs of others in the school community, and
- live within the school's rules and regulations.

## Instructional Programmes

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The academic programmes will be based on the approved curricula of the FCTA Department of Education and the National Educational Research and Development Council (NERDC) of the Federal Ministry of Education. We shall also subscribe to the **Interactive Learning Network (ILN)** initiative of the Education Trust Fund (ETF) and NEPAD.

Admissions into the JSS1 class will be quite liberal, based on the assumption that most students have probably not benefited from ideal teaching and learning at the Primary School level. The first term at ADA will therefore be devoted to **remedial studies**, in Mathematics, Basic Science and Technology, written and spoken English. We plan to revise Primary 4 to 6 Textbooks on these 3 subjects with incoming students immediately on resumption, in order to bring all students up to date and prepare them for advanced technology-based learning.

## Teaching with Electronic Technology

Aflon Digital Academy is envisaged as a demonstration school for the effective utilization of audio—visuals and computer-based multimedia technology. It will therefore fully apply the use of overhead and LCD Projectors. We plan to screen the recordings of educational films recorded off the Cable Television Channels of National Geographic and Discovery. There shall be at least 2 **Excursions** every term, to places of interest within the FCT, and once a year to places overseas.

## ICT Assimilation

A programme of ICT assimilation and utilisation for school administration and records management is to be implemented, with the following elements:

- Computer literacy for all staff
- All Heads of Departments are to be issued with personal computer.
- Installation of Internet connectivity facility
- Establishment of a 50 PC Cyber Centre
- **Open source software** modality will be adopted in partnership with Messrs LeapSoft Limited the owners of **WAZOBIA LINUX Operating System**. This will result in very great savings and serve as platform for fostering UNIX—LINUX Education. (see Box)

- **Design and Maintenance of a Website**—[www.ada.org.ng](http://www.ada.org.ng)— A portal is to be developed to create online presence for the school
- Register E—Mail Addresses for all officers—staff and students
- All parents are to be sensitized and encouraged to have E -mail addresses for the purposes of receiving performance reports on their wards on weekly basis

### **Vocational Training**

Aflon Digital Academy will operate a **6 Day Week programme**. Monday to Friday each week will be devoted to academic learning, while Saturdays will be set aside for vocational education covering such subjects as, Automobile Repairs, Electronic Repair and Maintenance, Software Programming , Computer Graphics, Typewriting, Music and Chess

The playing of **Chess** as a tool for stimulating orderly thought processes and logical reasoning shall be compulsory for all students. So also would be **Music** as a tool of spiritual development and meditation. As a mechanism of outreach to the nearby community, all Saturday programmes will be open to children of other schools in Kuje Area Council , on subscription basis.

Additionally, Work Study Programmes are also to be mounted during **Long Vacation Periods**. This will also be open to students from all parts of Nigeria. Each year, at least 2 of the following vocations will be selected for emphasis—Automobile Repairs, Electrical/Electronics, Computer Graphics & Web Design, Fashion Design, Wood Work & Cabinet Making. Lessons for each vocation will be held at ADA Campus, while practical training is to be mounted in collaboration with appropriate Centres at Abuja.

### **Twining Programme with Schools Abroad**

We are in the process of arranging a mutually beneficial relationship with other schools across the globe. We are exploring Australia, Canada, Tanzania and Singapore for sisters' schools to partner with. Already identified and under consideration are Raffles Secondary School, Singapore and International School, Moshi Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, both being first class institutions of world-wide repute for the purpose of collaborative programmes and partnership.

It is anticipated that before long we might have our students travel to Moshi, Tanzania on an expedition to climb the highest mountain in Africa—the Kilimanjaro. It should be a fulfilling experience for our students, even in their JSS 1 year to undertake such a once in a life-time journey to discover the world. We shall of course, in 2008 start with the Obudu hills in Cross River State, Nigeria and travel to Accra, Ghana

We are going to facilitate ADA students to institute the PEN PALS of the olden times, but using the ICT medium of the Internet.

### **Diary and Homework**

Students will be encouraged to keep personal **diaries** to assist them develop their planning and organisational skills, and encourages positive study practices. The planner will be used as a key link for communication between the school and parents.

Homework/Assignments is those learning activities that are associated with the in -school program and which are completed outside the normal classroom time. They are intended to supplement and support in-school experiences. It encourages the development of self -discipline and good work habits; helps to develop positive and enthusiastic attitudes towards independent study and lifelong learning, assists students in preparing for subsequent planned learning activities, and acquaints parents with their student's in-school learning experiences. Homework/Assignment is therefore an

integral part of the curriculum and is required for all students. It gives students valuable practice in working on their own and in applying their learning. Set homework /assignment is recorded in the student's diary.

**Teachers** are expected to assign activities that:

- consists of clearly defined tasks.
- is meaningful and relevant.
- is monitored in a variety of ways.

**Students** are expected to:

- make every effort to complete all assignments.
- request clarification or assistance when necessary.
- recognize that attention to assignments are essential to academic success.

### **Evaluating and Reporting of Student Progress**

The intent of evaluation is to ascertain, as accurately as possible, the extent to which each student has met course objectives and to report the results to the students and parents. The results provide valuable feedback regarding the effectiveness of instruction, the suitability of the course objectives, and the areas in which revision may be required.

The school year is divided into three terms with interim reports being issued to the student and parents at any time deemed necessary by the teacher. A mid-term report is issued to every student and an end of term report with final marks is issued to every student.

Sixty (60) per cent shall be the pass mark in all subjects. Students will therefore be encouraged to strive for excellent performance.



### *Awards, Scholarships and Competition for Excellence*

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The development of the intellect and the promotion of excellence shall be the cornerstone of Aflon Digital Academy. Several prizes will be endowed in perpetuity to reward excellence among students. Parents, friends of the school and corporate bodies will be vigorously encouraged to donate **Prizes** in pursuant to the goal of rewarding performing students.

For students

- Scheme for Identifying and Rewarding Excellence in Performance among Students to be instituted

- Design of Activities and Milestone of Deliverables in Pursuit of Academic Excellence
- Prize Giving Ceremony to recognise Staff and Students with Exceptional Performance  
**The Parents Forum will be solicited to be of assistance in this regard.**

#### For Teachers

- Scheme for Identifying and Rewarding Excellence in Performance among Staff to be instituted.
- Design of Activities and Milestone of Deliverables in Pursuit of Academic Excellence

#### Intra—House Academic and Sports Competitions

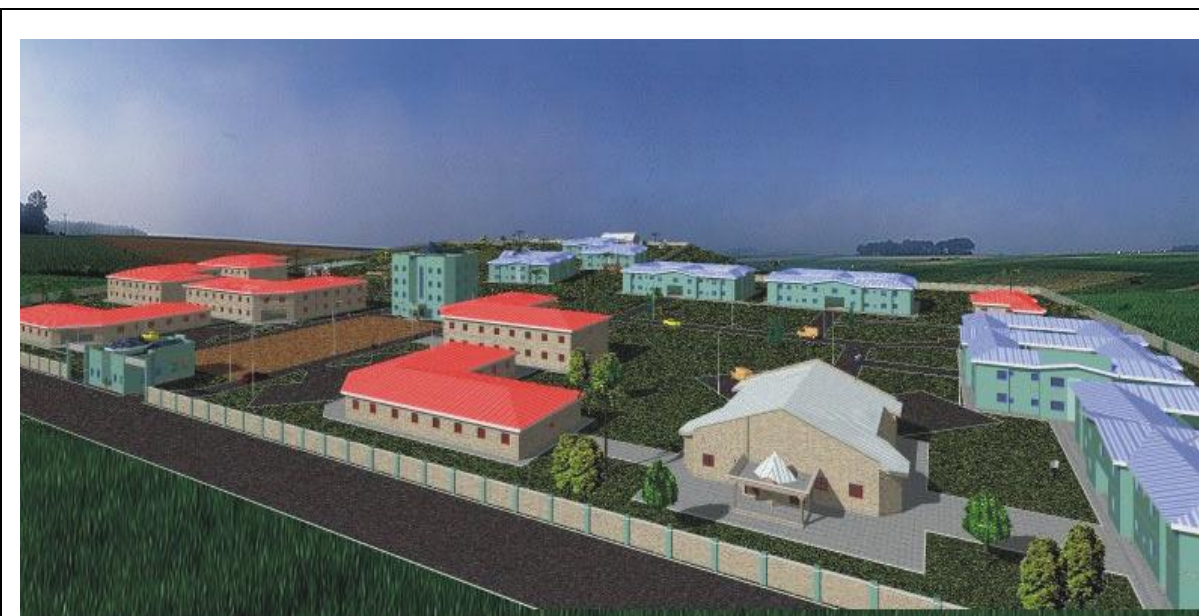
- Essay
- Maths
- Debate
- Mind Challenge (Quiz)

In addition, we shall organise competitions in various forms among the Primary School Students of the Area Council to facilitate the quality of potential intakes into our school. Train the Teacher workshops will be mounted for various segments of Teachers in the Area Council.

## Location and Facilities

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All classrooms are to be **air conditioned**, and stand by **Electricity Generator** installed to assure power supply at all times. On each desk seating 2 students will be a **personal computer**, equipped with multimedia leaning facilities. In each class will be **Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) Projector** equipment. There shall be a **Cyber Café** in aid of Internet and Computer Studies. The Cyber Café is to be powered by C—Band Very Small Aperture Technology (**VSAT**) equipment. This equipment will ultimately revolutionise the lives of all Kuje residents, as the benefits of advanced Information and Communications Technology (**ICT**) are brought to the reach of the rural community.



**Student Hostels are zoned along the inner boundaries of the 6ha plot of school land**

The school will be equipped with excellent modern facilities including a well equipped Resource Center and gymnasium, extensive Information Technology facilities with internet access for all students, Special Interest Music Center, Science Laboratories and research equipment, specialised technology studies workshops and hospitality areas and also dinning hall facilities.

### **Virtual Library Services**

Our approach to library services will be a radical departure from the norm in Nigeria. We plan to fully utilize the **Internet** as the source of all possible academic and educational information that is most current and timely. While some books would be kept as exhibits to help our students gradually acclimatize to the world of **Electronic Books** and **Compact Discs**, the Cyber Centre that will be powered by the VSAT facility that is being installed. Aflon Digital Academy in essence plans to maintain a Virtual Library.

### **Design and Technology Centre**

A most modern school design and technology facility is to be built, with key new facilities focused on Skill Acquisition based Performance, to provide access to high-speed computers and some of the



most recent educational 3D software to help them design and model their ideas. These designs can then be turned into reality by utilising the Computer Aided Manufacturing hardware to make a variety of products—plastics, furniture. Students will undertake such projects as manufacturing and assembling floor roving robots that can avoid obstacles. Computer Aided Design will also be a feature of the food courses, where the students use up to date software to evaluate a product before they manufacture it.

Once students reach JSS3 level, then their only limitation is their imagination! They will have access to a fully equipped workshop, systems and control area, graphics studio and a darkroom as well as the following equipment:

- 2 Boxford 250PC lathes,
- 1 Boxford 300VMC milling centre,
- 1 Boxford 500HSR high speed router,
- 4 Boxford Duet milling and Turning centres,
- 3 CAMM1 plotter cutters,
- 2 CAMM2 plotter engravers,
- 50 AMD 600Mhz computers,
- 6 printers including a high resolution A3

### **Boarding Plans**

During the 2007—2008 academic year, the school will be non residential, hence it will be open to day students only. This will afford us the time to develop a most conducive living accommodation infrastructure for all students. But, starting from 2008—2009 session, the school will commence the implementation of full residential accommodation for all its students. Parents of foundation students will be encouraged over a reasonable period of time, to undertake this conversion to full boarding modality within 2 years.

## School Administration

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### **Aflon Academy Council**

Aflon Academy is in being built to act a catalyst for community change. **It is conceived as a public institution that is privately managed.** Philosophical ownership actually belongs to the community ; hence a **Aflon Academy Council** is being constituted to regulate the affairs of the School. The framework being considered will cover the following representations

- (a) An outstanding achiever with technological background (Chairman)
- (b) The Proprietor of ADA,
- (c) Representative of the Chairman, Kuje Area Council,
- (d) Two parents—male and female,
- (e) Representative of the Department of Computer Science, University of Abuja,
- (f) Representative of the DG, Nigeria Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA)
- (g) A Principal of one secondary school in Kuje/FCT,
- (h) Representative of the Nigeria Baptist Convention ,
- (i) School Principal (Secretary).

### **Teaching Staff Profile**

The staff of ADA will be constituted into a Knowledge—Driven Team to spearhead its quest for a new kind of basic education school. The team that is presently being composed will be led by graduates (**B.Sc.** and **HND**) who must have achieved a minimum of **Second Class Honours (Upper Division)/Merit in Computer Technology and all other Basic Sciences, Language and Arts, Commerce and Social Sciences.** Those with **Second Class Honours (Lower Division)** must have **Additional Qualifications/Certifications** and or demonstrable competences in specific skill sets that are cognately relevant to the mission of our institution. **Possession of Professional teaching qualifications will of course be a foundation requirement for appointment .**

Aflon Academy staff are being selected with emphasis on professional teaching expertise with demonstrable child—friendly attitudes. There is place only for those who have made life -long commitments to teaching and nurturing young persons as a matter of vocation. For the lucky few that will be on our staff, efforts will not be spared to institute policies and programmes that will fully cater to their welfare and those of their dependants, to enable them concentrate on the job of taking charge of pupils entrusted to their care.

We believe that the parents expect members of staff to be open to suggestions, accessible, and willing to consider the unique circumstances of individual students. The staff will be sufficiently flexible to deal with different cultural and ethnic groups. A firm disciplinary policy applied fairly and consistently, is viewed as essential in creating both a safe school and an inviting environment in which staff and students can work cooperatively and with mutual respect.

### **Parent Involvement**

Our expectations for parent support for the school programme and for school activities are quite expansive. Parents are always welcome to attend the School Council meetings. We shall however institute a **Parents Forum** that will be meeting the third Saturday, each term.

## Student Leadership

Students are to be encouraged to take on leadership roles. Excellent vehicles for these are Student Council, Athletic Council, Music Council, numerous clubs such as Helping Hands, and events such as the Service to the Community Day. The Student Council will be granted autonomy to organise all student events, the Athletic Council promotes sports and school spirit; the Music Council aids with music concerts, the music department's musical, and trips out of town. Aflon Academy students will be encouraged to expand their leadership roles beyond the school and into the community. We shall plant trees, raise funds for the needy etc.

## School Discipline and Improving Behaviour

The school discipline policy aims to encourage, develop, and acknowledge responsible, positive behaviour so that students and staff can learn and work effectively. The policy includes classroom and general school expectations and has clear and consistent consequences for irresponsible behavior. Within the guidelines of the MFCT Department of Education, the policy includes fines withdrawal from classes, and suspension from school.

Any of the following actions or a combination of these actions may be employed to direct students to improve their behaviour:

- counselling by teachers, guidance counsellors, the vice -principals, or the principal
- parent consultation by telephone or through meetings at the school
- exclusion from class for a specified time
- community work within the school property boundaries
- referral to social work agencies
- payment for or replacement of stolen or damaged goods
- withdrawal of privileges such as attendance at social events
- suspension from school for up to twenty days
- in extreme cases and when all else fails, expulsion from the school

## School Hours

The official school hours will be 8.00 am to 5.30 pm, with a One and half hour break from 1.00—2.30 pm for school prepared lunch and recreation. The extended closing time will afford parents of day students the opportunity of closing at work before end of day pick-up of their wards.

The school will also be open from 8.30 to 1.00 pm on Saturdays for Computer Technology-based Vocational Training in Computer Studies, Applied Electronics and Web Design Technologies. This time is also in part be used for mind development recreation such as Chess, Scrabble and Classical Music Lessons.

## School Uniform

Dressing and smartness of comportment are very important factors for building self confidence amongst youngsters. In a clear departure from the norm, ADA students will have several categories of uniforms for formal use and for ceremonial occasions .

Lower and Middle Basic	Boys	Girls
Formal Uniform	Shirt, Tie and a pair of Shorts	Gown & Head Beret
Ceremonial Uniform (National)	Kaftan and Matching Cap	Iro, Buba & Head tie

Ceremonial Uniform (Western)	Lounge Suit, White Shirt & Tie	Skirt Suit and Blouse
Hostel House Wear	Shirt and a pair of Trousers	Gown
<b>Upper Basic</b>		
Formal Uniform	Shirt, Tie and a pair of Trousers	Skirt and Blouse
Ceremonial Uniform (National)	Full Agbada & Matching Cap	Iro, Buba & Head tie
Ceremonial Uniform (Western)	Lounge Suit, White Shirt & Tie	Skirt Suit and Blouse
Hostel House Wear	Shirt and a pair of Trousers	Gown

The Ceremonial uniform (Western) is to be worn weekly on Mondays, while the ceremonial uniform (National) would be worn on such event dates as

- Children Day—May 27
- National Day—October 1
- Founders Day—October 11
- Parents Day—Third Saturday Every Term

### Web-Based Communications

All parents are to be encouraged to have an e-mail addresses, for the purposes of receiving reports on their wards on weekly basis. In addition, two (2) newsletters are to be sent out each term and contain valuable information about school activities and events. The school newsletter will provide essential communication between the school and the parents.

### Admissions

Aflon Digital Academy is open to everyone without discrimination. In the next couple of years, the school will accommodate transferring students from other schools. But, before long, admissions will only be at Primary 1 level, to enable us infuse a distinctive character and personal trait of always aiming to be the best in our graduates.

For the 2007/2008 year, admission to the new JSS1 will be open to students aged above 10 years who have usually completed six (6) years of primary education. Applicants will be required to attach previous school reports to their application forms, as these may be used to determine placement upon entry. An interview and tests in English and Mathematics may also be required. In future years, sisters and brothers of students who currently attend the school will be accorded a level of preference, a sort of 'sibling rights of enrolment.' **Application forms are obtainable at any time of the year.**

### In a Nutshell

Our mission is to produce leaders of distinction and dignity, committed to life-long learning, living meaningful lives and serving society through the

- Integration of thinking into the curriculum.
- Using IT in instruction, and
- Having a balanced academic programme with the arts, sports and games.
- Promoting a life-skills curriculum which includes personal and social development e.g. team-building, leadership development and community service involvement.

Please give consideration to having us take care of your children .  
Register your child today.

Managing Director,  
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Cambial Street, Sector Centre B,  
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Kuje—Abuja.

**27—July—2007**