**To:**

**Private English Schools**

**Subject: Creativity, Innovation and Business Idea Programme “IDEODROMIO” for Gymnasiums, Lyceums, Technical Schools and Private Schools of Vocational Education and Training, for the school year 2022 - 2023**

We are pleased to announce the launch of the **"IDEODROMIO",** Programme for Gymnasiums, Lyceums and Technical Schools of Vocational Education and Training for the academic school year 2022-23. The Programme is offered through the collaboration of the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute with the Directorates of Secondary General Education and Secondary Technical and Vocational Education and Training, the Centre for Entrepreneurial Development, Alliance and Research (CEDAR) with the support of UCLan Cyprus, and the following companies KPMG Cyprus, Gravity, and the Synthesis Research and Training Center.

The "IDEODROMIO" Programme aims to inspire and promote creative and innovative thinking, and to approach the concept of business culture, by exploring the challenges of the modern world (e.g. climate change), but also the local community (e.g. the needs of the whole before and after the pandemic). The Programme provides secondary school teachers with the opportunity to be trained in Environmental and Social Entrepreneurship, as a horizontal approach to the Curriculum, as well as the opportunity to support through its implementation in a course, but also the opportunity to mentor their participating student groups.

Teachers who wish to participate in the IDEODROMIO Programme, must submit a statement of participation in the online registration environment of the Pedagogical Institute (<https://www.pi-eggrafes.ac.cy>), in the category "IDEODROMIO". The application period is from the **21st of November to the 12th of December 2022**. Participating teachers will be informed on **Tuesday** **13th of December 2022** via email to the school and to their own personal email addresses.

Relevant information for participation in the Programme, the goal setting, the meetings and the obligations, can be found in the annex attached.

Teachers and Schools can contact the Programme Coordinator, Mrs Kalypso Apergi, via e-mail: apergi.k@cyearn.pi.ac.cy or at 22402475 should they need any clarifications or further information.

Please share this announcement to your school teachers.

**Annex**

**PRIVATE ENGLISH SCHOOLS**

**The Creativity, Innovation and Business Idea Programme "IDEODROMIO" aims to:**

* develop one’s 21st-century life skills and lifelong learning skills that make up Entrepreneurship (communication skills such as negotiation and persuasion, managerial skills such as problem-solving, organization, critical thinking and opportunity seeking; analytical skills, such as data presentation),
* strengthen one’s characteristics, attitudes and qualities related to student business, such as mobilization, dynamism, imagination, self-confidence and perseverance, socialization, the attitude of man towards the needs of individuals and his ethics of action, means from the evaluation and impact of the operations,
* promotion and strengthening of innovative thinking,
* awareness of the Project Base Learning-PBL teaching method,
* provide experiential learning focused on both Innovation and Social, Green and Ecological Entrepreneurship.

**Registrations**

* + Each School can have up to two (2) assistants/teachers per business group.
	+ The statements of participation are submitted by the teachers themselves and after obtaining permission to participate in the "IDEODROMIO" Programme, from the Management of their school.
	+ The Directorates of the schools are responsible for informing the Directorates of the Ministry of Education, Sport & Youth and CEDAR, for any change regarding the representation of the schools.

**Training Meetings**

The Training Meetings will be conducted online. Attendance at the Training Meetings and participation is mandatory by at least one (1) supporting teacher of each student entrepreneurship group of their school.

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| **Dates of Training Meetings** | **Training Meetings** | **Time** |
| 14/12/2022 | First Meeting  | 09:20 – 10:50\* |
| 15 /03/2023 | Second Meeting  |

The link to the online meetings will be sent to all the participants on the day of the meeting.

Teachers are required to act as supporters of their student groups for the identification and development of an entrepreneurial idea. The involvement of any department within the school is recommended as long as the teachers consider that they could incorporate the entrepreneurial process in their thematic teaching areas.

**Mentoring and support**

Support via mentoring at a school base will be provided to teachers or the created student groups with the purpose to guide them in matters or difficulties they may have during the process of identifying and developing their entrepreneurial idea or prototype.

**Creativity, Innovation and Business Idea Competition**

The Creativity, Innovation and Business Idea Competition “IDEODROMIO” and the Awards Ceremony will take place on **April 27, 2023**. The competition and the ceremony will be held at the campus of UCLan Cyprus in Pyla, Larnaca.

Terms of participation:

* + Each High School can have up to two (2) assistants / teachers, per student group.
	+ Each group is invited to submit a one-page proposal (size A4, arial 11) of its business idea, with the support of their teachers.
	+ The teams have the opportunity to build a prototype / model in order to showcase the feasibility of their business idea. It is emphasized that it will not be evaluated as a construction and is not intended for mass production and sale.
	+ The teams will be invited to present their business ideas, in an exhibition, on 27th April 2023, during the IDEODROMIO competition.
	+ The final phase of the competition will be held on the same day and the selected teams will be invited for a short presentation to a wide range of students, academics and businesses (live or online).

The two best business ideas will be awarded as follows:

1. Innovative Business Idea Award

2. Social and Green Entrepreneurship Award

The winning teams will receive prizes, the schools and teachers participating in the Programme will receive certificates of participation and all students will receive certificates of honourable mention for their participation in the competition. All participants will receive gifts.

**The “Gold Winning Team” will have the opportunity to attend an educational field trip abroad with their teachers.**

More information regarding the content of the trainings, competition, prizes and sponsors of the awards will be given at the First Training Meeting.