

## IES A PINGUELA

### ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT (2014-2020)

IES A Pinguela is committed to offer European education curricula for their VET students on short cycle degrees: Business & Administration and Networking and IT systems.

Students claim to have the necessary skills to begin a European professional pathway. Local companies demand graduates with fluent English language and an international experience, to open their businesses to new markets and offer better services on the tourism sector.

In order to meet these requests, our institution has been sending VET students for placements in companies in Ireland and the United Kingdom since 2005 funded by Leonardo da Vinci phase II and Erasmus-LLP. Mobility is done through a partnership between IES A Pinguela, intermediary organisations in Ireland (Swan Training Institute) and United Kingdom (Chara Trust) and hosting companies on those countries.

The objectives for the partnership are:

1. To fulfil the existing demand in the local companies of qualified professionals on ICT and other profiles having also ICT skills.
2. Promoting the co-operation amongst the different vocational training areas within IES A Pinguela and partners on the EU.
3. Complementing the curricula provided in IES A Pinguela with skills that cannot be accomplished in the local companies.

The objectives for the participants are:

1. Approaching the working and social realities within the EU nations as a way to initiate a possible European professional pathway.
2. Acquisition of the necessary English language skills that allow them to develop successfully their professional careers.
3. Achieving the capacity of adapting themselves to a special work environment in a foreign country.

Our priorities for mobility are:

1. Mobility Quality, both for study and traineeships:
  - a.- Ensuring enough language competence for participants
  - b.- Monitoring and tutoring of placements by company tutor and College tutor through ICTs
  - c.- Logistic support through trustable intermediary organizations on the hosting country
  - d.- Satisfaction surveys for participants and host organizations:  
(<http://centros.edu.xunta.es/iesapinguela/web/europeos/erasmus.php>)
2. Valorisation of results:
  - a.- Mobility for traineeships increases possibility of a student to start a European career
  - b.- For staff training/teaching mobility, results have to be applied to its job at IES A Pinguela

Regarding student mobility for traineeships, selection will be done by a committee of teachers and Erasmus coordinator based on:

- 1.- Academic records
- 2.- Family income
- 3.- Linguistic proficiency (ECRLF levels)
- 4.- Positive attitude

Diffusion of all Erasmus activities will be done through local and regional mass media; our web page and also internally through marketing events. The Erasmus University Charter and EPS will be published both on our internet and intranet web pages at:  
<http://centros.edu.xunta.es/iesapinguela/web/europeos/erasmus.php>

Regarding compliance with non-discrimination objectives, IES A Pinguela will select beneficiaries from all students following higher education vocational training courses using as one of the selection criteria the family income and also allocating some scholarships to disabled students.

IES A Pinguela has been promoting, organising and implementing student mobility for traineeships since 2005.

Our strategy for the period 2014-2020 consists of extending mobility projects for traineeships to partners on other countries within the EU both as a sending and as a receiving organisation and introduce staff mobility mainly for training.

All this to help achieve the objectives of the association, mentioned above, emphasizing mobility quality and valorisation of results.

Student mobility for traineeships will follow current model, as it has proven to be effective. Before mobility takes place, IES A Pinguela and the host company agree a training plan based on learning outcomes for the "on the job training" (FCT) module. This agreement may require the collaboration of an intermediary organization in the country of destination, which will also support the participant for accommodation. In addition to this, an agreement is signed between IES A Pinguela and the company, according to Spanish education legislation. Participant is assigned a mentor in the company that monitors the traineeship and issues a final evaluation report (<http://centros.edu.xunta.es/iesapinguela/web/europeos/erasmus.php>) which will be ratified by his tutor at IES A Pinguela. Tutor at IES A Pinguela can monitor daily tasks through an online register maintained by the participant at: <http://informaticapinguela.com/fct>

Student mobility for study will be made on signing of an inter-institutional agreement between IES A Pinguela and partners to ensure the recognition of training undertaken abroad, according to education legislation in force.

Staff mobility for teaching and training will require submit a proposal to be approved by IES A Pinguela's management detailing objectives (including actions for the valorisation of results), scheduled plan of activities and budget. Upon completion, the participant will submit a report describing results and level of achievement of objectives.

IES A Pinguela being a small HEI (by 100 VET students) has managed 32 traineeships aboard since 2005, adding up more than 64 months duration.

Mobility projects organised by IES A Pinguela will increase attainment levels to provide the graduates that Europe needs. Thanks to mobility, more students join HVT courses, including adults (B&A degree)

IES A Pinguela has just implemented a quality management system according to UNE-EN ISO9001 and is committed to promote international cooperation projects to improve services provided.

Our participation in the Programme will also improve the quality and relevance of higher education. IES A Pinguela has links with local companies and employers (many former students) to design programmes. With the programme we could involve labour market institutions and employers from abroad.

Through mobility projects we could also exploit the transformational benefits of ICTs. Besides that, we could strengthen initiatives from many teachers to improve their language skills.

Quality will also be strengthened through mobility and cross-border co-operation increasing the proportion of short cycle students completing a training period abroad to increase labour insertion possibilities. Automatic recognition of traineeship credits gained abroad and efficient recognition for study credits will be necessary.

Regarding the knowledge triangle work: higher education, research and business for excellence and regional development, IES A Pinguela can drive economic development, since a significant percentage of local area's workforce consists of former VET students from our College.

Finally, Erasmus is an important source of funding for IES A Pinguela. This geographical area has a low economic background, classified under EU convergence objective, and current public funding from Spanish authorities for IES A Pinguela will not allow implementing mobility projects.

Monforte de Lemos, May 15<sup>th</sup> 2013

Signed



Jose Enrique Sampil Sánchez  
Director