

Agenda for meeting Friday afternoon

1. Next conference: Plans for Budapest. Anything we need to do?

Students should spend their free time in a group together.

Advance of the topics every country is working on for the final meeting:

- UK: millenium goals
- Spain: equality between men and women
- Hungary: is there real world democracy?
- Denmark: Homosexual rights in Kenya
- Germany: Environmental topic and climate change

Programme in Budapest: Only a draft so far. Magda explains details

It could be a good idea to include lessons for students at school

2. Comments on the conference in Cordoba?

Quite good presentations.

Right size of the room for the audience to maintain attention.

External guests have been highly helpful.

Audience have been a little bit passive when listening to other countries presentations.

No evaluation from students.

3. The evaluation questions for the students – when do they answer?

Before leaving on Sunday in order to collect them before arriving

4. Documentation for participation has to be filled in and handed over to Magda

The Germans have them now.

The Hungarian group has already got all the documents signed by all countries. They have to change the dates for their meeting

5. The final evaluation? What do we need to be aware of? Do we need to reread the application attached?

Just change the tenses in the final report as we have reached all the goals.

Send it to all partners. Once it is done, countries will send a copy to national agencies.

6. The Comenius page on www.dronninglundgymnasium.dk. Links from Berlin, Cordoba and eventually Budapest need to be added
The Germans should check the documents and the British presentation, as well of providing a version in English
Spaniards should upload all documents and pictures from the conference when possible
7. Individual worries.
 - a. How much do we have to pay the Spanish for the extra teacher? Done
 - b. Other?. Hotel doubts about the invoices
8. Plan for future partnerships? Who is interested? Will we have to change the fundamental set-up?
Next time around.... Advice for future partnerships?
Esther Martínez informs the group about how Erasmus+ works
Get information about Erasmus+ for next meeting in Budapest
9. AOB (any other business 😊)
Lunch on Saturday? All agreed not to. Free time after visit to Medina Azahara

Extracts from the application:

Objectives:

- 1) We want young people to understand how democracy works on different levels in society.
- 2) We want to encourage young people to take an active and innovative part in decision-making in order to make them realise that they make a difference and that their voice can be heard as active European citizens.
- 3) We want to supply the students with tools (including ICT tools) that enable them to develop creative and innovative thinking and problem-solving strategies in order to prepare them for future employment.
- 4) We want to improve students' modern foreign language skills: firstly, by using English as a working language and secondly by teaching the national languages involved to all students with the use of ICT.

5) We want to develop the students' communicative, social, and personal skills through interaction with other young Europeans. In this way we hope to open the students' minds to the diversity of European cultures and languages and enable future mobility.

Strategy and approach:

(See attached document about KIE-model)

Our strategy is to develop the students' innovative competences. We will organise innovative workshops where the students are being led through various creative phases leading up to an action plan (entrepreneurship).

Over a two-year period the students will meet at five "Comenius Conferences" one at each school, each lasting three days (four nights). The students will have to present their action plan to the other groups and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each plan. Every conference will have a specific focus: school democracy, local democracy, national democracy, European democracy and international democracy. The different groups of students, depending on their own interests, will be free to decide what to concentrate on. These topics might relate to equal opportunities when it comes to age representation, gender, sex, ethnicity, race, religion and disability.

The students will have to communicate in English, orally and in writing. During the two-year period, students will be introduced to various communicative strategies to enable them to take part in debates in English. Furthermore, for the benefit of the other students each nationality will produce teaching materials with the use of ICT in their own native language.

In order to develop the students' personal and social skills they will be accommodated by host families, which will enable them to adapt to other cultural standards and to reflect on their own.

The students will gain an overall insight into the democratic systems of their own and the other participating European countries.

By evaluating the other groups' presentations and action plans, the students will offer and receive a new perspective on the solutions they have chosen. This will broaden the students' views on their own and the other European countries.

The project will also develop the students' debating and intercultural communicative competences, because they have to try out the strength of their arguments in discussions with other young Europeans. The fact that these discussions will take place in English will offer the students an opportunity to develop their foreign language skills.

One of the prerequisites of taking part in European democratic processes is understanding the local and national democratic systems. In the same way knowledge about the European Union is a stepping stone to international interest and involvement. Having met other young Europeans face to face, will motivate the students to take action in political affairs.

The project will also inspire the teachers to take a critical view of their own teaching practices with future improvement of academic standards and networking in mind. Since one of the foci is school democracy, the project is bound to have an effect on the management of the schools involved.

We expect the students to understand how democracy works on different levels in society. They will be able to take an active and innovative part in decision-making. As a result, their awareness of the importance of their own active participation will be heightened.

The students' foreign language skills will be improved: firstly by having used English as a working language and secondly by having been taught and as a result using the national languages of the students involved.

Through interaction with other young Europeans and their families the students' communicative, social, and personal skills will have been developed. Hopefully, long-lasting friendships and the foundation of mutual understanding will be made.

The participating teachers will play an important part as role models for their students. Exchanging ideas and innovative teaching methods will have an impact on the teachers' future work in the classroom and their collaboration with colleagues back home.

As one of the conferences focuses on school organization, the proposed action plans are very likely to have a direct impact on each educational institution. Changes are expected to take place. Furthermore, those who do not participate directly in the project (e.g. students, parents, teachers and other members of staff) will also benefit since they will be invited to take part in several activities relating to the visits. This will increase the possibility of further European partnerships.