



Erasmus+

School Education

Supporting transnational opportunities for schools and school education organisations

Deadlines 2016

KA1: 2 February 2016

KA2: 31 March 2016

Organisations apply via online e-form by 11:00 a.m. Irish time

Contact ecreely@leargas.ie

Key Action 1

Staff Mobility Projects



Schools and regional education organisations can apply for support to send staff to Europe for:

- training courses
- job shadowing
- teaching assignments.

Based on the organisation's needs, staff can undertake professional development opportunities from two days to two months.

The organisation undertakes a project for one to two years to integrate the learning.

Search www.schooleducationgateway.eu for courses and partner schools.



Key Action 2

Partnership Projects



Not sure yet? Getting involved in eTwinning can be a first step for schools towards a face-to-face partnership project.

See www.leargas.ie for information on all these opportunities.

Schools or school education organisations interested in learning through international partnership and whose priorities include

- reducing Early School Leaving
- improving attainment of Literacy and Numeracy skills
- increasing participation in Third Level Education
- improving and Modernising Educational Systems
- enhancing the quality of Early Childhood education

should consider a Strategic partnership for School Education.

Organisations can get support for international meetings, joint learning activities, staff and pupil mobilities and development of new curricula and approaches.



[Leargas.Ireland](http://www.leargas.ie)

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Erasmus+ 2015 Project stories

Key Action 1

Fellow Europeans Learning Through Collaboration

St Paul's National School, Portlaoise, Co. Laois

St Paul's National School has a diverse student population. One quarter of its pupils were born outside Ireland and several students have special needs. St Paul's European Development Plan therefore identified the need to create an inclusive school environment that celebrates diversity. This project aimed to put inclusion at the centre of the school ethos and outlook.

A cross-section of staff, including teachers with management positions, class teachers and special needs/resource teachers, were selected to undertake job shadowing, observation and relevant training courses in Europe. At the beginning of the project, the partners identified their own aims and outcomes and agreed a timetable.

Training courses in Latvia and Spain were identified for staff to attend. 'European Diversity Education' had an emphasis on inclusion and special education, and included a visit to two special needs schools in Riga. The course in Spain, 'Stimulating Creativity Through Co-Operative Learning', showcased techniques in co-operative learning. Job shadowing took place in schools in Slovenia and Turkey, where principals and faculty members explained their school systems and management.

The results of the project and the impact on St Paul's have been very positive. Staff have been upskilled, school management has improved to reflect inclusion of diversity, modern teaching strategies have been introduced, and staff are energised and more highly motivated.

Lasting friendships have been established, and the school in Turkey is currently planning to visit and observe St Paul's. The Slovenian school is planning on making a trip to Ireland in 2016, to spend two days in St Paul's and stay with host families.



Key Action 2

Building Europe through Entrepreneurship and Employment

St Tiernan's Community School, Balally, Dublin 16 (Partner school)

This project builds on previous European-funded projects completed by the school, in particular those addressing inclusion, volunteering and solidarity. It moves into the world of work by emphasising entrepreneurship and the opportunities that are available to pupils in a European context. It is intended to benefit not only students, teachers and schools but also the wider community including business partners.

The project will include both field and desk research, the creation and manufacture of services or products, and student participation in an international competition. These activities will be carried out with a focus on teamwork, collaboration across borders, skills development and confidence building. There will be a mix of short-term staff and pupil mobility, complemented by a range of classroom activities that mirror the tasks of a real business.

The project will foster and develop relationships between businesses and schools that will be motivational for the pupils, making them aware of the relevance of their education to the world of work. This will particularly benefit pupils who are disengaged from traditional education, and are in danger of leaving school early. The issue of school completion is of particular interest to Irish secondary schools, so there is potential to transfer the results of the project to other schools.



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