The Chairman, Our Guest Speaker, Members of the Press, Meadow Hall Students, Distinguished ladies & Gentlemen,

THE FUTURE IS HERE

On behalf of the Akinjide Adeosun Foundation (**AAF**) & Meadow Hall Foundation (**MHF**), I would like to thank you for creating the time to witness the beginning of our partnership to building a sustainable & virile future for our continent, Africa. We have entered into a partnership to train students on effective leadership.

'Effective leadership is not about making speeches or being liked; leadership is defined by results not attributes' Peter F DRUCKER, American management consultant, educator & author (1909-2005). Peter Drucker continued philosophically **'The best way to predict your future is to create it'** Nature abhors inertia. Our partnership is premised on our children, our future, our leaders living our shared values of Excellence, Integrity, Transformation and Empathy. We are motivated to commence this partnership not because it is glamorous to do it but it is the right thing to do. We have a deficit of competent leaders and it is appropriate to give back to the society within our area(s) of competence. It is now fashionable to complain about societal ills. However have you paused to think of changing our society from within your sphere of influence?

Our Leadership partnership will build the capability of our talented children using various tools: Discourses on leadership values, case studies on role models, Interactive mode of learning, entertainment, community projects by children and shadowing of exemplary leaders at workplace. Structures have been built in to evaluate progress & measure the impact of knowledge being gained. Our children will benefit from this program at no cost to their parents. The initial target classes are years 9 &10. It is our desire to follow these children till they attain leadership positions in future. The key outcome of this initiative is the observable positive leadership behaviors of excellence, integrity, transformation and empathy in leaders we are building. We believe leaders exhibiting these values will deliver result oriented outcomes to the society. Effective leadership is mandatory to drive the three dimensions of development: economic, social & environmental.

The marathon to building a pipeline of responsible, responsive, effective & selfless leaders in Africa has started towards a continent with universal leadership literacy.

The United Nations (UN) has set an ambitious yet attainable 17 Sustainable development Goals (SDG's) by 2030.The goals range from no poverty to good health & well-being to clean water & sanitation to affordable & clean energy and climate action. What we are doing today is in alignment to **SDG number 4 on achieving quality education.** My recommendation to our friends here today is to pick **one (1) SDG** & working in partnership with each other to begin to effect personal change thereby making a difference within our community.

I will like to close with a quote by Malcolm X "Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today"

The future is here at Meadow Hall School!

Thank you for listening.



Akinjide **ADEOSUN**, Founder/Chairman,

ABOUT AKINJIDE ADEOSUN FOUNDATION.

The Akinjide Adeosun Foundation (AAF) is a non-profit, non-religious and non-political organization. It was set up to leave a leadership legacy in Africa by strengthening capabilities in today's leaders and build a pipeline of ready future leaders by 2035.

Leadership discourses are delivered in an admixture of trainings, case studies and projects. Over one hundred and forty (140) persons benefited from this initiative in 2015.

Our foundation is aligned to the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development goals **3** (Good Health and wellbeing) and **4** (Quality Education).

Akinjide Adeosun is a pharmacist by profession & the Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**) of St. Racheal's Pharmaceutical Nigeria Limited.