



UNIA EUROPEJSKA
EUROPEJSKI
FUNDUSZ SPOŁECZNY



Project entitled

„Increasing ELT Effectiveness”

Project number: 2014-1-PL01-KA101-000712

It is a mobility project for school education staff. It was prepared by Zespół Szkół No 1 from Milanówek, Poland in February 2014. While preparing the final report, the school had 225 students, learning English in 8 classes. The partner organisation was a course provider, offering professional training for ELF teachers. The project was titled "Increasing ELT Effectiveness" because it was aimed at raising the level of EFL teaching at school (both elementary and extended level). According to the European Development Plan, the major role is to be played by the continuation of the already existing international cooperation and increasing the rank of the English language at school. It was also pointed out that the institution needs to improve its results from secondary school leaving examinations as well as to consider a new richer offer of educational classes and to motivate students to participate in contests.

The participants of the project are four EFL teachers who possess required qualifications for ESL teaching and at the time of applying, they could prove the adequate length of work training at the same position (from 7 to 20 years). They all decided to participate in professional development courses in Great Britain. During recruitment process it was decided that all four mobilities will take place between 1 July 2015 and 31 August 2016. It was decided that the partner institution will be the University of Edinburgh which has a wide range of courses fulfilling beneficiaries' in-service training expectations. Some of them include: updating knowledge in the field of ELT methodology as well as becoming familiar with the current trends in ELT. It is also very important for them to broaden and update their own knowledge of the English language. The same is about the need to broaden and update their culture knowledge of the English-speaking countries. One of the chosen courses was devoted to pronunciation and it was held in the language laboratory. The teacher who participated in the course became familiar with innovative teaching methods. Another course focused on teaching grammar in context and it was chosen by three teachers. It was especially beneficial because the teachers prepared their own grammar multimedia presentations which they showed to other participants too. All teachers created a lot of new teaching aids which can be successfully used in ELT lessons at different levels. The University of Edinburgh published a

folder recording work and commitment shown by course participants. The publication will be used as a supporting material during other ELT courses in the future.

The participants of the project were chosen by Erasmus+ recruiting school committee which worked on the basis of the criteria, known to workers applying for funding. The most important criteria were: qualifications for teaching the subject, the number of years at the post of the EFL teacher and the degree in the professional promotion.

Courses were held according to the schedule and they took place from 26 July to 8 August 2015. As a result, the teachers developed their skills and broadened language and methodology knowledge of their own. They made new additions to their experience and practice. The organisation will be in a position to demonstrate new teaching methods, richer educational offer and more qualified staff. A copyrighted curriculum for a school subject called English in Practice has been written. In 2015 articles about the project were published in the local press. The participants shared their experience and acquired knowledge with their colleagues from a neighboring school. The same applies to other teachers and their students from middle and secondary schools who were invited on the occasion of a new English language contest. It was a new contest, organized in a new form and held 30 November 2016. It was also one of the major project activities. As it aroused a lot of interest in the local community, it is to be a periodical event, helping in school promotion.

The project lasted two years. At that time students became familiar with the culture and literature of the country which their teachers had visited. A competition for the best multimedia presentation about Scotland was held. Thanks to project work, students broadened their knowledge about English speaking countries and brought their IT skills to perfection. They mastered English pronunciation by means of new teaching methods. The internet plays bigger role in teaching and since 1 September 2016 it has been accessible in all classrooms. The role of literature has become bigger with the help of new especially designed exercises introduced in English lessons. A number of books written in English have been purchased with a view to be used in lessons by both students and teachers. Students are more engaged in school life. Other possible long-term effects in the field of teaching (e. g. better exam results) are to be examined after the spring session of final exams in 2017.

Appendix

Important dates

15.03.2014 The application for Erasmus+ funding is sent.

15.12.2014 The project is officially accepted.

31.12.2014 The project is officially started.

27.02.2014 The Foundation for the Development of the Education System signs a financial agreement with the school.

16.01.2015 The participants of the project are chosen by Erasmus+ recruiting school committee.

26.07.2015 EFL teachers start their mobilities in Scotland.

August 2015 Teachers complete individual mobility reports

30.11.2016 Celtic Contest – English language competition for schools from the local area

30.12.2016 The project draws to an end.

January 2017 Final report is prepared. Evaluation.