

KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMME

Starting school can be a worrying time for both parents and children. It is important to talk about the school from an early age and to make clear that it is something to be excited about.

However, the first days at school are still likely to be, if nothing else, very exhausting for your child and this can lead to emotional outbursts. It is important to maintain interest in what your child is doing at school. Teachers will shower you with paintings and other work. Parents should show great interest in these signs of independent activity and lavish praise at your child's efforts.

Once the child has settled down happily, our activities aim at developing the child, keeping in mind his/her development of language as well as physical development. This is done through play, which includes fun with numbers, letters, art and crafts, singing, story telling, self-expression, physical education and other organised activities.

JUNIOR SCHOOL CURRICULUM

Once the children move into Junior I (age 5), they experience their first year of formal teaching and a more structured approach to learning. At this level, the children are introduced to English and Maltese, where reading is given a lot of importance. Mathematical concepts are built upon, whilst Science and Religion in a broad sense are introduced.

Junior II work links closely with the first year's work and in Junior III the syllabus is expanded upon with more social studies.

The Junior IV, V, and VI are preparatory classes for the Senior School. Geography and History are introduced at this stage.

Apart from the academic subjects, the students also have Physical Education, Gymnastics, Ballet/Football, Music and Drama, Art and Crafts as well as Computer Awareness on their timetable.

Class teachers are responsible for the academic subjects, while specialised teachers are responsible for their area.

Outings and excursions in all grades are a monthly feature for the Junior School children. An annual concert is held, where all children play a part and Sports Day is also an annual event.

To help monitor and judge the pupil's progress, assessments are held on a regular basis. Mid-yearly and annual exams are also set. Serious study instills from an early age a love for learning and is itself a journey to discovery. The teachers promote organisation and problem-solving skills as well as inculcating a sense of duty and responsibility for the students.

A number of 'after school' activities take place, of which include football, cricket, crafts, gymnastics as well as dance and drama.

THE SENIOR SCHOOL CURRICULUM

The educational programme at St. Michael Senior School follows the core subjects requested by the National Minimum Curriculum for the Secondary level. The subjects offered in Senior I and II are English, Maltese, Mathematics, Religion, Integrated Science, Geography, History, Information Technology, Physical Education, Art, Drama and Dance and Personal and Social Development (PSD).

The students have a choice of two foreign languages, (French, Italian, German) as well as Ballet (for girls), Family Consumer Studies or Technical Design.

In Form III the foundations are laid for the SEC examinations in Form V. Here the students must once again choose their subjects, diverting into their main area of study, namely Arts, Sciences or Commerce. The subjects offered are the following:-

Religious Studies

Maltese (Language & Literature)

English Language

English Literature

Mathematics

Environmental Studies / Social Studies

Information Technology (ECDL course)

Personal and Social Development (P.S.D.)

Physical Education / Ballet

+Option

OPTION A

Geography

History

Social Studies

Archaeology

Arts

Education

International Relations

Social Welfare

Tourism Studies

OPTION B

Biology

Chemistry

Environmental Studies

Computer Studies

Dentistry

Education

Engineering

Health Care

Industrial Chemistry

Medicine

Nursing

Pharmacy

OPTION C

Accounting
Economics
Environmental Studies

Accounting
 Banking
 Computer Studies
 Education
 I.T.S. (Diploma Course)
 I.T.S. (Front Office)
 Management
 Secretarial

OPTION D

F.C.S. / GRAPH. COMM.
Italian
Environmental Studies

Beauty Therapy
 Hairdressing
 Interior Design
 International Relations
 Pre-school Education
 Technician Courses
 Tourism Studies

OPTION E

A choice of one subject from Column 1 and one from Column 2:-

COLUMN 1

BIOLOGY
ECONOMICS
HISTORY
GRAPHICAL COMM./FCS

COLUMN 2

ACCOUNTING
CHEMISTRY
GEOGRAPHY
ITALIAN

Any option that includes Art or Graphical Comm. is suitable for Architecture or Art & Design or Engineering or entry into MCAST.

Any option is suitable for Law or Education. (English Literature and French or Italian is preferred for Law).

A Further Option in the four areas is offered:

OPTION 2

Physics **or** Biology

OPTION 3

Art **or** Modern Dance/Drama **or** Computer Studies **or** Physical Education (for SEC)

Computer Studies comprises a vaster syllabus than Information Technology.

OPTION 4

French **or** German **or** Italian

Continuous assessment and formal examinations are set in assessing the student's progress. Half Yearly examinations are held in February and Annual Examinations in June. Promotion to a Senior Class will depend on results of these examinations and assessment marks.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The students are obliged to follow all the lessons stipulated by the syllabus. Exemption from Religious Education lessons may be granted only to those parents, who on behalf of their children, formally request to opt out, because they do not practice the Roman Catholic Religion.

All students are required by law to attend school. A note must accompany every absence from school from one of the parents. A Medical Doctor must certify absence for a duration of more than three days from school due to sickness. Permission for visits abroad must be sought beforehand from the Head of School.

STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR

Whether certain behaviour will be considered acceptable or not will often depend on the situation and the circumstances of the case, but certain types of behaviour will never be tolerated. These include disturbing the class, disrupting the lessons, disobeying the specific orders of the teacher, damaging school property or committing acts of vandalism, continually failing to obey the legitimate authority of the school.

Repeated failure, even after serious warnings may lead to suspension or expulsion from school.

UNIFORM

Full school uniform must be worn daily. All items of clothing must be marked clearly with the student's name. Earrings on boys are not allowed and only neat hairstyles will be accepted. Short skirts for the girls are not allowed.

PARENTS' DAY

Two 'Parents' Days' are held during the scholastic year, one in November and the other soon after the mid-year examinations. Meetings for parents are also held from time to time.

REGISTRATION

This is made by appointment so as to meet the parents and prospective students. A placing is given on a 'first come first served' basis. Brothers and sisters are given preference as long as they are registered three months from birth.

SUMMER SCHOOL

The programme is held three times weekly running from mid July to the end of August.

SCHOOL HOURS

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Kindergarten School | - 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 (noon)
An extra service is provided whereby children may be brought to school at 7.45 a.m. and remain till 1.15 p.m. at a minimal charge. |
| Junior School | - 8.00 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. |
| Senior School | - 8.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. |

School doors open at 7.45 a.m. and close at 8.00 a.m.

SCHOOL WEBSITES

The school website can be found at www.stmeduc.org. This site is constantly being updated and contains school information such as the Calendar of Events, book lists, as well as material related to some subjects at school. The site also contains a number of useful links for both students and parents related to education and guidance services.

COMENIUS PROJECT

Students and teachers from St. Michael Foundation joined the Comenius programme in September 2001, after an initial contact by a German teacher who wished that the two schools embarked on a project together. Other partners were sought namely Germany, Portugal, Poland and Italy.

The project is an e-magazine, where young people from the different countries share ideas and appreciate the different cultures that exist in Europe. Some topics covered included Christmas: Traditions and Today; School and the World of Work; Hobbies; Leisure and summer. Other topics included: Our Music; Getting to know Europe; The Importance of Water. Each topic is discussed under different sections: culture, politics/economics, sports and current events. The programme includes another section where students are free to write about any topic. The topics are chosen from an integral part of the school curriculum within Maltese, English, Social Studies, Environmental Studies, Art, Geography, History and IT.

Class visits made by foreign teachers give the students the opportunity to discuss and see matters from different points of view. The magazine may be accessed at <http://www.depomalita.org>.

SCHOOL FEES

School fees per term for the scholastic year 2008 – 2009 are as follows:-

Kindergarten	- €350.00
Junior	- €615.00
Senior I & II	- €900.00
Senior III & IV	- €910.00
Senior V	- €920.00
Registration Fee	- €35.00 (non-refundable)
Deposit	- €1,165 (refundable within 12 months upon replacement of child)

THIS IS NOT A LEGALLY BINDING DOCUMENT AND ANY PART IS
LIABLE TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.