



**INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
OF PIRAEUS**



English Language - Phases Program Policy

Our Philosophy

One of the most important components of every language is Grammar structure, seeing as it is the basis of understanding and communicating. Bearing in mind that each student is unique in their methods of learning, and following the IB philosophy, our school aims to cater to each individual's needs.

We therefore implement the **Phases Programme**, where students develop their grammar skills and are grouped not according to their age but their language profile, skills and their assessment results from the previous year. **Twice a week**, there are two hours provided for focused Grammar attention. Each Phase group has specific goals and outcomes which are reassessed at the end of each school year. The material which is given is created by the teachers specifically for their group and there are Quizzes and activities throughout the year for the better assessment of the students.

The PYP Coordinator and the teachers of English Language department conduct regular meetings and they are responsible for the students' placement in Phases class.

All English teachers are experienced speakers, who use only English throughout their daily encounters with the children and encourage them to try to respond in English as much as possible.

Absences/lateness

Students attend Phases program every Monday and Thursday Period 1 (Phases 2-3-4-5) and Monday and Tuesdays periods 3 and 4 (Phases 1 and 6). Attendance is mandatory. If students are repeatedly late, parents are notified.

Procedures of changing phases

Students may change Phases class throughout the school year, either at the end or at some point during the year, according to their language development. This change is based on a combination of their teacher's assessment of the students' skills and individual needs (*Listening and Speaking, Writing, Reading, Viewing and Presenting*) as well as their assessment results.

Homework

Homework for Phases is assigned after each lesson either on "4schools" (Phases 1-2) and on Teams for (Phases 3-4-5-6). Homework might be assigned in their orange notebooks, in a leaflet format or even assigned on their iPad. Homework needs to be completed and brought to class. Parents will be notified if homework hasn't been done 3 times. Also, if a student is absent, homework needs to be completed.

Christmas and Easter Booklet homework **is mandatory for all**. They will **NOT be printed** and given to students in phases 5-6. They will be uploaded on Teams.

Literacy / Reading logs

Reading logs are one of our school's library actions to promote literacy. Students borrowed them twice a month (for Grades 1-3) and once a month (For Grades 4-6) and need to be returned on time in mint condition. In case of loss and damage, students are required to replace the book.

Theory Booklets

Grammar Theory booklets for each phase are uploaded on our school's digital platforms and are accessible to students and parents. For Phases 1-2 theory booklets are uploaded on the platform "4Schools" and Phases 3-4-5-6 booklets are uploaded on "Teams" in the general folder named "Grammar Theory Booklet."

Assessment

During the school year there will be several small quizzes specifically designed for each Phase.

Also, a mid-term and end of year quiz (December and May) will assess Grammar and Structure through various tasks. As for the rest of the Language Skills, teachers regularly monitor students during the school year. Their Quiz results and these assessments are taken into consideration for an overall evaluation of their progress. Presence for the quizzes is mandatory. If a student is absent for any reason other than a medical emergency, their assessment will have to be based solely on their class performance and quiz scores achieved throughout the year.

Quizzes/tests in Phases are the property of the school and **not** be returned to parents to be signed. After a quiz/test, teachers go over the quiz in class with all the students and their score is written in their orange notebooks. Students are not allowed to take any photos of their quiz using their I-Pads. During Parent-Teacher meetings, parents may request to see their child's quiz at that time.

In September all Grade 5 students sit for an English assessment quiz. No studying is required. This assessment is to give parents an understanding of their child's English level and it will be used for placement in extra-curricular lessons for KET/PET English certificates.

Differentiated teaching and learning strategies

Unless there is a formal evaluation for a child's learning goals from a public or a private institution, differentiated materials/homework will be provided after communicating with parents.