

ERASMUS+ POLICY STATEMENT FROM EPS

Our aim is to transfer to our exchange students the knowledge and the experience that our institution has acquired since its creation: more than one hundred years ago. Escola Pia Sarriá-Calassanç offers education to students of all ages: from pre-school education to post-secondary education; that means a total of 2100 students learning in our classes.

In Escola Pia Sarriá-Calassanç, we offer Sport Vocational Education and Training Studies (VET). Our institution decided to bet on this kind of studies not only for the working chances that this kind of specialisation offers but also the influence that sport can develop in social change and integration. We have observed this last aim achieved on the collaborations that our institution makes with non-profit sports enterprises and organizations.

Our school is one of the 21 schools that form the Catholic educational order called Escola Pia de Catalunya, which also holds educational institutions in Cuba, California, Senegal and Paris. Escola Pia is officially declared a Christian School but we welcome students from all creeds.

The International Programmes Department of our school has a large experience organizing exchanges with France, Germany, Scotland, Denmark, Italy, Netherlands, Poland and the USA. We love welcoming students from all over the world and we get visitors from the UK, Sweden and Canada every year. We also have Comenius European partners in Finland, France, Hungary Italy, Netherlands, Poland, UK and the Czeck Republic.

During more than 10 years, all these international exchanges have given the chance to create multilingual backgrounds in order to achieve our aim of multilingual school in pre-school education, elementary, secondary and high school education. This is the reason why we think that Erasmus + is a great chance to extend this project of multilingual background in VET Education.

Our intention is to start in this programme with the VET traineeship, open to both apprentices and students in vocational training schools. These learners will undertake a vocational training placement in another country. They can be hosted either at a workplace or at a VET school. Over the years we would like to participate, as well, in the Staff Mobility Programme, allowing staff of VET schools to teach at a partner VET school abroad.

Our participation in Erasmus+ Programme will allow us to improve and modernise our institution, according to the five aims of the “Modernisation Agenda”. According to this agenda we have arranged the following aims.

One of our main aims is to strength quality though mobility and cross-border co-operation. We want to overthrow unnecessary barriers, showing to our pupils the importance to be communicative in different languages, just because one of our main intentions is to improve the communicative abilities in different languages of our students in the European Comission.

To achieve this aim, we are committed to the idea of building our budgets seeking a better identification. We care about a careful targeting of spending, including through funding mechanisms linked performance which introduce an element of competition.

Offering to our pupils the chance to participate in this European Mobility Programme can be a great opportunity to increase their interest on their studies and qualifications as it will mean for them a European recognition. That's why we also want to raise the attainment rates and to reduce the school drop-out. We are committed to improve the quality and the relevance of higher education in order to prepare our students with the formation that the European job market is demanding nowadays.

To achieve this goal described above, we are committed to offering a tailored guidance to the student to inform him about his study choices and answer all his doubts and concernings about his present and future in order to encourage him in his studies. At the same time we want to develop clear progression routes from vocational and other education types into higher education

We also want to take profit from the benefits of ICT's and other new technologies to enrich teaching, improve learning experiences, follow our student's experience abroad, improve cooperation and communication, etc.

We assume that all our aims specified above will stablish deep ties with Europe. All the teachers, students and the staff involved in this project find in this programme an opportunity of future collaboration and cooperation among Europe, in order to improve the quality of our studies and to offer an entry to professional working life in Europe, after finishing the studies.