

TLC PRIVATE SCHOOL
and INSTITUTE

Where every child matters

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TLC Private School Prospectus 2016-17

Est: 2010

PEYIA

Where Every Child Matters



Mission Statement

Students at TLC are nurtured on a journey through which they will become confident, resilient, assured young people with the knowledge, skills and attitude necessary for them to be happy and successful in whatever they choose to do in future years.

Est: 2010

PEYIA



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1. History

TLC Private School is about to start its seventh year as one of the premier private schools on the island of Cyprus with an extraordinary history.

Its directors, Chris and Jill Watts originally came to the island to retire but, having been approached by expatriate families, they decided to open a small school offering what parents claimed, other schools were missing.



The school began with a set of core values, intrinsic to what it saw as being essential for the academic and social development of its students. Through their determination, the Directors were awarded licenses by the Ministry of Education and Culture, Cyprus to operate Kindergarten, Primary and Secondary Schools. A further license allows the school to extend its services to children, young people and adults beyond the school roll.

Seven years on, the school has gone from strength to strength with a student body of 180 young people from the ages of 3 to 18 and with a committed staff of over twenty full time equivalent experienced teachers who all have the future of the students at heart, in 2010, the school moved to larger premises at Agios Georgios and, after an extensive programme of improvements, is now able to offer a broad education with excellent facilities to students from the local and expatriate communities.

Despite the growth in the school, it has retained its caring, family feel whilst providing rigour and challenge within the curriculum, supported by the dedicated teachers. Underpinning this commitment is the continuation of small classes with most operating at or close to full at 16.

Recognising that school isn't just about academia, TLC Private School has sought over the years to provide its students with the means to develop life skills such as teamwork and cooperation, resilience and adaptability through sport, art and community work.

As the school welcomes back its students for the seventh year, it continues to look to the future and how it can further its mission to provide the best all-round education for its students, ably supported by the teachers, parents and the community.

The school's popularity and limited class size means that places are always at a premium and with many classes oversubscribed, parents need to be aware that securing their child's school place early is essential and we always have a list of future admissions.

2. Location

TLC Private School is located in a picturesque, quiet setting, and whilst schools situated in urban locations have the benefit of easy access, we believe that this is far outweighed by the educational advantages offered by TLC Private School's rural and coastal location.

Many of our children join us from busy city areas where life is very different. At TLC, students benefit from studying in an environment with fresh air and access to the natural facilities that are very close by.



We believe that our location close to the small fishing harbour of Agios Georgios is almost idyllic.

The school is away from crowds and traffic, yet close to many natural features and facilities that become readily available and accessible teaching and learning resources. Almost adjacent to the school we have wonderful mosaics within an on-going archaeological excavation project.

For the historically inquisitive student, Agios Georgios is a famous place of pilgrimage in the Paphos region. Three early Christian Basilicas and baths, all 6th century, were excavated in the early 1950s. Later excavations revealed an extensive unwallled settlement that occupied the neck and the south slope of the cape in the Roman and early Christian periods. The shoreline is natural and rugged, serving us well for field studies and cross country running.

The expansive nature reserve known as the Akamas, provides challenging terrain for our Duke of Edinburgh's International Award students before they embark upon the peaks of Troodos which pose a more demanding and character building terrain. Our school is recognised by the The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Foundation as an Award Centre and we have two qualified Supervisors and Assessors who lead the award at TLC.



Students are also able, with parental support, to gain membership of the No 1 Squadron ATC at Akrotiri – an aviation orientated youth organisation that promotes a practical interest in aviation and the Royal Air Force. There they aim to foster the spirit of adventure and develop qualities of leadership and good citizenship.



Just 5 minutes from school we have the first licensed zoo in Cyprus, a rich resource for learning to which our students enjoy concessional rates.



Whilst perfectly located for learning in the natural environment, we are still within five minutes of a full sized, floodlit, FIFA approved football pitch which offers an excellent off site facility for school sports and our weekend/afternoon soccer school.

George's Ranch is a horse riding stables that can be found a short distance from us and in the nearby Coral Bay there are many water sports, including dive schools and a 50metre swimming pool used by the UK Olympic Swimming Team. Within 10 minutes of school you can find two theatre schools plus a well-established youth theatre known as Stage One.



Our association with Young Stars Theatre and Performing Arts School helps us promote performance across our school. Two of our students have exposure on national TV for their dancing and singing skills and in 2016



the Cyprus representative in Junior Eurovision in Malta is one of our students.

This year, the natural environment on our doorstep has enabled us to offer sailing training courses in association with Paphos International Sailing Club, located just 500m from school. The 11 week course sees the students certificated in basic sailing techniques and water safety.



From the school it's possible to see the beautiful Yeronissos Island, an historic treasure house for Cyprus.

Most of the island's surface is covered in ruins which date back to a time when Egypt ruled Cyprus, specifically to the time of Queen Cleopatra. For twenty years archaeologists have explored the hidden treasures on this island.

Every year a team led by an American archaeologist continues to excavate on the island of Yeronissus, just metres from our immediate coastline and our students benefit from meeting this team of experts.

3. Philosophy



At TLC we have a very simple way to remember the core elements of our school ethos – just by experiencing the character of our school community on a day to day basis. In a school the ethos is unseen but it is often felt and to be so it must be strong! When you visit TLC for the first time we know that, like many others before you, you'll experience it!

Teaching: We believe that our students deserve the best teachers who will deliver effective lessons. We now invest in around 40 adults to teach and support our students. The team is strong but the Principal and Directors are not complacent and they strive always to bring out the best in their staff.

Learning: Many things impact on a child's ability to learn. Teachers, parents, classmates, resources and the environment all impact and at TLC we monitor attainment and progress to ensure every child's success.



Community: Our school is a community and exists within a community that is Cypriot with its strong emphasis on family. As such, and to embrace that culture we foster a strong sense of family and identity so that the inevitable ups and downs that go along with any large family, are celebrated and addressed as experiences through which all our students grow stronger emotionally. The happiness, safety and security of our students and staff is paramount and in order to achieve that we have another acronym that associates with five very important values that we feel are at the core of our school's very positive atmosphere beginning with the importance of belief in oneself.



Communication, Morality, Enquiry, Thoughtfulness and Respect. Some of these help the students to become good learners, others help them to become good people but all are important in the upholding of TLC's values.

We expect all parents to help us in developing and promoting these goals.

TLC Private School's ethos is ever present in the daily life of the school but that doesn't mean that we don't continue to develop aspects of the ethos each day.

Through Personal Development Goals, students are encouraged to develop and demonstrate **Resilience, Adaptability, Cooperation,**



4. Curriculum



Kindergarten: From 3 years of age until they are 5, TLC students follow the UK's Early Years and Foundation Stage Programme that is designed to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. During these very important preparatory years, the programme promotes teaching and learning to ensure children's 'school readiness' and gives children the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for their future progress through school and life. A child's early years

experience at TLC is designed to ensure that they move smoothly into our Year 1 programme at the start of their official school journey.



Assessment of a child's attainment in these areas is based on classroom observation by our highly qualified and experienced staff who record outcomes against the English Early Learning Goals.

It is important to mention that the transition from Reception into Year 1 is always smoother when a child has had the experience of our early years staff who are UK trained to have the skills and awareness to nurture the development of our youngest students. Year after year we see the outstanding impact of their work on a child's readiness for school.



The areas of Learning that are at the core of our **Kindergarten and Reception** experience are communication and language, physical development, personal development, personal social and emotional development, literacy and mathematics, understanding the world, expressive arts and design.



Primary School: From the start of the school year in which they will reach 6 years of age, children move into Year 1 of Primary School from where they follow the English National Curriculum, progressing through primary and secondary education, leading towards mainly English examinations at 16 and 18 years of age.



At TLC Private School, we believe that teaching should be fun and engaging for the students to be able to gain meaningful learning from it and our pupils certainly enjoy their experiences – often not wanting to go home at the end of the day we are told by parents! Using a variety of teaching styles to deliver the curriculum objectives whilst differentiating to cater for the different needs of our pupils, we

can ensure that whilst the day is fun, the pupils go home each day having made great progress.

One of the benefits for students attending TLC's Primary School is that our secondary subject specialists are able to work collaboratively with the primary teachers and oldest students to enrich learning, particularly for the gifted and talented members of our community. This early secondary-type experience also prepares them by exciting them about the opportunities they will have when they reach the secondary stage.

A student's secondary school experience begins when they enter into Year 7.

This is the start of the school year in which they reach 12 years of age.

At TLC we believe that students learn best in small classes so we set our maximum at 16 students, although numbers are often less.

All students are assigned a Form Tutor whose role is to ensure that their students are working hard, completing homework, wearing the appropriate school uniform and attending secondary school regularly.

Students enjoy separate breaks to the Primary School and their day ends at 2.40pm. Their teaching takes place in modern air-conditioned rooms, some of which are specialist accommodations such as our Art Studio, Music Room, Science Laboratory and Computer Laboratory.



During the first 3 years of study in our secondary school (Years 7-9), pupils receive a broad general education to allow them to make informed choices about the subjects for further study at the end of year 9, in preparation for the 2 year IGCSE courses which they will follow during years 10 & 11. See the section on qualifications for more information.



Whilst Physical Education is offered as a GCSE option, there is a compulsory component to ensure that all students maintain physical fitness. Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education is also a compulsory but not



examined subject delivered through the internationally acclaimed ASDAN scheme.

Our sixth form is the flagship of our school community.

This section of school comprises students who have gained success in their IGCSE/GCSE exams and students who have come to us from other schools to gain their A level qualifications before continuing their education journey at universities in Britain, Europe and around the world.

The students can access a range of subjects taught by highly qualified, motivated teachers whose experience is in helping students reach their highest potential.



Alongside A levels, students can also access further IGCSE/GCSE qualifications or broaden their education through participation in our Apolytirion course.

Year 11 students choose their AS and A level courses to be studied in Years 12 & 13. Subject choices are based on those where they have most interest and highest attainment: This ensures a strong commitment to subjects that will be important to their future education and career.

See the section on qualifications for a list of subjects that can be studied.

TLC welcomes new admissions to the 6th form, subject to previous educational attainment meeting our criteria. The process of application includes an interview with the student to ensure we are able to meet specific needs and choices.

TLC School Diploma (Apolytirion) is Awarded at the End of Year 13



The 6th form is a full time school experience. At the end of Year 13 all TLC school leavers are awarded their TLC School Diploma, accredited by the Ministry of Education as the Apolytirion. This document evidences their attainment in each component of their 6th form study, including attendance. The TLC School Diploma (Apolytirion), coming from a licensed school, will assist university applications in Greece, Cyprus and overseas. When offered alongside IGCSE/GCSE/BTEC and A Level results, the document

offers employers and educational institutions, a wider, comprehensive perspective of the student's commitment to study, and attainment. Attendance and commitment to the school community are also shown as key indicators of a student's personal and social development.

All of our students have access to their learning via our **on-line** Virtual Learning Environment which details the weekly learning objectives, gives students documentation on the topics, links to informative videos and allows many to have their work completed and assessed online. This is invaluable for revision purposes but also helps those who miss school for whatever reason during term time as the lessons are available anywhere a Wi-Fi signal can be found.

TLC+



Students at TLC who require more individual attention, are registered with our own support programmes which we call TLC+. This service is unique to TLC Private School and offers specialist support to those students with more pronounced learning needs as well as those who present as gifted and talented.

Realising the dearth of provision in the western part of the island, TLC Private School worked with two English psychologists to develop TLC+, an innovative approach to helping students to integrate into mainstream education. Now in its

third year, TLC+ has had many successes and continues to work across our schools to advocate for students at both ends of the ability spectrum.

Gifted and Talented Students: TLC+ supports gifted and talented students through the Student Advocate Programme, established to ensure that our commitment to our 'Every

Child Matters' agenda is evidenced in every student receiving the educational experience they need and deserve.

When we recognise that a child is very able we may refer them to our educational psychologist who will carry out an assessment. Eight of our current TLC+ students have achieved extremely high intelligence ratings and are members of Cyprus MENSA, the international high IQ society, and we expect to add to that total this academic year. All students under the supervision of TLC+ have individual education plans which are reviewed and adjusted on a 6-weekly cycle to ensure the impact on their education.

5. The Wider Curriculum

Academic studies are important but at TLC Private School, we believe firmly in a broad curriculum which includes many subjects and activities that help personal development as well as providing a break from more rigorous academic subjects.

Sport

TLC has a thriving sports department offering a range of sporting activities including:

Swimming	Football	Sailing	Table Tennis
Tennis	Volleyball	Netball	Athletics
Cricket	Golf	Gymnastics	Dance

The school plays an important part in the development of cricket on the island being linked to the Cyprus Cricket Federation and has its own thriving football academy. Links with the local sailing club provides opportunities for the older students to learn to sail in Laser Pico dinghies at nearby Agios Georgios harbour.





Tennis lessons are offered by a local professional tennis coach whilst links with Minthis Hills Golf Club offer our students the chance to become members of their Junior Golf Academy and develop their golfing skills. Parents may also become involved in golf and take up the option of joining our TLC Golf Society.

Further links with local musical theatre school 'Young Stars Theatre and Performing Arts School' enables our students to learn many different types of dance and to have the opportunity to perform in shows locally and abroad. As previously mentioned, one of our students appears on a Cypriot TV show whilst another has been selected to represent Cyprus at Junior Eurovision.

The school has its own swimming pool and students use it for six months of the year. The school hosts its own annual swimming gala there well attended by the parents. Springtime sees our annual Sports Day held at the Peyia Municipality Football Stadium and students compete in both track and field events there for the coveted House Cup.



Football is also very important at TLC Private School and we have our own football academy which is open to our students as well as young people from the local community. We regularly take part very successfully in games against local schools and those further afield.

Finally, this year will see the introduction of gymnastics with a British Amateur Gymnastics Association Level 2 coach, taking the students through their BAGA Awards.



Art



TLC Private School is fortunate to have a professional artist as its art teacher, skilled in a variety of media. Students have the opportunity to work on individual pieces as well



as being able to take part in community projects including the mural at Agios Georgios harbour and community artwork for the upcoming Pafos 2017 European City of Culture event.

Students' work has been entered successfully in local competitions including the Cyprus Russian Federation Children's Day event and the Tala Art Festival.

Music and Drama



TLC Private School has a thriving music department with strong representation in the Primary and Secondary School choirs who perform at major local events, earning plaudits for the passion they put into their performance. Further outlets for our students' talents are provided through our Christmas performances and our hugely popular TLC's Got Talent Summer Show which last year had

over eighty participants across the disciplines of song, instrumental and comedy. Music is ably supported by drama with LAMDA and Trinity Guildhall examinations available at school.

Enrichment Activities

Rounding off our curriculum is a series of enrichment activities which the students can enjoy at the end of the school day. Linked to academic work through the skills they develop, the students can participate in many activities including:

Art
Fun Science
Literature

Teamwork
Revision Clubs
Homework Club

Debating
Fun Maths
Gardening

Book Club
Computer Research
Archaeology

Saturday School

When the bell rings on a Friday afternoon, it doesn't mean that school's over for the week. Saturday morning sees more activities in school including vocal, keyboard and guitar lessons, art and craft clubs for younger and older students, drama club including drama awards, football academy and gymnastics club. Whilst not a compulsory part of school life, the activities are well attended and growing in popularity.



6. Induction



TLC is an inclusive school and under the banner of Every Child Matters, works hard to ensure that every student achieves success, whether it be by academic results, sporting, artistic or vocational success or simply by adding value to their education experience assisting them in achieving their own personal potential. It is for this reason that we carry out an entry evaluation to assess both current abilities and likely needs in respect of their English language

skills and other more general needs.

Older students are assigned mentors to help guide them through the important but often stressful exam years. The school year begins with a three day workshop on the focus, implementation and monitoring of the impact of the school's mentoring programme.

The workshops focus on study skills by identifying and recording the learning style of each student, directing them on how they might study and revise more effectively.

The third day concentrates on the motivation to learn and to succeed and is driven by the school's involvement with 'Thrive' which aims to ensure students are valued, involved and appreciated by challenging limiting beliefs that may impact on their learning. Each year, following the completion of the workshops, we see a significant change in the work ethic of the students and an acceptance that to succeed, they must work hard. The lessons learned from the workshops are reinforced each week in the school's PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, and Emotional) lessons which are driven by resources from the award winning ASDAN organisation. Lower down the school, ASDAN takes the form of learning to be a positive member of the school community, later on it asks students to consider their strengths and weaknesses, encouraging them to play to their strengths whilst working hard to overcome their weaknesses. As the students get older, the emphasis changes through being a positive member of the school community to being a positive member of the local, national and global community through project work.



7. Discipline

At TLC Private School, we are proud of our students and their behaviour. Promoted through the Personal Development Goals and developed through our policy of Mutual Respect, disciplinary issues are few and far between. High standards are achieved through expectations of students and few of them want to disappoint, meaning that all try their best in their studies and in their behaviour.

At Appendix A you will find a copy of our home/school agreement that we can 'Commitment to Success' which calls upon parents, student and school to work together to ensure that a child's time at our school helps them achieve at least their potential and perhaps exceed it!

House System: At TLC we further encourage our students to develop a sense of community through the House System. Every student is placed in a House and through the year they support their fellow house members through their efforts by achieving across a wide range of activities. Our aim is to recognise that every child matters, every child can succeed and every child is valued at TLC for what they bring to the school as well as what they achieve individually – it is an holistic approach to our determination to meet the needs of every child and young person.



8. Staff



A school is only as good as the teachers who work there and at TLC Private School we look for a combination of factors in the teachers we employ. Qualifications are of course essential but more important to us is the teacher's own philosophy of education. That's why you'll see happy smiling faces, not just amongst the students but also in the teachers. All of our staff sign up to the philosophy that the student comes first and that the teachers are responsible for each student's future. Teachers can often be found giving up their free time to help a struggling student or to find better ways to deliver the curriculum so the students have the best chance of success.

At TLC Private School, we want to retain excellent teachers and part of how that can be achieved is to offer continuing professional development to the teachers so they feel valued and can work to further improve their skillset. Whether it's in house training and development or courses from universities or other providers, the school is keen to help teachers to be the best they can, similar to its approach to educating the students.





9. Qualifications



TLC Private School is an approved examination centre. Students spend two years working towards IGCSE and GCSE courses prior to taking examinations. In Year 9, before they enter the first of those two years, they choose 5 course options from a wide range of subjects to add to the compulsory 3, making a curriculum of 8 subjects.

English Language, Mathematics and one science are compulsory and students have the opportunity to choose an additional five subjects suited to their academic preferences.

From September 2016 we are adding BTEC to our range of qualifications.

IGCSE/GCSE subjects include:

English Literature	Physics	Art	Geography
Maths	Biology	Economics	Business Studies
Psychology	Chemistry	Greek	History
	PE		



A Level Subjects:

Subjects **that** can be studied to AS and A level in our sixth form include:

English Literature	Physics	French
Maths	Biology	Greek
History	Psychology	Art
Law	Business Studies	Computer Science

Year 12 students study up to four AS Level subjects (fee illustration available) before deciding on their strongest three to take to A Level in Year 13.

Additionally, all our students who complete their sixth form with us are eligible for the Greek and Cypriot school leaving certificate called the Apolytirion. This is accredited by the Ministry of Education and Culture and in Greece and Cyprus is considered a very important document that evidences a student's attainment in each component of their 6th form study, including attendance.

We also offer the Ellinomatheia Greek language qualification.

A Level courses and the Apolytirion facilitate entry into tertiary education for those students wishing to study to degree level and beyond. A level classes are often as small as 4 students so each gets a great deal of attention. All students are also required to commit considerably to private study.



Results

When looking at the exam results of TLC Private School, parents are reminded that whilst our results are good and compare well with the UK schools, we are not a selective school and that for many of our students, even gaining a pass at IGCSE is a big ask. Whilst most achieve the grades which will see them progress to A Levels and beyond, for those that don't they can still take pride in their achievements in gaining better results than they expected.

To help all our students reach their potential, TLC Private School operates a comprehensive programme to encourage success.



From the beginning of the year students are mentored through the initial motivation and study skills workshops. Once formal lessons begin, six weekly assessment programmes monitor their performance through the curriculum. After school revision lessons begin as soon as school starts in September and are reinforced with a revision week in the Easter holidays which is always well attended. Mock exams are set and followed up with one to one interviews with the students who have the opportunity to discuss their performance in terms of strengths and weaknesses. Following this, a report is sent to parents followed by consultations on



how parents can be part of the 'triangle of success' which links student, teacher and parents together to work for success. The mentoring programme is another way in which we aim to keep students on track for success.

June sees our annual Speech day and Prizegiving Ceremony and it's a chance to celebrate all that is good in our school. Last year's event was a very emotional occasion with student speeches based on their own experiences with the Personal Development Goals.

10. Community



TLC Private School and its students are constantly aware of the part we must play in the local community and through performance, fund raising and help in the community, we work hard to be effective community members. With support for cancer relief charities, performance at the Royal British Legion's Remembrance Day event on Paphos Harbour and at community care homes and fundraising events we ensure that we give

back at least as much as the community affords to us.

11. Application Process

As an international school community we receive applications for school places from parents both in Cyprus and around the world. Many parents begin their search for a school well in advance of their intended move so we will accept applications well in advance of the school year of admission. This is often reassuring for parents and leaves them free to focus on all the other tasks associated with relocation.

Our process starts with an enquiry to our Registrar. This is usually made through our website (www.tlccyprus.com), by telephone (0035726910226) or via email (registrar@tlccyprus.com). Whichever application route is taken, our Registrar will communicate with you throughout the process, including the arrangement of the entry assessment, fees, school uniform, etc.

12. And Finally...

We believe we work hard to be the best school in the Paphos region. We are deliberately not the biggest but the scope of the education we provide to our students, the support they get from dedicated professionals working hard on their behalf and the opportunities afforded to them to make the best of their individual talents, convinces us that there's no better school to study at than TLC Private School!