

## NICOLAS COPERNICUS GROUP OF SCHOOLS OF ECONOMICS NO 1 IN KRAKÓW

The Group of Schools of Economics No 1 in Kraków has provided secondary education since 1882. The school has operated under multiple names but since 1970 it operates under the Group of Schools of Economics No 1 name. It is a four-year technical school with over 800 students and over 60 teachers and staff. The school offers three specialties: economics, hospitality and tourism for students aged 16-20 and adults. The adults may get qualifications at professional courses in Economics, Hospitality and Public Economy and Administration.

The school is ideally located in the city centre. It is just a 5-minute walk from the Market Square. The school has been in the current site at Kapucyńska Street since 1906. It is located in the historical building which is on the list of Kraków's monuments and has been renovated with the funds of Social Committee for the Restoration of Monuments. The building is divided into two parts: the older, historical one and the newer extension built in 2000. There are 40 classrooms, 4 computer laboratories and 2 gymnasia. There is also a fitness room, library with a multimedia reading room and canteen. The entire school is fully accessible for persons with special needs, offering a lift linking all floors.

Students at our school have an opportunity to study general subjects such as Science, Geography and History as well as vocational subjects e.g. Law, Hospitality, Customer Service, Economics, Accountancy, and Finance. All of the students study English and one of the following languages: German, French or Russian. Moreover, the students can take part in various contests in general and vocational subjects in which they win first prizes both at regional and central level. Furthermore, the students can obtain school certificates in business skills and in languages. The school offers a wide range of additional classes during which the students can develop their interests and gain knowledge. Those willing to may join the school drama club, volunteering and newspaper.

All the students have their apprenticeships while in year 2 and 3. They gain practical knowledge in banks, hotels, travel agencies and other financial institutions. Moreover, since 2010 the school has participated in Leonardo da Vinci Programme under which over 80 students have already had their practical training in hotels in Malta and Cyprus.

The school boasts a good opinion and it is top-rated among schools of economics and hospitality in Kraków. The graduates of the school set up their own businesses, go to university or work for well-established companies. They have earned a reputation as well-trained and valuable workers.



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