



**ST. CATHERINE'S  
BRITISH SCHOOL**

*Athens, Greece*

ST. CATHERINE'S BRITISH SCHOOL

**Lower School Teaching Assistant**

**Candidate Brief**



# Welcome from the Headteacher, Jon Perriss

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for taking the time to consider this position. St. Catherine's British School is, by reputation, *the* school in Athens, and indeed, in Greece. We are one of only two HMC schools in Greece and are an executive member of COBIS.

We are a large school with top quality facilities, bright and aspirational students, talented staff, and fantastic parents and alumni. We are also a community that is warm, welcoming and engaging, with our values of Care, Dedication, Curiosity and Integrity embedded throughout. We offer an excellent package to staff, from generous fee remission for staff children, to assistance programmes, private medical insurance and well supported CPD. Greece is also a beautiful and wonderful place to live!

As a Lower School Teaching Assistant at St. Catherine's British School, you will play a vital role in supporting the English language development of students across the Lower School.

I have started at the school this academic year and am excited by the opportunity to take St. Catherine's forward over the next few years; I would love for you to join me on this journey.





# About St. Catherine's British School

## About Us

St. Catherine's British School has approximately 1,400 students aged 3 to 18, situated in Lykovrissi, near the vibrant area of Kifissia and just a short ride from the historic centre of Athens.

The School has a workforce of around 350 Teaching and Support Staff. As one of the few British Schools Overseas (BSO) accredited schools in Greece, we uphold the highest international standards whilst also maintaining our British Heritage.

We are proud to be an IBO World School, teaching the EYFS curriculum, IGCSEs, and the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme.

## Our Values

Care | Dedication | Integrity | Curiosity

We champion them every day and they are embedded throughout our community.

## Our Purpose

Working in partnership with families, we empower young people to understand, care, and create a better future, delivering a high-quality British education that equips students for global success.

The school is an ambitious, high-quality environment, as well as being a warm and inclusive community. Our modern facilities, including an impressive new Upper School campus, offer inspiring spaces that enhance the learning experience.

Our public exam results are outstanding, and we also place great importance on student and staff wellbeing, outdoor experiences (the Duke of Edinburgh International Award), sports, music and the performing arts.

The parents are supportive and engaged and we are fortunate to have an impressive board of governors to support and guide us.





## IB & GCSE RESULTS

St Catherine's flourishing IB Diploma programme each year sends **over 90** graduates to many of the world's leading institutions.

In May 2024, **97%** of the cohort passed the Diploma with an **average grade of 36 points**, with 26% of the students securing 40 points or more. They secured places at Cambridge, Oxford, Yale, Columbia, Imperial, King's, UCL, Brown, Edinburgh, Tufts, McGill, Trinity College Dublin and Bocconi universities, amongst others. Half of the graduates will study in the UK, a quarter in North America and the remainder entering institutions across the European Union.

In 2024, the **average GCSE grade was 6.78** (just below and **A** grade in 'old money') with streamlined academic programmes throughout the school supported by innovative technology.





# OUTDOOR EDUCATION

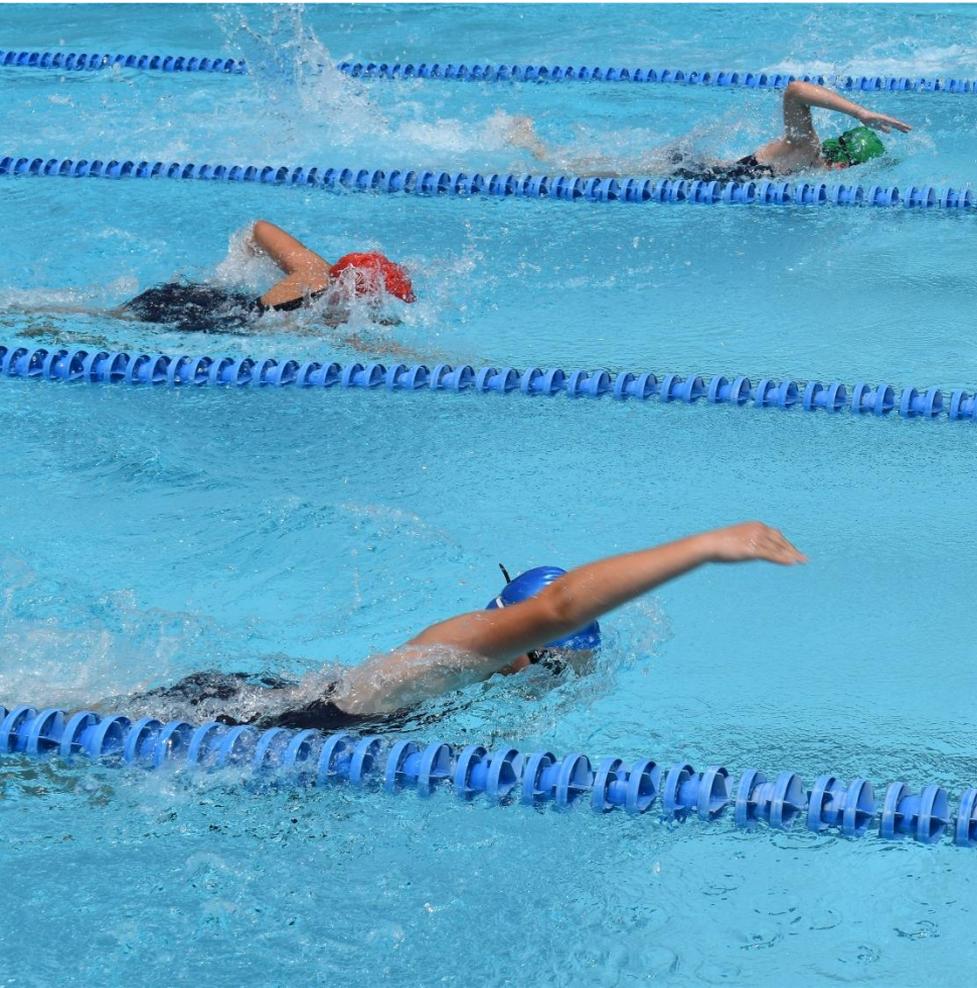
Outdoor education complements traditional academic learning by offering hands-on experiences that make learning more engaging and relevant. It involves activities that help students develop personal and social skills, environmental awareness, and a sense of adventure through outdoor experiences like hiking, camping, and team-building exercises. The goal is to engage students in real-world learning by fostering a connection with nature, enhancing physical activity, and encouraging problem-solving and critical thinking outside the classroom.

## **The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award**

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, which has been running worldwide since 1956, is a prestigious and highly-prized, internationally-renowned programme which enables participants' development through a series of self-directed Skill, Physical Recreation and Voluntary Service activities and an overnight expedition.

Participants are required to engage in activities in each of these areas, pushing their limits and broadening their horizons. By completing these challenges, young people not only enhance their personal development but also gain a sense of achievement and self-confidence that lasts a lifetime.

Our students enjoy taking part and it's always exciting to see their personal development as they progress through the Bronze, Silver and Gold levels of the Award.



# SPORTS

St. Catherine's British School is well-known for its robust sports program, emphasizing both participation and excellence in various athletic disciplines.

The school participates actively in a wide array of international competitions, including prestigious events like the World School games (held each year in Dubai) and the Council of British International Schools (COBIS) games. The latter tournament gathers students from British schools across the globe, offering them the chance to compete in sports such as athletics, swimming, and football at renowned venues like the Olympic Stadium and Aquatic Centre in Athens. St. Catherine's often sends teams to these games, promoting sportsmanship and teamwork among its students.

The school's sports curriculum also includes regular interschool matches and participation in local Greek competitions. These events cover multiple sports categories such as tennis, basketball, football, and volleyball, giving students numerous opportunities to compete at both junior and senior levels.

With excellent facilities and a commitment to holistic development, St. Catherine's fosters a strong culture of physical education, preparing students not only for local events but also for international sports tournaments.



# MUSIC

St Catherine's British School boasts a vibrant and dynamic Music Department that provides students with a wide range of opportunities to develop their musical talents.

The school offers instrumental lessons in nearly any instrument of choice, and students can take part in graded music examinations. There is also the option to take part in speech and drama exams through the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA), adding a unique element of performance to their musical education.

Music is integrated into both the curriculum and extracurricular activities, giving students opportunities to perform in ensembles, orchestras, and school productions. Regular concerts, performances, and musical events take place, showcasing the students' talents in front of the school community.

The School emphasizes not only musical excellence but also personal growth through the arts, aligning with the school's broader mission to cultivate well-rounded global citizens. These offerings make St Catherine's a nurturing environment for students to explore and enhance their musical skills while enjoying a holistic educational experience.





# DRAMA

St. Catherine's Upper School Theatre Department boasts **2 state-of-the-art Black boxes**, designed with all the necessary Theatrical equipment to be able to run successful weekly KS3 Drama lessons, GCSE Drama classes and IB Theatre as well. With regular use of our **trailblazing school's theatre**, the Theatre Department also caters for the high numbers of students who love performing and working backstage. With **Drama Clubs** running most lunchtimes, we produce **two productions every year**, one KS3 play and one KS4/IB play.

Our plays vary in content and style, our recent productions include Shakespeare's "A Midsummer's Night Dream", "The Addams Family", Priestley's "An Inspector Calls" and many more. Our performances do not stop there, IB and GCSE students also regularly showcase their work in the Black Boxes, which are perfectly suitable for more intimate and modern performances.

St. Catherine's British School in Athens offers students the opportunity to participate in **LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art)** exams, a prestigious qualification in the arts, which enhances their confidence in performance, public speaking, and drama. These exams help develop communication and acting skills in students from a young age, encouraging both creativity and poise.

Throughout the school year, St. Catherine's students take part in numerous performances, including plays, musicals, and recitals, showcasing their talents. These events not only enrich the students' school experience but also allow them to connect with wider audiences, including parents and the local community. By nurturing their dramatic and musical abilities, the school fosters a strong appreciation for the arts, contributing to the students' holistic development.





# Working at St. Catherines

*“Having worked as a KS2 classroom teacher at St Catherine's since 2004, I very much feel part of the community here and I believe that our school has something special. As a British citizen with a Greek family, I connect with the school's rich multicultural identity and friendly vibe, and I can't envisage working anywhere else. The weather, landscape, food and rich cultural heritage are many of the reasons which led me to Athens, but the people are the reason I'm staying.. ”*

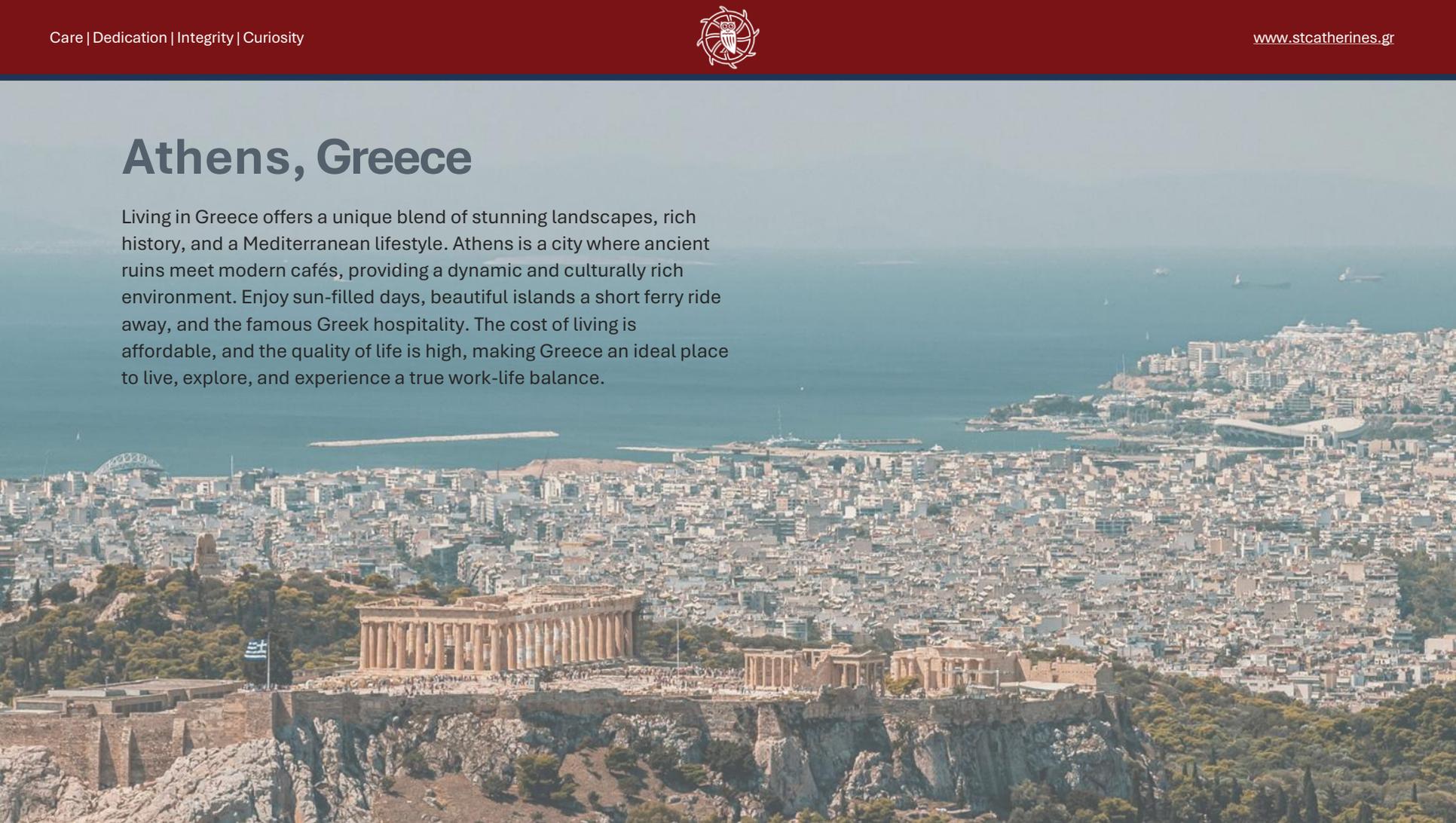
**Katherine, Class Teacher, Lower School**

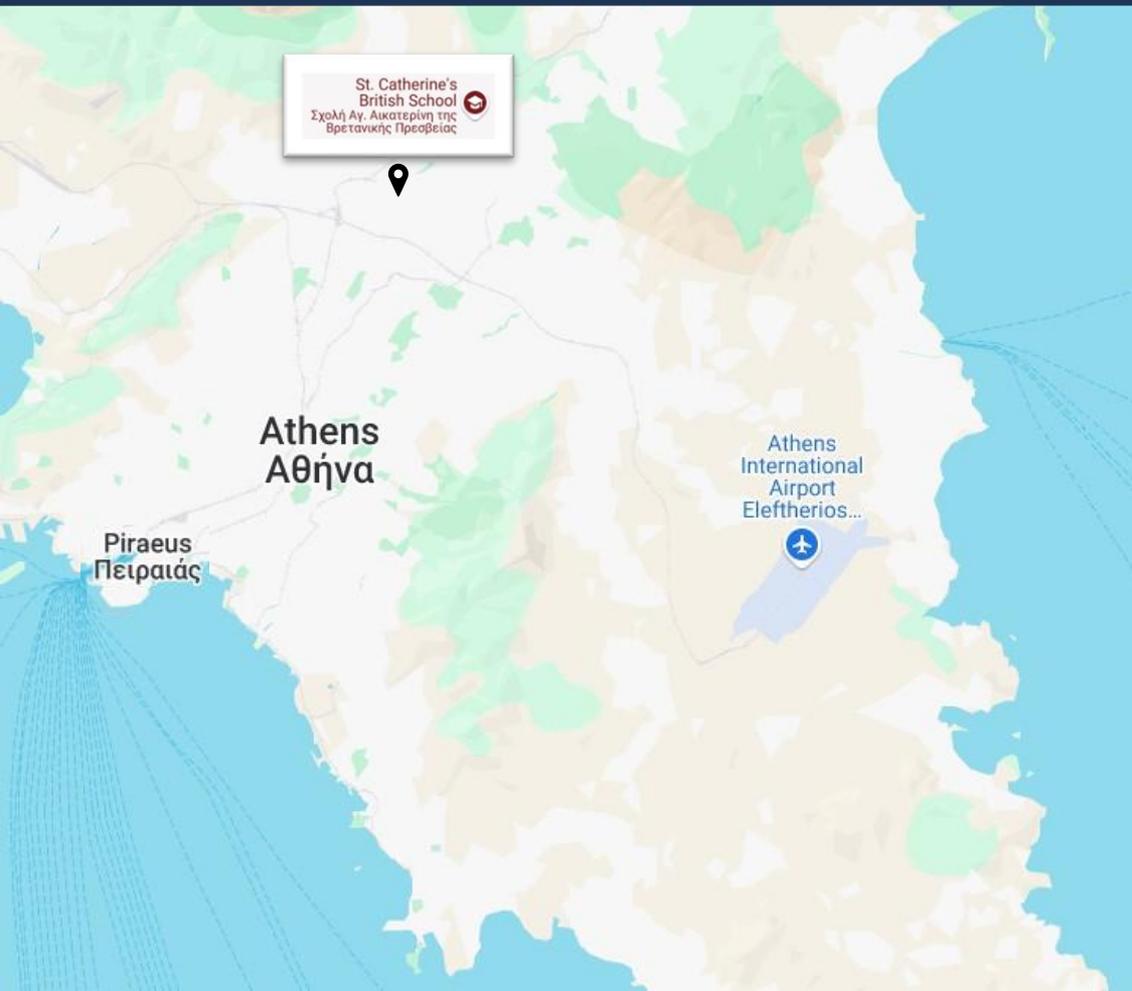




# Athens, Greece

Living in Greece offers a unique blend of stunning landscapes, rich history, and a Mediterranean lifestyle. Athens is a city where ancient ruins meet modern cafés, providing a dynamic and culturally rich environment. Enjoy sun-filled days, beautiful islands a short ferry ride away, and the famous Greek hospitality. The cost of living is affordable, and the quality of life is high, making Greece an ideal place to live, explore, and experience a true work-life balance.





## Getting to St. Catherine's British School

- **By car** – the school offers free parking
  - a) 35mins from the Airport
  - b) 40mins from the Centre of Athens (Acropolis)
  - c) 40mins from Piraeus
- **By train** – walking distance from Kifissia and Marousi stations
  - a) 60mins from the Airport
  - b) 55mins from Centre of Athens (Acropolis)
  - c) 55mins from Piraeus

St. Catherine's British School places us at the heart of a quiet residential area, while still being close to the bustling centre of Kifissia. There are a lot of green spaces around, shopping centres and food markets.

The centre of Athens is just a quick ride away, either by car or train. Public transport is very widely used, with a small monthly fee.



# Job overview

We are looking for a dedicated Teaching Assistant to support the Lower School's Learning Support department. The person appointed will possess excellent interpersonal, communication and organisational skills. The successful candidate will be proficient in written and spoken English while being eligible to work in Greece. A high school diploma is necessary for this role.

Teaching Assistants work alongside the Class teachers, supporting and assisting with the general care and well-being of the class. They liaise with the other Teaching Assistants in the school. The role of the Teaching Assistant requires flexibility, enthusiasm, and energy.

We are looking for a passionate individual with a strong commitment to supporting and inspiring students in their learning journey. This role also provides the opportunity to collaborate with academic departments to integrate learning support into the broader curriculum, enriching the overall student learning experience.





Head of Lower  
School

Deputy Head of  
Lower School

Head of Learning  
Support

Teaching  
Assistants



# Job description

- Supporting the creation of a positive and nurturing learning environment that recognises and responds to the needs of each individual child.
- Assist in the educational and social development of pupils under the direction and guidance of the Head of Lower School, Head of Learning Support, and Class Teachers.
- Working with small groups of children on teacher-directed activities.
- To be familiar with the school curriculum and the age-related expectations of pupils.
- To understand the aims, content, teaching strategies and outcomes for lessons.
- To adopt a range of strategies, in line with the schools' policy and procedures, to establish a purposeful learning environment and to promote good behaviour.
- To have high expectations of all pupils; respect their social, cultural, linguistic, religious and ethnic backgrounds, and be committed to raising their educational achievement.
- Working within a framework set by the teacher, to plan your role in lessons including how to provide feedback to pupils and colleagues on pupils' learning and behaviour.
- To support teachers in evaluating pupils' progress through a range of assessment activities.
- To monitor pupils' responses to learning tasks and modify your approach accordingly.
- Building positive relationships with the children, parents and staff and following the school of code of conduct.
- Provide support for individual students inside and outside the classroom to enable them to fully participate in activities.
- Support students with emotional or behavioural issues and help develop their social skills.

While the above includes a description of the essential functions of the position, other duties may be assigned by the Deputy Head of Lower School or Head of Learning Support as appropriate.



# Qualifications & Experience

## ***Essential:***

- Bachelor's degree in English, Education, or a related field.
- Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) or equivalent certification.
- Experience working with students from diverse cultural backgrounds and varying levels of language proficiency.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to collaborate effectively with students, staff, and parents.
- Strong organisational and time management skills, with the ability to manage multiple priorities.
- Commitment to creating an inclusive and supportive learning environment that fosters student confidence and academic growth.

## ***Desirable:***

- Experience working in an international or bilingual school setting.
- Knowledge of additional languages (i.e., Greek) and cultural competencies.
- Experience with professional development initiatives related to Learning Support.
- Proficiency in using technology and digital tools to support language learning.
- Ability to contribute to the development of school-wide language policies and strategies.



# St. Cat's Life & Benefits



**Fee Remission**  
*(for two children)*



**Discounted Lunches**



**Employee Assistance Programme (EAP)**



**Free Parking**



**Private Healthcare for your family**



**Private Pension**



**Professional Development**



**Relocation Support**  
*(if applicable)*



**Sports Facilities**



**Prepaid Card for Groceries**



**Visa Support**  
*(if applicable)*



**Work-Life Balance**



© Whole staff photo Sept 2024



## Application

Candidates will be invited to attend a formal interview and have a tour of the school. We reserve the right to call the candidates before the submission deadline. We therefore actively encourage early applications.

## Closing date

Midday  
7<sup>th</sup> April 2025

## Application Form

[Click here to download the application form](#)

*St. Catherine's British School is committed to the welfare and safeguarding of children. The successful applicant will be required to apply for an International Child Protection Certificate if they are a non-local hire. Local hires are required to complete a Greek criminal record check.*