



ΚΕΝΤΡΙΚΟ ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΤΙΚΟ ΣΥΜΒΟΥΛΙΟ
ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗΣ ΘΥΑΤΕΙΡΩΝ & ΜΕΓ. ΒΡΕΤΑΝΙΑΣ
ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ & ΚΥΠΡΙΑΚΗ ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΤΙΚΗ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΗ
ΠΑΡΟΙΚΙΑΚΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ ΑΓ. ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΥ ΛΙΒΕΡΠΟΥΛ
GREEK SCHOOL OF ST. NICHOLAS LIVERPOOL



Aims

The aim of the Greek School of St. Nicholas Liverpool is to strengthen the community by bringing children and adults together to teach them the Greek language, traditions, customs and Greek Orthodox faith.

Objectives

The objects of the Greek School of St. Nicholas Liverpool are:

- 1) to advance education of the public, particularly but not exclusively among the Greek people in the United Kingdom, concerning Greek culture, traditions, language and history
- 2) to advance education by operating, supporting, expanding and developing a Greek orthodox school and in particular that known as the Greek School of St. Nicholas Liverpool
- 3) to advance religion in accordance with the Greek orthodox faith.

Activities

The Greek school of St. Nicholas was established in the middle of 1960's by parents / members of the Greek and Greek-Cypriot community of Merseyside and North Wales as part of the group of schools of the Central Educational Council of Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain. Their vision was to establish an educational setting that will help their children to learn the Greek language and maintain their heritage. Its name illustrates the fact that the school is an integral part of the Greek Community of Liverpool, Merseyside and North Wales.

The school changed various forms and locations and since September 2021 it takes place on Saturdays during term time at Childwall Sport Academy, Queens Drive, Liverpool, which is our main location. Classes are also available online. In all our locations we hire classes and facilities from third parties.

The current location is:

LIVERPOOL: Childwall Sports and Science Academy Fiveways, Queens Dr, Liverpool L15 6XZ



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The school is officially a member of the Liverpool supplementary schools network and the National Resource Centre of Supplementary Education. It is recognised and supported by the Greek and Cypriot Ministry of Education that set the curriculum. This is tailored to the students that learn Greek as a second language (in a ‘parikiako’ school) while they attend a full time English school, and it is not an exact match of the full-time educational system in Greece or Cyprus.

It accepts school age children mainly of Greek and Greek Cypriot origin. However, children of any other background with an interest in Greek language and culture, as well as adults are welcome to join.

We provide classes from Reception to GCSE and A-level, for children from 5 to 18 years old, and adult’s Greek language classes. We are proud to represent over 64 students and 12 adults that currently attend the school.

During the academic year 2023-2024 we maintained most of our children classes in the classrooms on Saturdays while our GCSE students attended online lessons. This was achieved with difficulty as it was difficult to recruit suitable teachers at the beginning of the academic year. The situation was improved after November 2023 with the 2 teachers that the Greek and Cypriot embassies in London assigned to our area.

We also had 1 adults group in a classroom and 3 adults groups at online lessons.

Administration & Teaching

The school is part of the Central Educational Council (Κεντρικό Εκπαιδευτικό Συμβούλιο – ΚΕΣ) of Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain group of schools (<http://www.kes.education/>).

The school is a non-profit organisation and since April 2016 has been registered with the UK Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

It is managed by unpaid committee members as described by the rules of school committees and our constitution. Three members are pupils’ parents elected by the pupils’ parents, while the rest are members of the Greek Church of St. Nicholas committees and members of the Greek Community with an interest in educational matters assigned by ΚΕΣ. The head teacher and the local priest of the St. Nicholas church of Liverpool are honorary members of the committee.

The main body of the committee is composed of the Chairman, the Secretary and the Treasurer. The above members are elected directly from the school committee members.



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The teaching staff currently consists of (6) teachers and (2) teaching assistant. 4 of them are paid directly by the Greek School mainly for the Saturday and the online classes while 3 staff members are sponsored and paid by the Cypriot Ministry of Education. The Cypriot and the Greek Ministry of Education and the Archdiocese support the school with books and educational material.

The current school committee consist of:

Trustees

Chairman - Panagiotis Maropakis

Treasurer – Olga Bakatsi-Cooke

Secretary – Anna Katsara

Member – Elpiniki Smith

Member – Anna Kousteni

Member – Theoulla Haralambous

(Representative of the church benevolent committee)

Member – Father Stavros Kasinos

(Priest of St. Nicholas Church Liverpool)

Honorary member

Member – Vacant position

(Head-teacher)

Accreditation & Partners



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GREEK SCHOOL OF ST. NICHOLAS LIVERPOOL



Our school follows the laws, rules and guidelines as set by the UK Government, the Local Educational Authority, ΚΕΣ and the Education Ministries of Greece and Cyprus.

We are members of:

- Central Educational Council of Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain,
- Liverpool City Council Supplementary Schools Network
- National Resource Centre of Supplementary Schools

At the start of the 2015 academic year, we achieved the Bronze Award of the National Resource Centre Quality Framework scheme, while in April 2016 we succeeded in the Silver Award and in August 2017 the Gold Award. This is a UK wide recognised accreditation and shows that in addition to the basic policies and procedures, the supplementary school provides a well-organised learning environment with straightforward teaching, record keeping and resources that support children's and young people's achievement and raise their self-esteem.



Policies & Procedures

The school maintain and updates the necessary policies and procedures, and they are available on request, some examples are:

- Description of supplementary school Statement of aims
- List of Management Committee
- Home – School Agreement
- Equal opportunities statement
- List of staff and volunteers
- Staffing and volunteer policy
- Child protection policy
- Safeguarding policy statement
- DBS checks
- Health and safety policy
- Offsite procedure



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- Complaints procedure
- Registration form for children
- Registers of attendance
- Financial rules
- Certificate of Public and Employers Liability Insurance
- E-Safety Policy
- Privacy Policy
- Zero Tolerance Policy

Planning / Evaluation

The Education Offices of Greek and Cypriot Embassies in London set the goals and objectives for each age group/level and a standardised approach in documents / templates and procedures for scheme of work, lessons planning, and evaluation is followed.

Our students participate in GCSE and ‘A’ Level exams in Modern Greek language as well as ‘Elinomatheia’ (Learn Greek) exams run by a Greek organisation that lead to a recognised qualification in Greece. There are also visits for support and evaluation from the responsible persons in the Education Offices of the embassies and the mentor from National Resource Centre of Supplementary Education (NRCSE). The school also runs classroom observations and peer-to-peer observations, and the parents receive an update on pupils’ progress from teachers twice a year at the first term and near the end of the academic year.

Training

The Greek school of St. Nicholas Liverpool organised and supported teachers to attend training/seminars run by local training providers and the education offices as well as registering teachers with an education on-line training service provider.

Community events and activities

This year the Greek school of St. Nicholas organised and run the following events:



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- Greek School Christmas celebration
- International Day of Languages event
- ‘28th October’ celebrations
- Greece/Cyprus Independence Day celebrations at Greek church
- ‘Καθαρή Δευτέρα’ / Clean Monday celebrations (κούλουμα-χαρταετός)
- Easter celebrations

Goals and Targets

At the beginning of the academic year the below goals and targets were set:

- ☐ Secure facilities in Childwall Sports Academy school – **Completed**
- ☐ Maintain allocated hours from the education office of the Cypriot embassy – **Completed**
- ☐ Organise and run online adult classes in Greek Language – **Completed**
- ☐ Maintain class in Chester area – **On going**
- ☐ Run Parents Survey – **Planned for July 2024**
- ☐ Recruitment of skilled/experienced teachers that meet school requirements - **On going**
- ☐ Update and supplement school policies and procedures - **On going**
- ☐ Maintain School website - **On going**
- ☐ Use support and opportunities from local authorities through the Supplementary Schools Network to achieve a certain level of quality standards for the provided education - **On going**



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ΠΑΡΟΙΚΙΑΚΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ ΑΓ. ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΥ ΛΙΒΕΡΠΟΥΛ
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- ☐ Support continuous learning and development of the teachers through the educational office in the embassies, online training, and the Supplementary Schools Network - **On going**
- ☐ Use latest social network means (i.e., email newsletter, Facebook, twitter etc.) to communicate news and events to teachers, parents, and students - **On going**
- ☐ Investigate opportunities for funding from local authorities through the Supplementary school's network – **4 funding applications submitted**
- ☐ Maintain and develop activities for fundraising - **No progress this year**
- ☐ Develop parents' activities - **No progress this year**

Challenges

- Building / facilities in Childwall Academy school – availability and increased cost
- Recruitment of skilled/experienced teachers that meet school requirements - (Negative effect of Brexit)
- Small size community school but with all requirements, challenges, and difficulties of an English state school

Finances

The Greek School of St. Nicholas relies on a contribution towards the lessons paid by the parents, donations, grants, and fundraising events/activities. Overall, the previous year finished with a small surplus due to the fee from the adults' classes and the grants from local authorities. The overall financial results for the 2022-2023 have been submitted to the Charity Commission website and presented at the AGM.

Independent Examiner's Report.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Greek School of St. Nicholas, Liverpool for the year ending 31st. August 2023.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner.

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to :

examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;

follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity

Commissioner under section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and

to state whether any particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view', and the report is limited to those matters as set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement.

In connection with my examination, no other matters have come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirement to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met,
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed.

Alan A Clements

Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners

Date

12th June 2024

Rev'd. A. A. Clements MA, ACIB, FCIE.

15 Carleton Road,

Great Knowley,

Chorley PR6 8TQ