



The project *To Build Bridges, to Tear Down Walls – Learning Foreign Languages as a Way to Create European Identity* responds to the current needs of the school to improve general qualifications and language skills of its staff; it aims as well at strengthening the European dimension of the school. The idea of the project blends with a more universal need of improving quality and attractiveness of education in Europe. The eight teachers who are participating in the project will take part in language and methodology courses in Malta, Spain and the UK between June 2017 and September 2018.

The main goals of the project are: improving the teachers' qualifications in order to enhance the quality of education in the school; improving the teachers' language skills to enable their personal and vocational development as well as to allow them to take part in future international projects; promoting linguistic diversity and intercultural awareness to be able to effectively teach about other languages and cultures; raising awareness of EU citizenship to facilitate students' successful functioning in the European Union; strengthening the European dimension of the school and broadening its international range to help students and teachers emerge among schools in Europe.

Eight teachers will take part in the implementation of the project: two teachers of English, two teachers of German, one teacher of French, one biology teacher, one history and social studies teacher, one teacher of philosophy and ethics. Such a wide scope of subjects is supposed to make the project have a positive effect on the overall functioning of the school by enhancing the effectiveness of teaching various subjects and including more teachers into future international projects than language teachers only. In addition, the eight chosen teachers are cooperative, reliable, ready to face new challenges and share their knowledge and experience with others.

The framework of the project includes: preparing the teachers for linguistic, cultural, methodological and logistic aspects of the project; implementing planned project activities, including participating in international courses (English Language Training and Irish Culture, English for Effective Communication, Espanol para Profesores de Espanol, Anglo Continental and four general English language courses); constant monitoring of the project activities; evaluating the project in the context of realisation of the strategic aims, including the improvement of linguistic skills and its impact on the teaching process; implementing educational innovations and introduction of the newest multimedia equipment; international cooperation; publicising the effects of the project.

To achieve the planned goals the following methods will be used: active participation in solving problems; sharing with and learning from each other's experiences; self-presentation; creative activities; self-reflection; lesson observation; using technological equipment and modern methodologies.

Participating in the project, the teachers are going to improve their language and teaching skills, which will result in the enhancement of the effectiveness of the teaching process of the school by engaging students and staff in various kinds of activities. The positive example of teachers who cherish their own development is to inspire students to learn more and participate more willingly in future European and international projects and actions. The possible acquaintances made will enable better mobility of both students and teachers, reinforce the experience of EU citizenship and the status of the school. Finally, the project will have a positive impact on the local community by actions to promote the advantages to European integration.

In the long run, the project is going to bring a better understanding of the cultural, social and linguistic diversities of the countries in Europe. It is to lead to a better contact with individuals abroad and international institutions and engage the school in various international projects. The project participants will encourage the idea of a life-long education to help their students be well prepared for the challenges of the modern world, which demands constant keeping up with the changing reality, and creativity in solving problems.¹

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