

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ ΑΠ. ΑΝΔΡΕΑ

Greek School of Apostolos Andreas

Information Pack

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Version 8









School Aims

We aim to present and reinforce all aspects of the Modern Greek language to our students, including vocabulary-building, reading, Greek culture, heritage, writing and grammar with emphasis on conversation. Greek poems, prayers, songs and dances are also used to teach the students about the religion and history.

We aim to enhance bi-cultural and bilingual awareness and to promote the moral and ethical values of the Greek Orthodox family.

Our school is not just about our language though, we are community school, it is a place to make great friends for life, maintain our identity and remember our origin by helping to carry on our traditions.

The School Day

The gates open at 10.15am. A member of staff will be on the front gate to greet you and also ensure the safety of the children. There will be teachers also on duty in the playground before the bell rings and also during all breaks.

- 10.30am: The school bell rings and all children should be at school ready to start the School day
- 10.30am 10.40am: Assembly (in Christoforos Cartoudis Hall)
- 10.40am 12pm: Lessons
- 12pm 12.25pm: 1st Break (please provide your child with a packed lunch)
- 12.25pm 1.30pm: Classroom lessons continue
- 1.30pm 1.50pm: 2nd Break
- 1.50pm 3.00pm: Lessons

Parents are asked to wait at the school gate at the end of the school day. At 3pm the gate will be opened where parents can then go and collect their children.

Homework

All children are given homework to complete. Please spend some time reading and helping your child. It benefits them and re-enforces the learning from the school day. Due to the short time spent in class, homework is especially important and should not take more than 20 minutes a week.

Parent-Teacher Meetings

We have a parent-teacher meeting three times a year (towards the end of each term) where you are able to discuss your child's progress with their class teacher. Reports will be given to parents after every meeting.

School Yiortes

The school Yiortes will always aim to be celebrated on either on the Sunday if the celebration falls on it, or the closest Sunday to the posted date.

- 1. The 'OXI' Yiorti: Near the 28th October
- 2. Christmas Play: The last Sunday of the Christmas term
- 25th March / 1st April: Annunciation of Virgin Mary & Greek Independence Day/Greek Cypriot National Day

Throughout the school year, the children learn traditional Greek songs and dances to perform at these Yiortes. Children are also given poems to learn for the Yiortes. We ask that you spend time helping the children learn the poems at home. On these days the children are asked to wear blue/black skirts or trousers and white shirts (unless instructed otherwise by their class teacher). Photos are taken and can be added to the school website; www.orthandrewgreeksch.co.uk

Please note that the school celebrations are part of the curriculum as specified by K.E.A. so attendance is required.

Communication

We have a text and email service set up to keep you informed of any important activities, events or general information.

We also email a newsletter quarterly to let you know what is happening in and around the school. These newsletters are also available on the school website.

If there are any changes to your home address, email address, contact numbers, emergency contact person or any other important information, these should be reported immediately to the head teacher.

If you have any issues, we are always available for a chat. If you wish to contact our teaching staff individually, all of our staff have their own school email address. These can be found on our website:

www.orthandrewgreeksch.co.uk/our-school/our-staff/

For any matters regarding schooling, please speak to the head teacher. For any other matters, please speak with the Chairman.

School Donations

Here are our suggested school donations:

1 Pupil: £275 pa 2 Pupils: £400 pa 3+ Pupils: £450 pa Adults: £275 pa

You can pay by several methods:

- Cash If you choose to pay by cash, could we please ask that you make the payment in
 the first two weeks of the autumn term, as this will reduce the number of bank visits we
 have to make
- Cheques We welcome cheques and you can give us these at any time, since our new banking facility allows us to pay these online. Any cheques need to be addressed to:

"Greek School of Apostolos Andreas"

 Bank Transfer - You now have the ability to pay by bank transfer and our new bank details are as follows:

Sort Code is 30-98-97, Account number is 65148360

Instalments - For those of you who need to pay in instalments, we would like to insist
that all payments are made by the end of January. If this causes a problem, please
approach a member of the committee and we will be happy to discuss bespoke
arrangements.

If you have any queries on the changes, please feel free to discuss with any member of the committee.

Additional fees will be required for GCSE and GCE exams. These will be communicated at the appropriate time.

As we are part of the church charity we are able to accept Gift Aid donations when you are making your payments to the school.

School Hours

As well as the regular Saturday opening for our school children, we offer additional classes on Monday and Wednesday evenings **free of charge.** Your school fee includes these extra lessons if you require them.

Saturday: 10.30am - 3pm

Monday: 6.00pm - 8.00pm (A level)

Wednesday: 5.00pm - 6.45pm (GCSE 1 and GCSE 2)
Wednesday: 7.00pm - 8.00pm (Adults-Beginners)
Wednesday: 8.00pm - 9.00pm (Adults-Intermediate)

Greek School Committee

We have a vibrant and active Greek school committee who support the teaching staff and help maintain the School. Fundraising is a very important aspect of the School. We are supported by both the Church Committee and Ladies Committee of Apostolos Andreas, but we strive to be self-sufficient. We are always looking for new members to join the committee, so if you have a few hours to spare the committee would love to hear from you.

Student Registrations

All registrations for enrolling into the school are now performed online instead of a paper based system. The online form can be accessed via this link;

https://forms.gle/eQrGBfnP51YK9cSb6

Mobile phones

The use of mobile phones or smart watches or any headphones is strictly forbidden during lesson times and break times. If a pupil must bring a mobile phone, this should remain switched off and left in their bag for the duration of the school day, including their smart watch if they have one.

Behaviour

We do not tolerate abuse towards any member of staff or any other students. If any student persists in bad behaviour, there will be a written warning issued. After two warnings, parents will be called into the school for a meeting to discuss further options. If parents have any concerns about their child or the school, please do not hesitate to contact the head teacher.

Safety and First Aiders

Safety is a very important matter for us. During break times, there are always three teachers keeping watch in the playground. Our teachers are trained in first aid. Any injuries are recorded in our record book.

The School Curriculum

Our school follows the official syllabus of the Cypriot Ministry of Education, which is provided to all the Greek schools in the UK by the Cypriot Educational Mission (K.E.A.). Course books and other teaching material are distributed to children free of charge and they come directly from the Cypriot Ministry of Education. This material has been specifically designed and produced in order to meet the needs of children of Greek origin who live in the UK.

The curriculum includes Religious Education (R.E.), Greek/Cypriot traditional dances as well as Greek/Cypriot History and Geography of Greece/Cyprus.

More information can be viewed at our school webpage

https://orthandrewgreeksch.co.uk/our-school/school-curriculum/

Ellinomatheia

As your child gets to the fifth grade, our teaching starts to focus on the national GCSE curriculum for Modern Greek. We are affiliated with the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) and Pearson (EdExcel).

We also cater for GCE A-Level should you or your child wish to carry on studying. This is also managed through JCQ and Pearson (EdExcel).

If you have no children but would like to learn Greek, we also offer Adult lessons in conversational Greek.

Exams dates and information will be given to the relevant students/parents.