

An Overview of AISF Curriculum

Teaching and learning at the American School of Freetown build up from what we want students to know and be able to do. The label for that desired result is an intended learning outcome (ILO). The cornerstone of our building is simple but powerful:

- AT AISF we know our students, not just as a group, but every individual learner.
- We start our building with a clear vision of our goal for student learning.

In sum, the key is to know our students and to plan backwards from our intended learning outcomes.

All of the curriculum in the AISF Curriculum Guide has been designed and written by AISF teachers. They know our students and all curriculum is tailored exactly to them. All AISF curriculum fulfills the requirements of our good standing in the United States as a fully accredited US international school.

The sources for creating curriculum at AISF are US Standards. The intended learning outcomes for all subjects at all grade levels state simply that each child will meet that standard, sometimes with assistance, and sometimes will exceed the standard. As the US Embassy sponsored school in Sierra Leone, AISF must be certain that every learner can transfer smoothly either to a quality US public school or to a quality international school. Current standards in use at AISF are US Common Core for English/Language Arts and for Mathematics, Next Generation Science, and McRel Standards for Social Studies. All the curriculum templates you read in the Guide will list the US Standards to be met. US Standards are used in American schools all over the world. All the curriculum you read will also explain the ways that the teacher has planned to reach the Intended learning outcomes.

The AISF Curriculum Guide is organized by grade levels and by subjects within each grade level. By design, AISF has blended classrooms with two grade levels in each class. Curriculum is presented for each blended classroom: PreK/KG, Grade 1&2, Grade 3&4, Grade 5&6, and Grade7&8. This 2017/2018 school year AISF is running a Grade 9 Pilot which is described in a separate publication.

Our aim is for all AISF families to be well informed about the intended learning outcomes for your children's experience at AISFreetown.