

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT



Participation in Erasmus+

IES La Rábida opened its doors in 1856 and historically it has been a rather important cultural referent in our province. We have been fortunate to have some illustrious students such as Juan Ramón Jiménez, Literature Nobel Prize winner in 1957, or Antonia Arrobas, the first Spanish woman who studied Secondary Education. Nowadays, IES La Rábida offers Secondary Education, Baccalaureate and Higher Education courses for more than 1000 students. Our staff (66 teachers) is highly motivated to improve different aspects of their teaching practice. In this sense, we have a growing number of teachers who use CLIL methodology in their classes. Apart from that, we are involved in life-long learning projects dealing with "Skills" and the use of "ICT". Also, we are keen on organising cultural trips, exchange programs and activities related to recycling and sustainability (Recapacicla), preserving our cultural heritage (Sentir el Patrimonio) and in connection with equality, mediation and daily coexistence (Convivencia Plus). IES La Rábida is undergoing a process of internationalization since one of our aims is to help our students become global, European citizens. Thus, besides cultural trips and short term exchanges, we are implementing a K229 project titled: Meeting Point: Leonardo Da Vinci whose aims are to help our students develop European citizenship and to raise awareness concerning European and local cultural and natural heritage. We have also applied to become an IB (International Baccalaureate) School in the hope that this process of internationalization will provide us with added value in the long term and will have an impact on our students. As a Higher Education Institution (HEI), our participation in the Erasmus Program would be a key element in our European modernization strategy. Our application form is based on a genuine needs analysis on local and European levels. We have recognised the need to offer individual training or internships for our students (KA-1 Action). Our intention is to promote learning mobility for individuals so that our students can develop: basic job skills, a good command of a second language and European citizenship through their integration into other cultures. Our goal is to establish yearly mobility programs during the period 2021-27. Our target group is the students in second year of their Higher Education studies in both Tourist Guide, Information and Assistance, and Travel Agencies and Events organization.

By implementing our Erasmus Charter for Higher Education we will promote internationalisation by creating an European network of contacts focused on fostering high quality education. Staff and pupils will be encouraged to develop second language skills, digital competence and enhanced good practices.

The use and integration of those skills in job real situations will stimulate knowledge scaffolding and meaningful learning. IES La Rábida will integrate the experience in its strategic planning.

Strategy, objectives and impact

By participating in KA1 action programs we intend to give our students the opportunity to take their Workplace Training (WT) module in a European country. Our target group are students who are in the second year of Higher Education Courses. We expect them to complete the acquisition of professional competences in a foreign context so that both job skills and language aptitude in a foreign language can be developed and upgraded. We endorse the effort to make multilingualism a priority in our school because it provides students with a larger variety of job opportunities in the future and it helps them develop global skills as well.

We would like to promote agreements with companies and small businesses in different countries in the EU. Job training should be carried out in companies in the tourism sector and it is to this type of

company that our recruitment efforts will be directed. In order to search for these companies we will appoint a coordinator whose main job will be to keep in touch with possible candidates, and to select contacts provided by teachers, students and local entrepreneurs.

Our main objectives are:

1. To improve the quality of our Higher Education Courses and to make them more appealing thus promoting student's motivation, since engagement is an essential element in the development of learning .
2. To facilitate access to a job experience abroad, given that some students of IES La Rábida, due to their personal characteristics, do not have the necessary economic resources to be able to travel abroad.
3. To develop entrepreneurial culture, enhancing the acquisition of practical and cultural experience in the selected students and in their professional area.
4. To upgrade linguistic and cultural competences by experiencing the European dimension of their field of work, the benefits of interculturality, and the exchange of experiences, ways of working and thinking.
5. To promote internationalisation by creating an European network of professional contacts within the European business environment.
6. To foster personal development, personal motivation and emotional reinforcement for both students and teachers.
7. To encourage the use of ICTs for a more fluid exchange of information and improved communication skills.
- 8.- To acquire a deeper knowledge of the different aspects that the concepts "Cultural and natural heritage" involve and to develop positive attitudes towards their preservation. Both, expected results and impact upon completion and beyond are in line with our priorities: enhanced internationalization of our institution by improving and professionalizing the practices of our students , deeper acquisition of the necessary skills for their insertion into the labor market, increased mobility of students and teachers in order to form internationally engaged citizens, renewed cultural, social and educational value of European Cultural Heritage due to its contribution to job creation, economic growth and social cohesion.

Indicators

Experience has highlighted that it is pivotal that the objectives are clear, realistic and achievable and that there are clear indicators to measure their level of success and implementation. Suggested indicators are:

1. Dealing with the improvement of the quality of our Higher Education Courses
I.1.-- Increased level of employment among our students.
2. Concerning the access to job practices abroad:
I.2-Percentage of mobilities carried out in relation to the number of students and teachers with possibilities of participating in the programme. A level of no less than 5% -10% should be maintained between 2021-24, and 25% -35 % should be reached between 2025- 27.
- 3.- With regards to entrepreneurial culture and the acquisition of practical and cultural experience :
I.3-The percentage of participants declaring that they have increased their key competencies.
- 4.- Regarding linguistic and cultural competences:
I.4-The percentage of participants declaring improved language skills and the number of students who certificate language aptitude (B2/C1).

5.- In relation to the creation of an European network of professional contacts:

I.5- Increased number of international companies collaborating with our institution and number of collaboration agreements between the school and companies.

6.- Regarding personal development, personal motivation and emotional reinforcement:

I.6- Degree of satisfaction of the participants (both teachers and students) and host partners by conducting a survey when each mobility ends.

7.- In connection to the use of ICTs

I.7- Number of apps and ICT tools that both teachers and students are able to use.

8.- Dealing with Cultural and natural heritage:

I.8.-Number of students volunteering to organise school activities to promote cultural and natural heritage awareness and preservation. In general terms we presume that the impact on teachers will be diverse. There will be opportunities for professional development and a heightened enthusiasm for teaching. Moreover, students who participate in the project will gain insight into their field of work, into European Heritage and will gain command of a foreign language.