

## How to assist my child to find the profession he is dreaming?

The orientation after Gymnasium consists of the most crucial decision for the educational career and the professional choices of a student at the last year of middle school (C' Gymnasium). While his<sup>1</sup> personality is being shaped, the student is asked to decide whether or not to continue his studies in the formal education system. If his decision is positive, then he needs to take into account various factors that will lead him to plan his career.

The student is at an age where the biological, emotional and social curves are evolving, at an important point in his transition from the world of the child to the world of the adult. At the same time, the student needs to prepare for his transition from Gymnasium to a wider space, which will determine his personal, educational and professional preferences and choices.

This decision comes mainly through the exploration of personality traits, interests, values, abilities and social environment. In addition, by exploring the characteristics of professions and career opportunities, the required education and skills, the career prospects, and the professional registration, the student is in a better position to design the career that suits him. The better a student does this research so accurately, by gathering information about different professions, he will be able to match elements of his personality with specific professions.

## The role of parents is important

The social environment is also an important factor in making a decision about orientation after Gymnasium. In particular, the student is influenced by peers and parents or relatives. Studies have shown that the greatest importance from the social environment is given to parents, who have an important role to play in the educational and professional choices of their children, especially in the teenage years of a child. It is at this point that some parents "take advantage" of the state of this transitional process that the student is going through, deciding for their children usually a profession that comes from their own unfulfilled dream.

After exploring the above factors, the next step is to plan the student's career at High School. Specifically, explore the most appropriate possible correspondence of professions that suit to the type of educational institution. Initially, he will be informed about what the Lyceum will offer to him and what the Secondary



Technical and Vocational Education (STVE) will offer on the other hand, in order to get as close as possible to the profession that interests him. Both education institutions offer equal qualifications, offering the same opportunities for higher education – if and when they make the right choices in first class of High School – and for immediate job research. What differs from the two options is the cultivation of different types of skills, which is unprecedented in their timetable and curriculum.

In conclusion, the early exploration of the factors that influence the orientation after Gymnasium is the beginning for planning the student's career. In a world where technology and the global economy are evolving rapidly, the educational and professional guidance of young people is as important as ever, in taking crucial decisions. The purpose of the Counselor is the professional and educational guidance, helping students learn how to take action to achieve a more satisfying career and personal life without imposing them what to follow. The decision only comes from the student!

<sup>1</sup> in all cases where male is mentioned, the female is also meant.

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