

Partner schools

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Erasmus +



➤ The Plur>E project

Plur>E is a follow-on project from the ECML PlurCur project run within the Learning through Languages Programme from 2012-2015. The goal of the Plur>E project is to further develop the concept of a plurilingual, inclusive and intercultural whole school policy in secondary education in an international context. Partner schools from five European countries develop language-based projects and will implement and assess them based on the concept of plurilingual whole school curricula. The main target groups are learners and teachers, but the Plur>E project also involves school management and policy makers.

For more information on the PlurCur project go to the ECML website (www.ecml.at) and look at the PlurCur website: www.ecml.at/plurcur

➤ Connecting languages and subjects

A plurilingual, inclusive and intercultural whole school policy embraces all languages present at a given school: majority and minority, regional, heritage and neighbouring languages. Languages as subjects are taught in an inclusive way; language and non-language instruction overlap so that all subject teaching can also become language teaching. The languages used are those already present at a given institution. This can either mean that schools offer additional language courses in the students' family languages and/or that teachers encourage learners to use the languages they bring to the school in their subjects for clarification, meaning making, exchange etc.

➤ Enhancing knowledge about languages

A multilingual approach to language learning means that learners get greater insight into the various structures of language for example by comparing and contrasting the languages they study. In this way, students become aware of positive and negative transfer between the languages they use. Such an approach helps students develop their metalinguistic awareness, that is, the awareness of how the languages work, and expand their language-learning strategies.

➤ Connecting new knowledge with what students already know

Classrooms all over Europe are becoming increasingly multilingual and multicultural. Teachers face the challenge of effectively incorporating the language skills that students already have into their lessons. A whole school language policy has the potential to contribute to new pedagogical and methodological approaches which could enhance the learning process of all students.

➤ Research-based teaching and learning

Project activities and outputs are based on current, on-going research in the fields of multilingualism/plurilingualism. Of special interest for the Plur>E project are studies on multilingual or metalinguistic awareness and the use of (foreign) languages for subject teaching (so-called CLIL approaches – content and language integrated learning). European intercomprehension, i.e. the use of prior language knowledge to learn new languages (e.g. the use of French to learn other Romance languages) is another interesting field of research that can inform Plur>E practice.

➤ Expected outputs

Expected outputs will include reports of the implementation of (aspects of) plurilingual whole school curricula by partner schools and best practice examples for plurilingual language-teaching collected during the lifetime of the project. Based on the experience gathered, recommendations on school development will be offered to school management and policy makers. In addition to this, Plur>E online modules for networking with existing and future partners will be created so that best practice examples can be shared with teachers, students, parents and school boards.