



**ΚΥΠΡΙΑΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΜΟΥ**

30 Μαΐου 2017

Inauguration of the Cyprus CLIL Coordinating Centre

The Minister of Education and Culture, Mr Costas Kadis, inaugurated yesterday the Cyprus CLIL Coordinating Centre which will be based on the premises of the Agios Spyridonas Primary School in Strovolos. The Centre will coordinate and support the implementation of CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) in primary and preprimary schools. CLIL refers to dual focused teaching where the teaching of school subjects is integrated with the teaching of a foreign language.

The Minister of Education and Culture, stated that through CLIL the foreign language is not taught as a separate subject but becomes part of school life and is combined with various thematic units and school subjects, which are part of the curriculum. He then explained that the CLIL Coordinating Centre will be responsible for the promotion of the approach and will engage in related activities involving parents and teachers while also establishing opportunities for collaboration with academic institutions in Cyprus and abroad.

Children from the Public and Community Preprimary School of Deftera, the Public Preprimary of Agios Spyridonas and the Primary Schools of Agios Spyridonas and Pernera presented experiences they gained by learning through CLIL. The Centre will be guided by an Advisory Board which consists of representatives of parents' associations, academic institutions, Ministry of Education officials, intellectuals and CLIL experts.

In Cyprus, CLIL was first implemented within the framework of a pilot programme, and until now around 7000 children have had the opportunity to experience the benefits of this teaching approach. In Cyprus Primary schools, CLIL is implemented in Physical Education, Health Education, Science, Art, Music and Design and Technology. In Pre-primary education CLIL is the selected approach for the introduction of the foreign language as it allows for the integration of the foreign language smoothly into the children's lives and for it to be approached in a natural and child-friendly way.

The approach is successfully implemented in the majority of European countries who have already established various measures to support its implementation. The European Commission has included CLIL within the framework of modern approaches and methods to be adopted by Europe in order to achieve the targets of its growth strategy. Moreover, it is believed that CLIL can bring about significant learning outcomes and promote the key competences which education aims towards.



