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**The Greek
 Educational
 System**
**A short guide for
 parents**
 Primary Education



European Programme Erasmus+
KA1

“Social integration of
 Refugees/Migrants”

The Greek education system is structured as follows:

AGE	TYPE OF SCHOOL	LEVEL optional/obligatory
6 months - 4 years old	Municipal/Private Nursery Schools	Optional
4 years old	a) Kindergarten (if there is availability) b)Municipal/Private Nursery Schools	Optional
5 years old	Kindergarten	Primary Education Obligatory
6-12	Primary School	Primary Education Obligatory
12-15	Junior High School	Secondary Education Obligatory
15-18	Senior High School (General, Vocational etc.)	Secondary Education Optional
18-	Universities, Technical Colleges, Vocational Schools	Tertiary Education

Children aged 6 months to 5 years

Attendance at Municipal Nurseries

Registration applications 10-31/5 in the Municipality of residence. The supporting documents and the registration system are determined by each Municipality.

Operation of Nursery Stations 1/9-31/7.

Holidays: official holidays, Christmas holidays: 24/12-5/1, Easter* holidays: Thursday before Easter-Sunday after Easter.

*Easter Day is not on a fixed date

Opening hours 7.00-16.00.

The pedagogical program of Stations seeks the harmonious psychomotor development of children and respects the individual, social and cultural differences of the children.

Breakfast and lunch are provided.

If a child is ill, parents have to inform the Nursery Director.

(According to ΦΕΚ 4249/5-12-2007 τ. Β’).

Children aged 4-6 years attending Kindergarten

Mandatory for children aged 5 years - Optional for 4-year-olds (it depends on the capacity of the Kindergarten).

Registration from 1-20/5 of each year at the Kindergarten near residence.

A prerequisite is the vaccination of children as intended.

Working hours

- a) 7.45-8.30 Early student reception (optional)
- b) 8.30-13.00 Morning program (mandatory)
- c) 13.00-16.00 Afternoon program (optional)

The attendance is mandatory in the morning program. According to their needs, working

parents can choose to enroll their children in zones (a) and (c).

Children aged 6-12 years attending Primary School

Primary School in Greece has six grades.

Registration applications: May 1-20 of the previous school year.

Information on the necessary supporting documents for registration is provided by the Director of the school near home. A prerequisite is the vaccination of the child as intended.

Older children can enroll in a class that corresponds to their age, or an earlier class if they cannot speak Greek. For children who are not familiar with the Greek language, there is the possibility of creating a *reception class* where they are helped to learn the Greek language. In most schools there is an *integration class* for pupils with learning disabilities.

The school year is divided into three (3) terms.

Working hours

- a) 7.00-8.00 Early reception zone (optional)
- b) 8.15-13.15 Morning program (mandatory)
- c) 13.15-16.00 All-day program (optional) for the children of working parents.

Lessons do not take place on Saturdays and Sundays.

Students are taught from the first grade Greek language, English, Mathematics, Music, Art, Computers, Environmental Studies, Sports, Theatrical Education. In the third grade History and Religion are also taught. Students have the right not to participate in the Religious Education subject if parents officially ask for it. In the fifth and sixth grade students are taught additionally Geography, Social and Political Education, Physics and can choose as a second foreign language French or German.

Textbooks are provided free of charge by the school, while students need to have a school bag and stationery that will be requested by the school.

For both Primary School and Kindergarten:

School year duration: 11/9-15/6.

Public holidays:

October 28 (National Holiday),
Christmas Holidays 24/12-7/1,
Clean Monday (mobile religious holiday)
March 25 (National Holiday),
Easter holidays (one week before and one after Easter - religious holiday)
1st May,
Holy Spirit Day (mobile religious holiday),
Local Saint Holiday.

The pedagogical approach aims at providing the necessary knowledge and developing social and individual skills.

Students:

behave with respect to their classmates and teachers and comply with school regulations.

Parents:

- take care of the children's meals (breakfast and lunch that children bring with to school);
- get informed about the progress of children by teachers at a predetermined time,
- have the responsibility for the children's safe arrival and departure from school
- agree in writing about their children's participation in educational visits organized by the school as part of the curriculum,
- choose whether their child will participate in the morning prayer.
- can contact teachers for any matter they are concerned with.

(According to Π.Δ.79/2017).