

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT

IES Gerardo Molina is a state secondary school located in the Region of Murcia, more specifically in Torre Pacheco, a town in southeastern Spain. It is governed by the Department of Education, Youth and Sport of the Murcia Regional Government. It consists of a teaching staff of 80 members and 760 students. The core studies we provide range from Compulsory to Non-Compulsory Secondary Education, and some Basic, Intermediate and Advanced Vocational Education and Training Courses.

The Advanced Vocational Education and Training (VET) Courses will be the starting point of our Erasmus+ project in the following professional modalities (NV3):

- AUTOMATED AND ELECTRONICS SYSTEMS
- SALES AND COMMERCIAL PREMISES MANAGEMENT
- ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE
- MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE

As stipulated in the current Spanish legislation, the Official Educational Curricula of the Region of Murcia for the advanced VET courses establish work placement as a mandatory component with 400 hours of apprenticeship.

When applying for the Erasmus Charter (ECHE), our main purpose was to promote the modernisation and internationalisation of our student's education. Once being awarded for the period of 2014-2020, we aim to improve our students' competencies, training them for labour mobility in a borderless Europe.

Through wider educational opportunities, our students will benefit in the mobility of their studies and internships. Likewise, our students will improve their linguistic capabilities. Our objective is to foster future professionals who are better qualified when facing the demand of the European labour market, through acquiring specific skills and enhancing their knowledge of the socioeconomic and working environment.

At present, our school has over 200 agreements with the firms of the surrounding area, many of which have international branches. Hence, participating in the Erasmus programme, we will collaborate with the updated planning so that we can create a more attractive and superior quality of NV3 higher education. Additionally, we will help the economic regrowth of our region while also generating a positive impact on the environment.

For the forthcoming years, we hope to establish international cooperation alliances to promote innovation, an entrepreneurial spirit, and strategic alliances with European school partners and firms with the goal of encouraging collaboration in educational issues. Moreover, we want to create a system of reciprocity in participation within the framework of obtaining sustainable and balanced results for future partners.

TOWARDS BORDERLESS LABOUR MOBILITY

We want to set concrete objectives and search for agreements with European schools and companies so that they can enable student and teacher mobility.

1. GEOGRAPHICAL SPACE

The geographic region where we are interested in is the European Union, as it is the geographical framework where we live and have established close relationships. We are predominantly concerned with English, Italian and French speaking countries

2. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECT IN TEACHING AND INTERNSHIPS

The international cooperation Erasmus+ programme represents a unique opportunity for our students, not only by offering new horizons and perspectives on a professional level, but also on a personal level, by bringing them exceptional social and cultural enrichment.

So, we offer:

- To receive and send staff or students.
- To support institutional, departmental and administrative measures which allow the project participants to carry out their work.
- To guarantee the dissemination of their activities and their funding.
- To show visible results obtained through the use of multiple platforms such as the Internet, presentations, advertisements, and have them recognised by the entire academic community, higher teaching institutions, and other organisations such as firms, educational authorities, associations, etc.

In order to count on the support of our institutions, we will promote student and staff participation in these types of projects.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE MOBILITY ACTIVITIES

This year, 17/18, our school is going to begin this mobility through the Erasmus programme. There will only be three work placement mobilities for advanced VET students who already hold their certificates. Therefore, we have selected the following objectives for improvement:

- **With the internships for advanced VET students mobility**, the students will undertake a three-month internship abroad in a firm or an institution.
- We offer to be both a sending and receiving institution for advanced VET students.

Throughout these actions, the students will acquire professional experience and will also become acquainted with the labour market demands at a European level.

Furthermore, they will also achieve specific skills and a better understanding of the socioeconomic environment. The internships will be recognised by means of a credit system or a similar one.

But our purpose is to continue growing and eliminating frontiers. Thus, we will try to extend our offer to more students for next year.

- **With the internships for intermediate VET students** who already hold their certification. The professional training categories we provide are the following:
Intermediate Technician in Vehicles
Intermediate Technician in Automatic and Electrical Installations
Intermediate Technician in Administrative Management.
Intermediate Technician in Commercial Trade Activities

The students will undertake a two-month internship abroad in a firm or an institution. We think that these types of actions will encourage better qualified professionals, improving their professional development in the same way as the advanced technicians.

- **With the staff mobility**, our teachers as well as those teachers from partner institutions will be able to teach abroad.

We will promote their interchange experience on pedagogical methods so as to develop skills that will benefit the students in their professional future. Besides, those students who will not be able to participate in the exchange programme will have the opportunity of receiving the knowledge and experience of teachers from other countries

EXPECTED RESULTS THROUGH THE PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAMME

By participating in the programme we want to carry out four priorities of the European updated modernisation planning, and thus, we will also contribute to our own school innovation.

An essential objective is to encourage our students to progress to higher education courses since we offer them the possibility of implementing their studies abroad, enhancing additional skills to be better professionals.

In order to achieve this, we will have close and tight contact with the firms that collaborate with us to accomplish the work placements (400 hours).

By taking part in the programme with the modalities we propose, we will collaborate in the modernisation planning through increasing the number of advanced graduates. We will also improve the teaching quality and the basic competencies that our students will need to achieve work success. We also plan to offer more opportunities to our students so that they can be trained with additional skills when studying abroad. Simultaneously, this will promote cooperation between countries as well.

We want to promote a more attractive and superior quality higher education. Hence, we foster the use of **information and communication technologies (ICT)** in our school.

At present, our school has a wireless high-speed WIFI and seven virtual classrooms wherein the PLUMIER XXI platform facilitated by the Murcia educational government is used. Therefore, our main objective is to foster activities that will be developed within this platform and to create forums within the virtual classroom by promoting communication between students-teachers, partner institutions and firms. This would be of great interest for the participants as these practices will help them implement new and useful techniques in email and phone use. In addition, we use WhatsApp through which we can create groups, send and receive text messages and exchange videos and audio messages. In this way, the process of monitoring the mobilities will be streamlined.

With the staff mobility, we will not only reinforce the links amongst education, research and firms, but we will also have the opportunity to remain current with the most up-to-date technology, allowing us not only to teach in a better way but also to modernise our educational offer. All this will be achieved through bringing our students in close contact with the real-world labour market.

We will offer the firms better qualified professionals who will be able to advance the economic regrowth of our region, bringing about a positive impact on the socioeconomic environment in the long run.