



# THE GREEK EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

# AGENDA



**ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ**  
Υπουργείο Παιδείας, Θρησκευμάτων  
και Αθλητισμού

- **ISCED Classification Levels (1–5)**
- **Early Childhood Education & Care (ECEC)**
- **Primary and Secondary Education**
- **Post-secondary Non-tertiary Programs (SAEK)**
- **Tertiary Education (Bachelor, Master, PhD)**
- **Adult education**
- **Key features**
- **Digital school**
- **Curricula & Extra Curricular programs**
- **Administration**
- **School evaluation**
- **Teacher evaluation**

# ISCED LEVELS

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD  
CLASSIFICATION OF EDUCATION



<https://eurydice.eacea.ec.europa.eu/eurypedia/greece/overview>

3

**ISCED 0: Early Childhood Education (ECEC, ages 0–6)**

**ISCED 1: Primary Education (Dimotiko, ages 6–12)**

**ISCED 2: Lower Secondary (Gymnasio, ages 12–15)**

**ISCED 3: Upper Secondary (Lykeio, ages 15–18)**

**ISCED 4: Post-secondary Non-tertiary (SAEK, 2-year vocational)**

**ISCED 5: Short-cycle Tertiary (specialised vocational higher education)**

**ISCED 6–8: Bachelor, Master, Doctorate**

# EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE



- **Infant/Toddler Care (Vrefikos & Paidikos Stathmos): few months to age 4**
- **Nursery Schools (Vrefonipiakoi Stathmoi): care & pre-education**
- **Kindergarten (Nipiagogeio): ages 4–6, compulsory from age 4**
- **Extended Day kindergarten School**

Free of charge in public kindergartens

Focus: play-based learning, early literacy/numeracy, social development

# PRIMARY EDUCATION

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## **Dimotiko Scholeio (primary, compulsory, ISDEC 1)**

Experimental Primary School (Piramatiko Dimotiko Scholeio)

Model Primary School (Protipo Dimotiko Scholeio)

Primary School for students with Special Needs (Ediko Dimotiko Scholeio)

**Ages: 6–12 (Grades 1–6)**

**Curriculum:** language, maths, environmental studies, history, religion, ICT, arts, PE, foreign languages

**Skills Labs** (new curriculum in Greek schools).

**Extended Day Primary School** (pupils stay after the core morning program to participate in additional lessons, creative activities, or supervised study time).

# SECONDARY EDUCATION



- **Lower Secondary (Gymnasio): ages 12–15, compulsory, ISDEC 2**
- Evening Junior High School (Esperino Gymnasio)
- Experimental Junior High School (Piramatiko Gymnasio)
- Model Junior High School (Protipo Gymnasio)
- Music Junior High School (Mousiko Gymnasio)
- Arts Junior High School (Kallitechniko Gymnasio)
- Multicultural Junior High School (Gymnasio Diapolitismikis Ekpedefsis)
- Junior High School for students with Special Needs (Ediko Gymnasio-Lykeio)

# SECONDARY EDUCATION



- **Upper Secondary (Lykeio): ages 15–18, ISDEC 3**
- **General Lykeio: academic focus, prep for higher education**
- General Evening High School (Esperino Geniko Lykeio)
- Experimental High School (Piramatiko Geniko Lykeio)
- Model High School (Protipo Geniko Lykeio)
- Music High School (Mousiko Lykeio)
- Arts High School (Kallitechniko Lykeio)
- Multicultural High School (Lykeio Diapolitismikis Ekpedefsis)
- High School for students with Special Needs (Ediko Gymnasio-Lykeio)

# SECONDARY EDUCATION



- **Upper Secondary (Lykeio): ages 15–18, ISDEC 3**
- **Vocational Lykeio (EPAL): general + vocational, access to work or further studies**
- Vocational Evening High School (Esperino Epagelmatiko Lykeio)
- Model Vocational High School (Protipo Epagelmatiko Lykeio)
- **Apprenticeship Year (Mathiteia) in EPAL** (Workplace apprenticeship (paid, under real working conditions, with insurance), and Specialized school-based training (one day per week at EPAL) ISDEC 5)

# POST-SECONDARY NON-TERTIARY EDUCATION



- **Schools of Advanced Vocational Training (SAEK)**
- ISCED Level 4
- Duration: 2 years
- Specializations: tourism, IT, health, arts, technical fields
- Pathways: direct labour market entry or progression to higher education

# TERTIARY EDUCATION



Short-cycle tertiary (ISCED 5): specialised vocational higher programmes

Undergraduate (ISCED 6 – Bachelor / Ptychio): 4 years (5–6 medicine, engineering, fine arts)

Postgraduate (ISCED 7 – Master / Metaptychiako): 1–2 years

Doctoral Studies (ISCED 8 – Doctorate / Didaktoriko): 3–6 years, research-based

## Onasseia School (Ωνάσεια Σχολεία / Onassis Foundation initiatives) ISCED Levels 3 and 4



- A **new educational initiative** of the Onassis Foundation, aiming to create **model schools**
- Vision: a school of **innovation, creativity, and openness**, combining **Greek curriculum with international best practices**.
- Focus on **STE(A)M, arts, critical thinking, and global citizenship**.
- A **landmark project** in modernising Greek education.

# INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE



## International Baccalaureate (IB) in Greece

- Offered by a number of **private and public schools**
- Includes **IB Diploma Programme (DP)**, recognised internationally as equivalent to Greek Lykeio diploma (for university admission worldwide)
- Curriculum: **inquiry-based, interdisciplinary, strong focus on research and extended essay**
- The IB is not part of the state system, but it co-exists with the Greek Lykeio and provides an **alternative route to higher education.**



## PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment)

- A **triennial OECD international assessment** of 12 and 15-year-old students.
- Measures competences in **reading, mathematics, and science**, with growing focus on **problem-solving and global competences**.
- Greece participates regularly in PISA since 2000.
- Results are used by the Ministry and the Institute of Educational Policy (IEΠ) to **reflect on the effectiveness of Greek curricula and reforms**.
- Has influenced recent reforms like **Skills Labs** and **Active Citizenship Actions**, which are **competence-based curricula**.

# ADULT EDUCATION



## 1. Lifelong Learning Centres (Κέντρα Διά Βίου Μάθησης – KDBM)

- Operate at **municipal and national level**.
- Offer **non-formal education programmes** (languages, digital skills, entrepreneurship, social inclusion).
- Free or low-cost, often co-financed by the EU.



Σχολεία Δεύτερης Ευκαιρίας

## 2. Second Chance Schools (Σχολεία Δεύτερης Ευκαιρίας – SDE)

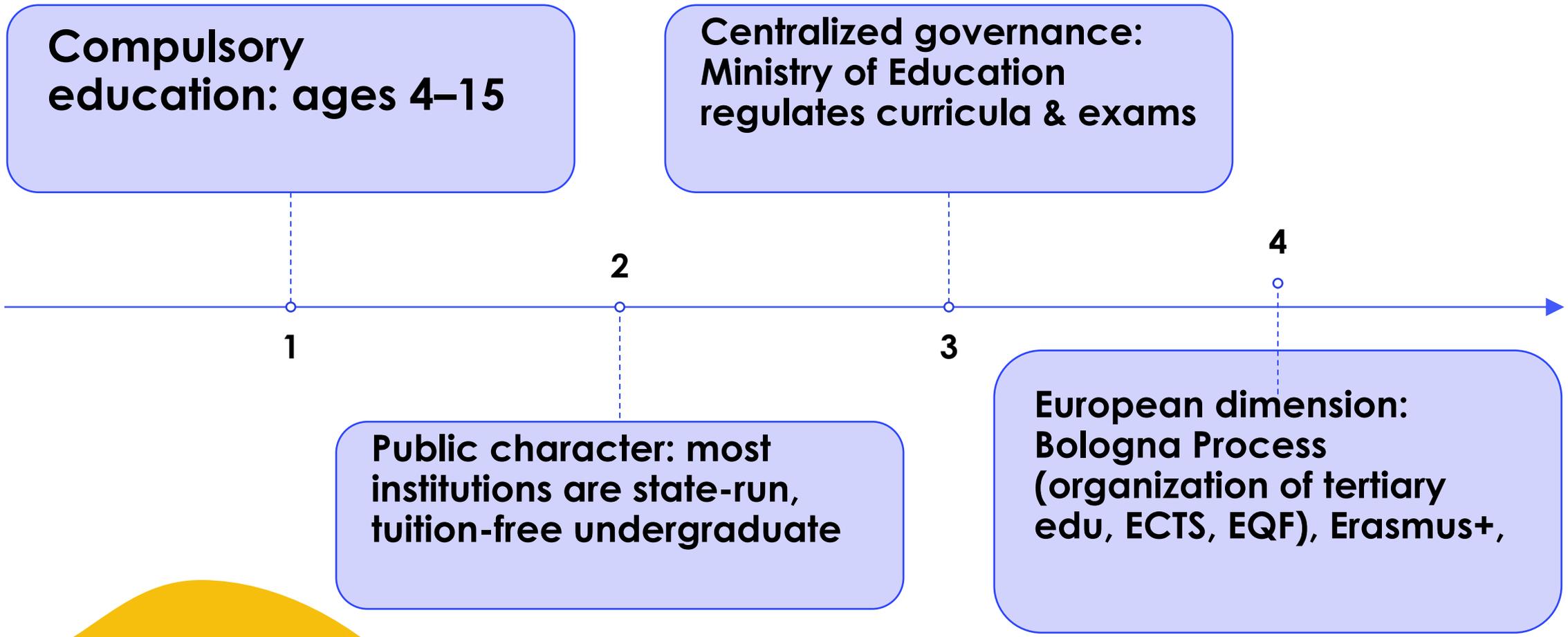
- For adults **over 18** who did not complete compulsory lower secondary education.
- Duration: **2 years**, leading to an equivalent **Gymnasio certificate**.



## 3. KEK (Vocational Training Centres): certified centres for upskilling and reskilling.

## 4. DYPA: employment agency training for the unemployed.

# KEY FEATURES OF GREEK EDUCATION



Ψηφιακό Σχολείο 

ΨΗΦΙΑΚΟ  
ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΤΙΚΟ  
ΠΕΡΙΕΧΟΜΕΝΟ  
[dschool.edu.gr](https://dschool.edu.gr)

DIGITAL SCHOOL



myschool



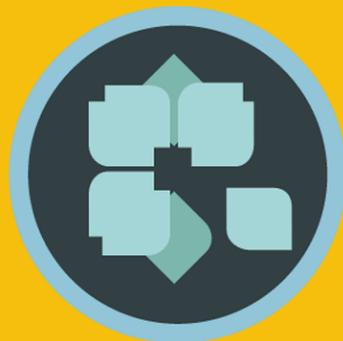
ΨΗΦΙΑΚΗ ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΤΙΚΗ ΠΛΑΤΦΟΡΜΑ

Ηλεκτρονική Σχολική Τάξη



η·τάξη

eclass.sch.gr



ΔΙΑΔΡΑΣΤΙΚΑ  
ΣΧΟΛΙΚΑ  
ΒΙΒΛΙΑ

ebooks.edu.gr



Φωτόδεντρο

ΨΗΦΙΑΚΑ ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΤΙΚΑ ΑΠΟΘΕΤΗΡΙΑ



Κέντρα  
Καινοτομίας

στις 13 Περιφερειακές Διευθύνσεις Εκπαίδευσης



bullying



Επιμόρφωση Εκπαιδευτικών  
για την Αξιοποίηση και Εφαρμογή  
των Ψηφιακών Τεχνολογιών  
στη Διδακτική Πράξη

# DIGITAL SCHOOL



## 1. eBooks.edu.gr – Διαδραστικά Σχολικά Βιβλία

- The official platform for **interactive school textbooks**.
- Students and teachers can access, read, and use digital versions of all school books online.
- Includes **multimedia resources** (videos, animations, quizzes).



## 2. Φωτόδεντρο (Photodentro)

- The **National Digital Educational Content Repository**.
- Offers open digital learning resources (texts, videos, simulations).
- Supports teachers in enriching lessons with **interactive educational material**.

# DIGITAL SCHOOL



## 3. sch.gr – Πανελλήνιο Σχολικό Δίκτυο (Greek School Network)



- The official **educational network for schools**.
- Provides **email accounts, hosting, communication, and collaboration tools** for students, teachers, and schools.
- Acts as the backbone of the digital school.

## 4. MySchool



myschool

- Central **school administration platform**.
- Used for managing student records, enrolments, grades, attendance, and staff data.
- Supports **data-driven decision making** for the Ministry of Education.

# DIGITAL SCHOOL

## 5. e-me



- The **official digital educational platform**
- Provides **virtual classrooms, digital portfolios, collaborative tools, and social learning features.**
- Especially useful for distance and blended learning.

## 6. e-Class (sch.gr)



- The **official Learning Management System (LMS)** of the Greek School Network.
- Allows teachers to **create and manage online courses.**
- Provides students with access to **assignments, resources, announcements, and grades.**
- Supports both **face-to-face learning** (blended) and **distance learning.**

# DIGITAL SCHOOL

## 7. eTwinning



- Part of the **EU's Erasmus+ programme**.
- An online platform for schools to **collaborate internationally** on educational projects.
- Encourages **cultural exchange and teacher networking**.

## 8. Stop Bullying Platform **bullying**

- A national **online platform against school bullying**.
- Provides information, resources, and channels for **reporting incidents**.
- Raises awareness and promotes a **safe school environment**.

# DIGITAL SCHOOL

## 9. Β' Επιπέδου ΤΠΕ (CTI – ICT Teacher Training)



- Continuous **teacher training programme** on integrating digital technologies into teaching.
- Known as “**Β' Επιπέδου Επιμόρφωση**”.
- Helps teachers develop **digital pedagogical skills** to use ICT effectively in the classroom.

## 10. Κέντρα Καινοτομίας (Innovation Centers)



- Operate in Greece's **13 Regional Education Directorates**.
- Support schools and teachers in **innovative teaching methods, digital skills, and new technologies**.
- Promote **STEM, robotics, and digital creativity**.



CURRICULA



## Primary Education (Dimotiko, Grades 1–6, ages 6–12)

### General, broad-based curriculum.

- Core subjects: Greek language, mathematics, environmental studies, history, geography, religion, science.
- Additional: foreign languages (mainly English, later French/German), ICT, music, art, physical education.

**Skills Labs Skills Labs & Active Citizenship Actions:** project-based learning on life skills, environment, citizenship, creativity.

Pedagogy: emphasis on **literacy, numeracy, and holistic development.**



## Lower Secondary Education (Gymnasio, Grades 7–9, ages 12–15)

### Compulsory, common core curriculum

Core subjects: Greek language & literature, mathematics, natural sciences (physics, chemistry, biology), history, geography, religion, social & civic education.

- Foreign languages: English (mandatory) + second foreign language (French or German).
- Arts, music, ICT, and physical education.

**Skills Labs & Active Citizenship Actions:** project-based learning on life skills, environment, citizenship, creativity.

**Focus:** transition from general foundation to more structured academic learning.

# CURRICULA



## Upper Secondary Education (Lykeio, Grades 10–12, ages 15–18)



### •General Lyceum (Geniko Lykeio): > ITEM BANK (Grades 10, 11)

- 1st Year: broad curriculum across sciences, humanities, and languages.
- 2nd & 3rd Year: specialisation in **streams** (Humanities, Sciences, Economic & Computer Science).
- Prepares for **Panhellenic Exams** (university entrance).

### •Vocational Lyceum (Epaggelamtiko Lykeio– EPAL): > ITEM BANK (Grades 10, 11)

- General education subjects (language, maths, sciences, history, foreign languages).
- Vocational specialisations (e.g., IT, mechanics, health, arts, tourism).
- Leads to either employment, higher education (Panhellenic Exams university entrance). or the optional **Apprenticeship Year (Mathiteia)**.

# EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Beyond the Classroom

EXTRA  
CURRICULA

# EXTRA CURRICULAR



## 1. School Activities Programs (Προγράμματα Σχολικών Δραστηριοτήτων)

- Implemented in **Primary, Lower and Upper Secondary schools.**
- Cover areas such as:
  - **Environmental Education**
  - **Health Education & Well-being**
  - **Cultural & Artistic Programmes**
  - **Career Orientation**
- Conducted as **project-based activities**, often in collaboration with external institutions (NGOs, universities, local communities).



## 2. School Clubs (Όμιλοι)

- **Primary and secondary** Schools.
- Thematic clubs allow students to explore interests in:
  - Sciences (STEM, robotics, astronomy)
  - Languages and literature
  - Arts, theatre, music
  - Debate, human rights, volunteering
- Encourage **talent development, creativity, and teamwork.**

# CROSS CURRICULAR



## Active Citizen Actions (Δράσεις Ενεργού Πολίτη)

- A **new cross-curricular initiative** introduced in the **2021 curriculum reform**.
- Aims to **strengthen civic education and democratic participation** in schools.
- Integrated into the **common core lessons** (especially Social & Civic Education, History, Language, Skills Labs).

## Purpose

- To help students **connect classroom learning with real-life civic challenges**.
- Develops competences such as **critical thinking, teamwork, responsibility, and problem-solving**.
- Aligns with the **UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** and the **European key competences for lifelong learning**.

# CROSS CURRICULAR

## Key Features



- Promotes **active citizenship, responsibility, and social engagement.**
- Students participate in **projects, debates, simulations, and community activities.**
- Themes include:
  - **Human rights & democracy**
  - **Environmental and social responsibility**
  - **Volunteering and solidarity**
  - **Digital citizenship & media literacy**
- Methodology: **experiential and project-based learning.**
- Encourages collaboration with **local communities, NGOs, and civic organisations.**



ADMINISTRATION



## Administration of Education in Greece

- Greece has a centralized system, with the Ministry of Education at the top.
- Policies flow through regional and district directorates down to the school principals and teachers.
- Municipalities handle infrastructure, while national agencies ensure quality and curriculum design.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs

## 1. Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs & Sports

- **Central authority** for all levels of education.
- Sets **education laws, curricula, examinations, teacher recruitment, and funding.**
- Oversees universities, schools, and lifelong learning.

# ADMINISTRATION



## 2. Central and National Agencies

- **IEP (Institute of Educational Policy):** designs curricula, approves textbooks, supports teacher training.
- **ADIPPE (Authority for Quality Assurance in Primary & Secondary Education):** monitors quality and evaluation.
- **EHAHE (Hellenic Authority for Higher Education):** ensures quality assurance in tertiary education.
- **IKY (State Scholarships Foundation):** Erasmus projects



### 3. Regional Level (13 Regional Education Directorates)

- Headed by **Regional Directors of Education**.
- Implement ministry policies in their regions.
- Coordinate **secondary and primary school offices**, teacher appointments, and training.

# ADMINISTRATION



## 4. District Level (Διευθύνσεις Εκπαίδευσης)

- **Directorates of Primary and Secondary Education** in each prefecture.
- Supervise local schools, manage staff, and ensure implementation of national policies.



## 5. School Unit Level

- Each school is led by a **School Principal (Διευθυντής/τρια)**.
- Supported by the **Teachers' Council**, which makes pedagogical and organizational decisions.
- Larger schools may have **Assistant Principals**.
- Teacher Roles within each school: School Advisor, Mentor, Coordinator of subjects and classes, Coordinator of Action Plans within the frame of school evaluation.
- **Education Advisors** support schools and teachers in pedagogy and innovation.

# PARTICIPATION & SUPPORT STRUCTURES



## ΕΚΦΕ – Science Laboratory Centres

- **Purpose:** To support the teaching of **Natural Sciences (Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Geology)** in **primary and secondary education**.
- Provide schools with:
  - **Laboratory infrastructure & equipment.**
  - **Training and guidance for teachers** on using experiments and lab methods.
  - **Organized lab sessions** for students when schools lack their own facilities.
- Operate under the **Regional Directorates of Education**.
- Promote **inquiry-based and hands-on science learning**.
- Also coordinate **science competitions, exhibitions, and teacher collaboration networks**.

# PARTICIPATION & SUPPORT STRUCTURES

## K.E.Δ.A.Σ.Y. – Centres for Interdisciplinary Assessment, Counselling and Support

- Operate under the **Ministry of Education** to support **inclusive education** and student well-being.

### Goal:

To ensure that **all students** — including those with **special educational needs, disabilities, or social vulnerabilities** — **have equal opportunities** in education.



# PARTICIPATION & SUPPORT STRUCTURES

## Main Roles:

- **Assessment & Diagnosis:** Identify learning difficulties, disabilities, or special educational needs (SEN).
- **Counselling:** Provide psychological and social support to students, families, and teachers.
- **Support:** Propose individualised educational programmes (IEPs), adaptations, or parallel support.
- **Collaboration:** Work with school principals, teachers, and parents to create **inclusive learning environments**.
- **Teacher Guidance:** Train and advise teachers on **differentiated instruction** and classroom management for diverse learners.



# PARTICIPATION & SUPPORT STRUCTURES



## Innovation Centres (Κέντρα Εκπαιδευτικής Καινοτομίας)

- Established in **each of the 13 Regional Directorates of Education**.
- Aim: to **support teachers and schools** in introducing and applying **innovative teaching methods**.

### Goal:

To help schools evolve into **modern, creative learning environments**, aligned with **21st-century skills** and European educational priorities.

# PARTICIPATION & SUPPORT STRUCTURES



## Main Roles:

- **Teacher training** on new pedagogical approaches and digital tools.
- Promotion of **STEM, robotics, and digital creativity** in schools.
- Support for implementing the **new curriculum reforms** (e.g., Skills Labs, Active Citizenship).
- Encourage **research, experimentation, and exchange of good practices** among schools.
- Act as a **hub of collaboration** between schools, universities, and local communities.

# PARTICIPATION & SUPPORT STRUCTURES



- **School Parents' Associations:** represent families at school level.
- **Municipalities:** responsible for **school buildings, maintenance, and some extracurricular activities.**
- **Greek universities** support primary & secondary education (often model/experimental schools), through **teacher training, research, practicum placements, collaboration with support centres, lifelong learning, and exam/curriculum contributions.**

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# SCHOOL PLANNING & EVALUATION

# SCHOOL SELF-EVALUATION & EXTERNAL EVALUATION



## Key components of the system

### 1. Self-evaluation by the school

1. The school prepares its own *Collective School Planning, Action Plans*, and generates an *Evaluation Report of its educational work*.
2. This includes reflecting on: learning outcomes, school culture, teacher collaboration, use of resources etc.



# SCHOOL SELF-EVALUATION & EXTERNAL EVALUATION

## 2. External evaluation layers

After the school's self-assessment, several external bodies evaluate or review:

- A designated **Educational / Pedagogical Advisor** (“Σύμβουλος Εκπαιδευτικής Παιδαγωγικής Ευθύνης”) reviews the school's work.
- A **Quality Supervisor of Education** (“Επόπτης Ποιότητας Εκπαίδευσης”) may also evaluate.
- At the regional level, **Regional Quality Supervisors** assess broader sets of schools.



# SCHOOL SELF-EVALUATION & EXTERNAL EVALUATION

## 3. Use of a digital platform: *[sch-eval.iep.edu.gr](http://sch-eval.iep.edu.gr)*

The **ISEP / IEP's electronic platform** supports the submission and management of:

The School's Self-Evaluation Report

The Collective Planning of the school (Συλλογικός Προγραμματισμός)

The Action Plans of the school unit

The External Evaluations by the relevant educational authorities.



# SCHOOL SELF-EVALUATION & EXTERNAL EVALUATION

## Purpose and goals

To **improve quality** in schools, through structured reflection and feedback.

To make the school more **self-aware**, able to identify its strengths and areas for improvement.

To foster **continuous improvement**, not just once but as part of a cycle (planning → implementation → evaluation → revision).

To ensure **accountability**, transparency and involvement of all stakeholders (teachers, leadership, external advisors).



ΑΞΙΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ  
ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΤΙΚΩΝ – Ε.Ε.Π./Ε.Β.Π.

ΙΕΠ  
ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑΣ, ΕΡΕΥΝΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΘΡΗΣΚΕΥΜΑΤΩΝ  
ΙΝΣΤΙΤΟΥΤΟ ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΤΙΚΗΣ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΚΗΣ

TEACHER  
EVALUATION

# TEACHER EVALUATION

Greece is moving toward a multi-dimensional evaluation model (self, peer, external), similar to many European systems.

The evaluation system is embedded in larger reforms: school evaluation (Αξιολόγηση Εκπαιδευτικού Έργου σχολικών μονάδων) and school planning (Συλλογικός Προγραμματισμός).

Transparency, fairness, teacher input, and professional growth are central design goals, though there are still practical implementation and cultural challenges.



## Main Purpose & Legal Framework

- To increase **quality of education** through evaluating teacher performance, supporting professional growth, and ensuring accountability.
- It is legislated under recent reforms of the Ministry of Education. The aim is to establish a system combining **self-evaluation, peer evaluation, and external evaluation**.
- The law is intended to align with European practices and integrate with school evaluation mechanisms.



## Key Components & Features

### 1. Self-Evaluation

1. Teachers are expected to reflect on their own practice: planning, teaching, class management, student outcomes.
2. They use performance criteria defined by the Ministry.

### 2. Peer/Educational Supervisor/Advisor Evaluation

1. Involves observation, assessment by experienced peers or pedagogical advisors (“Σύμβουλοι Εκπαιδευτικής / Παιδαγωγικής Ευθύνης”).
2. These may include review of lesson plans, classroom practice, use of digital tools, etc.



## **3. External Evaluation**

External bodies or inspectors may evaluate performance based on criteria, evidence, student achievement, and school context.

Part of the evaluation may include feedback and recommendations.

## **4. Criteria & Standards**

Prescribed by law: professional knowledge, pedagogical competence, student outcomes, use of teaching technologies, cooperation with colleagues and school community, contribution to school development.



## **5. Professional Development Link**

Evaluation is not only for appraisal; it's meant to identify areas for further training and growth. Offers incentives to improve practice.

## **6. Consequences / Incentives**

Good evaluation results are linked to professional recognition.

Weak performance leads to support and training.





THANK  
YOU

Sofronia Maravelaki  
ELT Education Advisor & Pedagogical Counsellor  
sym06-deser@dide.ser.sch.gr | <https://fmarvel.sites.sch.gr/>