

## STRATEGY ON INTERNATIONALISATION

### Erasmus+ VET Mobility Charter

The Secondary Education School (IES) "Pare Vitòria" is a public institution that depends on the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport of the "Generalitat Valenciana". It is located in Alcoi, in the province of Alicante. Alcoi is one of the most important cities and the eighth by population of the Valencian Community, it has a valuable historical, architectural, archaeological and industrial heritage. Historically, it was a city with special relevance during the Industrial Revolution, especially in the textile sector, but also in the metallurgical and paper industry. The chemical and pharmaceutical sector (mainly cosmetic), the food sector (stuffed olives represented by the firm La Española, meat products, pastry and liquors), the manufacture of hangers, as well as the auxiliary industry related to the Moors and Christians festivities, are the main economic aspect of the city, replacing the previous metallurgical, textile and paper industry.

IES Pare Vitòria was founded in 1929, becoming the second school of secondary education created in the province of Alicante. It occupied different locations until it reached the current one in 1965. It teaches official, secondary, advanced levels, middle-grade and higher-grade vocational education and training cycles.

The vocational education and training (VET) offer covers: Chemistry studies, with the intermediate VET program "Laboratory Operations" and the higher VET program "Quality Control and Analysis Laboratory"; Safety and Environment studies with the higher VET program "Environmental Education and Control" and Agricultural studies, incorporated this course 2020-21, with the Basic VET program "Gardening and Floral Composition" and the intermediate VET program "Gardening and Floristry".

The 2008/2009 academic year saw the start of the mobility of students for work placements in Higher Education. In 2014 we obtained the Erasmus Charter of Higher Education (ECHE) and in 2018 the Erasmus+ VET Mobility Charter. In the Erasmus + programme (2014-2020), projects have been carried out in all calls for both, Higher Education and Vocational Education and Training. We have agreements with partners from different countries, the Netherlands, Italy, Germany, Portugal, UK, Poland and Estonia. In 2018, projects in School Education began.

The objective of education and vocational training is to achieve a comprehensive training of students that allows their human development, enables them to life in society, for their professional development and maximizes individual capabilities, taking into account their

diversity and expectations. That is why the **fundamental mission** of our organization is to train the students of VET programmes with all the necessary skills to be able to develop their activity in an increasingly international and global labour market.

We believe that the mobility of administrative and teaching staff is an essential element in deepening the internationalization process, promoting the exchange of experiences and good practices, the knowledge of other education systems and new methodologies which will facilitate their professional development and promote the transfer of knowledge, as well as the fostering of stable and deeper academic relationships at the institutional level.

At IES “Pare Vitòria” we believe in the following values:

- In training and continuous improvement, carrying out established training plans and performing periodic reviews.
- In Solidarity towards the injustices of the world, developing a critical attitude and taking a stand towards the great imbalances of today.
- To harmonize diversity, creating areas of coherence and tolerance in the teaching-learning processes.
- In teamwork to promote and develop our educational work.
- In respect and responsibility, accepting personal differences and taking care of common goods and the environment.

Our vision is based on our willingness to be an educational centre recognised by:

- To offer a personalised teaching, the basis of the integral development of our students.
- To promote the permanent training of teachers and the incorporation of new technologies, as an unavoidable commitment to educational activity.
- Commitment to quality in human education while respecting the individual freedom of the students.
- To integrate the labour, social and cultural reality of the environment.
- To improve academic success, equal opportunities, personal, social and professional skills and labour integration.
- Open the centre to the community, national and international, and the professional and working world.
- To enhance responsibility, well-done job and respect in interpersonal relationships.
- To carry out a management adapted to the quality systems.
- To evaluate internally and periodically the school action, providing the means to support the operation of the centre.

Vocational Education and Training is essential to prepare individuals for today's society and to ensure future competitiveness and innovation in Europe. Our goal is to achieve quality management of our intermediate VET programmes and continuous improvement in important aspects such as:

- To meet the expectations and educational needs of the students.
- To strengthen the relationship with the collaborating companies, both national and European.
- To contribute to the achievement of the objectives that society assigns to it as an educational institution and training centre.

The Erasmus Programme is a unique opportunity for small institutions to improve their internationalisation strategy.

Language training is a key element in ensuring success in mobility outcomes. It is not possible to achieve the knowledge, abilities and skills required to achieve the learning results of the practices without having the necessary level of knowledge of the language to be used in the host country.

In our institution, multilingual policies are being promoted, both at the level of teachers and students, by developing courses for teaching staff and applying the knowledge acquired in these courses. Teaching with the CLIL methodology (AICLE).

The main goal that we have set ourselves for the Erasmus Programme is to continue the promotion and realization of the mobility of students for internships and staff training. Furthermore, we want to make the most of the experience acquired during these years to be able to initiate staff mobilities for teaching and improve our VET studies and project management.

The participation of the IES "Pare Vitòria" in the Erasmus 2021-2027 programme represents a continuous improvement in our educational project. In order to fulfil the commitment to contribute to the objectives of a European Education Area, to the modernisation of the European Union and to the internationalisation programme of Vocational Education and Training, our institution has defined the following strategic objectives and their monitoring indicators:

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	MONITORING INDICATORS
<p>To improve the personal, professional and international competences of the students when carrying out part of their training programme and/or productive activities of their professional profile in another country.</p>	<p>Students who are continuing their GS studies.</p> <p>Students who have completed a VET mobility and are applying for a mobility in HE.</p> <p>Students who the fact of having carried out mobility has facilitated their access to the labour market.</p>
<p>To improve the professional skills of staff to meet new challenges in education and in our increasingly changing and global society.</p>	<p>Motivation of staff to continue training.</p> <p>Participation in International projects, whether or not they are mobility projects.</p> <p>Degree of application of new methods and technologies in the classroom.</p>
<p>To strengthen the relationship of our centre with institutions from different countries and to enrich the educational environment.</p>	<p>Carried out projects.</p> <p>Partners participating in each project.</p> <p>Degree of involvement of staff and students</p>
<p>To promote the acquisition of language skills by students and staff to cope with an increasingly globalised environment.</p>	<p>Increase in multilingualism in the programmes.</p> <p>Application of language skills to the work and carried out projects.</p> <p>Teaching sessions in English.</p>
<p>To improve the digital skills of students and staff to facilitate active participation in digital society and international cooperation.</p>	<p>Degree of involvement of teachers and students.</p> <p>Degree of involvement of the partners.</p> <p>Increase in the incorporation of ICT tools.</p>

Our **action plan** is based on turning our strategic objectives into operational ones, in order to obtain the procedures and resources to improve the quality of work and results. This action plan is reviewed annually after the completion of the mobility carried out in each academic year. To this end, the institution takes the following commitments:

- To carry out mobility only within the framework of previous agreements between the institutions. These agreements will establish the roles and responsibilities of the different parties, as well as their commitment to the common quality criteria in the selection, preparation, hosting and integration of mobility participants. Training agreement for students and work programme for staff validated by both parties.
- To provide assistance and support with appropriate advice to incoming and outgoing students and staff in organising travel, finding accommodation, insurance; also, to help incoming participants integrate into the daily life of the institution.
- To ensure equal and fair access for all participants, paying special attention to people with fewer opportunities, whether economic, social, cultural, geographical, health or for reasons such as disability or educational difficulties. Ensuring fair and transparent selection procedures.
- To comply with the principles of non-discrimination contained in the school's educational project, promote equality between men and women, respect and intercultural dialogue, the defence of human rights and democracy, and to increase the fight against exclusion in all its forms, including racism and xenophobia, and to guarantee equal access and opportunities to incoming and outgoing participants.
- To provide adequate language support to incoming and outgoing participants of a mobility and ensure that outgoing mobile participants are well prepared for mobility, and have reached the necessary level of language competence.
- To help outgoing and incoming participants integrate into the daily life of the institution. Promoting and organising activities that allow them to be civic-minded and committed, and to develop their skills beyond the formal education environment. Accompanying them in their stay by making them aware of the cultural heritage of the area.
- To promote the environment. By promoting green practices in all programme-related activities, taking advantage of the opportunities provided by the programme to support sustainable means of travel and reduce the negative impact of mobility on the environment.
- To recognise successfully completed activities, study mobility and internships in terms of credits granted (ECVET). The work placements carried out by our students in foreign companies will be recognised with the corresponding Diploma and will be

accompanied by the standard European recognition documents The European Credit System for Intermediate Vocational Education and Training (ECVET), the Europass Mobility Document and the Diploma Supplement.

- To disseminate Erasmus activities and comply with the Erasmus Policy Statement (EPS), publishing all documents on our website and various social networks such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc. and in other media such as posters, leaflets, etc., regularly updating the course catalogue.
- Use Erasmus quality standards as part of the evaluation criteria for the activities carried out.

Within this action plan, the Erasmus Coordination Team and the VET Mobility Commission, after reviewing the objectives and the strategy on internationalisation has established the following challenges:

- ✓ That students are able to perform the work in different professional cultures.
- ✓ That students are more motivated, trained, compete for life and, in general, have a higher and more recognised vocational training profile.
- ✓ To increase the employability and competitiveness of students.
- ✓ That staff are enriched by the transfer of knowledge or skills and the acquisition of practical skills, so that they can pass them on to students and staff who are unable to participate in the mobility project.
- ✓ That staff are more motivated, trained and with up-to-date skills that have an impact on improving vocational training.
- ✓ To provide students and staff with more international opportunities.
- ✓ That participants improve their communication skills, know and manage specific languages to face different environments.
- ✓ To train professionals who master the virtual environment and new technologies, and know how to manage and organise information.