



PARENT HANDBOOK: 2023-2024

<https://annunciationrochester.org/greek-school/>

At Annunciation Greek School, our mission is to provide a supportive, engaging, and fun environment in which our teachers can systematically introduce students to our Greek language, culture, history, and faith. We aim to create strong partnerships with our families, our parish, and our community, while developing our children's Modern Greek Language skills, and exposing them to opportunities for oral and written communication, as well as traditional celebrations.

Our Greek School has been a long-lasting Saturday program, where children come to learn the Greek Language and get exposed to our Greek history, heritage, and culture.

Our program serves to promote and preserve the Greek language and culture in our parish and the Rochester, NY area where Greek-speaking families exist.

The curriculum and courses focus on vocabulary, reading, writing, grammar, and speaking in Greek, and incorporate content from our Greek history, literature, and culture.

The objectives of our programs are:

- To offer learning opportunities that build our children's language skills
- To instill our Greek heritage and culture throughout the children's participation to Greek School
- To celebrate our culture and Orthodox faith, and
- Create life-long friendships

This is a kindergarten-7th grade program, usually a year behind your public education grade. At the end of 7th grade, students who are in 8th public school fulfill the age requirement (by New York State Education) may participate in the *Comprehensive Examination of Modern Greek*. Students submit the Regents certificate and scores to their school to receive credit in the study of a modern language other than English.

CLASS OFFERINGS:

We meet in-person at our church, in the downstairs classrooms each week on *Saturday from 9:30 am - 1 pm*. Parents are urged to bring their children to school and pick them up promptly. In the months of November-March, our day extends to 1:30 pm for singing in preparation of our Christmas Program and Greek Independence Day celebrations.

A break is given daily to the students from 11:00-11:20. We provide a snack for each child, but feel free to send in a snack if your child has allergies or wants something different than what we provide.

ATTENDANCE:

We understand that students have other obligations and activities on Saturday mornings that may conflict with the Greek School schedule. Student participation and attendance in every class is highly encouraged. If a student is absent, it is the family's responsibility to contact the teacher and receive the work. Teachers are not able to accommodate students with multiple absences - and excessive absences are likely to lead to a gap in their learning. Teachers will continue each week with the material prepared.

STUDENT BEHAVIORS & EXPECTATIONS:

Students should come prepared and bring their books, workbooks, notebooks, writing utensils and any other material the teacher specifies. Students are expected to be of good behavior, use appropriate language, and be respectful and courteous to their teachers and classmates.

STUDENT SAFETY:

The doors are always locked. Please ring the bell, state your name, and you will be let in. It is important for Greek School staff to know who is in the building during school hours. If there is a need to leave class at an earlier time, parents must take the student from class. Students will NOT be allowed to leave class with the excuse that a parent is waiting for them outside. NO student is allowed to leave the school grounds AT ANY TIME unless picked up by a parent/guardian.

At Registration, parents need to designate an emergency person and a pickup person in the event a student needs to be picked up by another adult. We need this person to be on file in order for the Greek School to release a student.

Please update your contact information as soon as a change occurs. It is of paramount importance to us to be able to contact you (or the designated emergency person) easily during Greek School hours in case of emergency. Please share all necessary information with us.

It is the parents' responsibility to pick up their children at dismissal without delay. The teachers leave shortly after that time, and it is not fair to make them wait with their students, nor is it safe for the children to be left alone in the parking lot. Neither the school, nor the church are responsible for their safety after dismissal.

MEDICATIONS/SICKNESS

Please inform the school of any medical conditions or allergies that would require us to take special precautions for the student. Your information always remains confidential.

Please keep your child(ren) at home if they feel sick or they have a fever greater than 100.4. Students should be fever free without the use of fever reducing medications.

Please do not send prescription or over-the-counter medication to school with your child; do not ask a teacher to administer the medication to your child(ren). Teachers are not allowed to administer any kind of medication to students.

For any questions about the parent handbook or the Greek School program, please reach out to our program directors at agreekschool@gmail.com