

Talent Point in Focus: Athens College Elementary School

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1925

The Athens College
coat of arms

Although it is one of the most recent members of ETSN, the College of Athens is a school that, since its foundation in 1925, has been trying to cultivate the talents of its students by emphasizing balanced intellectual, physical, academic and emotional development each student.

Since its inception, the School has been trying to function, as it is stated in its Mission Statement, as a beacon of education, shaping responsible citizens of the world. To achieve this, it cultivates creative thinking and critical ability by adopting teaching methods based on the research process that help students deepen in cognitive subjects. It also provides students with all the tools to work seamlessly.

The Athens College Primary School has adopted and implemented the Teaching for Understanding program developed by Harvard University since the beginning of the 1990s and will be officially in the process of becoming a PYP school from the next school year. By adopting these teaching approaches, the Athens College Primary School enables its students to approach topics that have a global impact in a research way. Thus, on the



The swimming pool



Our library

one hand, they learn how to learn, on the other hand they acquire knowledge and sensitivity on issues related to the world.

The School has a very large library, with 36,000 volumes of books, which students of the School visit daily to find useful material for their work. In addition to the Library, librarians cultivate the students' love for the book and reading.

Very important are the IT Laboratories that were inaugurated in 2012. There are 2 large halls (with 27 PCs each), a room with interactive tables, a Web TV Studio, and a recording studio. Students have the opportunity to visit Computer Science Laboratories once a week for Computer Science lessons and other opportunities when their teachers organize their activities. Equally important are the two renovated Natural Sciences Labs. Here students have the opportunity to



experimentally approach various phenomena of the Natural Sciences and to deepen the scientific method.



The entrance to the school

Apart from the state curriculum, however, the Primary School has developed a broad extra-curricular framework that enables its students to cultivate their talents. Once a week, students participate in groups where they deal with objects they like and find the opportunity to learn beyond the narrow frames of the room. They are given the opportunity to participate in social solidarity and volunteer activities, to be active members of the Student Council and to develop initiatives on issues concerning their school community and more widely.

Through the balanced development of individual initiative and freedom with collective responsibility and co-operation, Athens City College enables its students to cultivate skills and talents that will be useful to them in their adult lives.