

SP5

Name of the organisation :	Szkoła Podstawowa nr 5 w Świdniku	 <p>Szkoła Podstawowa nr 5 im. J. Kusocińskiego w Świdniku</p> <p><i>Logo of the organisation</i></p>
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Type of organisation:

SME School University Public Authority
 Training No Profit NGO

Other (Specify):

Fields of action :

SMEs Youth Universities Public Authorities
 Equal opportunities Schools Unemployed

Other (Specify):

Description of the organisation

Szkoła Podstawowa nr 5 im. Janusza Kusocińskiego w Świdniku is a primary and lower-secondary school for students who are 7-15 years old. It is located in a small town of Świdnik in the east of Poland. There are about 1400 students in the school. The town, county and region have a very high unemployment rate (14,5% in Swidnik) therefore a lot of students come from low-income families with limited access to modern technologies and the Internet. There are also students whose parents have immigrated to Western Europe looking for a job. These "Euro-orphans" are having a lot of problems at school, coping emotionally with unstable family life and not having their parents as role models to develop socially in a proper way. The school also offers classes for disabled students with partial deafness, poor eyesight, speech impediments and on wheelchairs. In order to provide equal opportunities for students, the school offers majors in Mathematics, English, Spanish and sports majors. In the school there are a lot of activities connected with ICT and cultural heritage. Students can participate in ICT competitions, which gives them an opportunity to develop their ICT skills and motivate them. Another option is a variety of cultural and art competitions, trips, as well as afterschool clubs. What is more, the school is close to Lublin, the largest city in eastern Poland, which serves as an important regional center. For students with learning difficulties, the school organizes special classes to help them overcome problems and facilitate education. Some students have a special needs teacher who helps them cope with the workload. Many teachers also use an e-learning platform which enables teachers to use blended learning in order to enhance the students' performance.

Experience of the organization in previous European projects

Erasmus+ KA2 – ‘CLIL 4 STEAM’

The project focused on the Content and Language Integrated Learning method used for teaching STEAM subjects.

Erasmus+ KA2 – ‘Tiramisu’

The aims of the Tiramisu project are to improve skills and competences of school teachers on First Aid, Health and Safety and to test at EU level an innovative transnational training course on First Aid, Health and Safety

Erasmus+ KA2 – ‘Social Radio 2.0’

The project focuses on promoting the active citizenship education through using podcasting.

Erasmus+ KA2 – ‘Cave’

The CAVE project (2020-1-IT02-KA226-SCH-095188) is aiming to work on two dimensions of the European Education Area, that of quality and that of inclusion to counter forms of socio-cultural, linguistic, and psychocognitive inequality, and reducing the main misalignments in the field of education, emphasized in the period of COVID19.

Erasmus+ KA2 – ‘Walking Together’

The project focuses on the values of tolerance, openmindedness and inclusion.

Erasmus+ KA2 – ‘Birlikte STEAM yapıyoruz’

The project focused on the implementation of innovative teaching methods in the STEAM education.

Erasmus+ KA2 – ‘Teaching Cultural Heritage with Digital Technology’

The project's aim is to explore, introduce, develop and share technology-based teaching / learning methods, tools and applications using cultural heritage. Teachers will improve their skills of integrating digital educational materials, tools and contemporary teaching and learning methods into their educational practices. The digital educational content and learning scenarios created during the project will be collected in a digital online e-book as open source teaching material available for

other teachers to use. Students will be actively involved in the creation of digital educational content. Teachers and students will use English to create material, present it and discuss thus improving linguistic competences. They will improve their knowledge of cultural heritage through authentic learning. Using ICT to create material, participants will improve their digital skills. They will be involved in creating and updating of TwinSpace project where they will upload project material. The project will be interdisciplinary involving teachers of different subjects..

Erasmus+ KA2 – ‘Fiers d’être européens!’

The project focused on teaching about common roots of European countries which suffered in the war-torn continent and struggled to rebuild the European Community.

Erasmus+ KA2 – ‘Let’s Light on the Solution’

The project focused on the theme of lights which can be taught and explored in a variety of school subjects and curricula.

Erasmus+ KA2 – ‘SMiLD’

SMiLD project funded by the Italian National Agency. The main aim of the project is to focus on the difficulties and disabilities of learning maths. Website: <https://smild.pixel-online.org/>

Erasmus+ KA2 – ‘Learning for Life’

Learning for Life project funded by the Spanish National Agency. The main aim of the project was to promote new education methodology, such as Problem Based Learning (PBL) and Multiple Intelligences (MI) and to develop skills required in the present and future society. Website:

<http://learningforlife.pixel-online.org/>

Erasmus+ KA1 – ‘Speak, Hablar, Sprechen – developing language, didactic, ICT and intercultural competencies’

Project 'Speak, Hablar, Sprechen - we're developing linguistic, didactic, IT and intercultural competences' will be carried out by teachers of Gimnazjum nr 3, which is part of Zespół Szkół nr 2 w Swidniku. It addresses the needs of overcoming the substantial deficit of linguistic skills of the teachers, which prevents the fulfillment of their true potential. Lack of communication skills in English, Spanish and German among the teachers makes it impossible to develop international cooperation, carry out a greater number of eTwinning projects and continue partnerships with foreign institutions. The project, which was created in accordance with the School Development Plan, will not only remove the teachers' language barrier, but it will also positively influence the development of European values and promotion of multiculturalism among the staff, students, their parents and local community. There will also be an improvement in didactic competences of teachers of foreign languages and sciences, and thanks to the use of innovations and new technologies the value of the school's programmes and activities on offer will increase. The project will also enable the development of essential skills in managing projects and improved organisation of individual and team work.

The participation of teachers will result in the strategic improvement of the school and the intensification of pro-European activities. It will also allow the school and staff to go through the turmoil of the structural education reform which entails merging Gimnazjum nr 3 with Szkoła Podstawowa nr 5 in order to create a new 8-level primary school. Such a significant number of well-qualified staff will guarantee the continuation of good practices in the newly-formed school, e.g. the English and Spanish bilingual classes, as well as a wide range of international cooperation projects.

The most essential results that the project will achieve are raising the qualifications of the teachers, integrating innovations in the school curriculum, improving language skills, developing the use of ICT in the planning, forming and managing cooperation with European educational institutions.

The implementation of the project will bring long-term benefits. The experience in cooperating with other European teachers and institutions which the participants will gain will result in conducting new international projects. Also, the quality of planning and managing similar projects will be increased. Moreover, the teaching of particular school subjects will be enriched thanks to the use of innovative methods learned during the seminars and workshops. Furthermore, better language skills of the teachers will result in a smooth transition of English and Spanish bilingual classes from the

junior high school to the newly-formed primary school. Since more than two-thirds of the staff will be involved in the project, it is expected that teachers will increase their European awareness, will be more active and open towards new initiatives and work methods, which will prove beneficial for individual students and the whole school. Such well-qualified, proactive, involved and dedicated staff will be the new quality in the school and in return it will bring about the increased participation and motivation of the students.

Erasmus+ KA2 – ‘Water Equals Hundreds of Opportunities’

The theme of water is so broad and diversified that it enables us to incorporate it into the main parts of the school curriculum. In each partner school there is a need to improve the school curriculum by making students more active in the learning process through more student autonomy. The improved curriculums include brain-friendly lessons and 'flipped' classroom. Using these methods, students work on the theme of water in Mathematics, Sciences, ICT, English and other European languages, students are encouraged to take a cross-curricular approach in noticing the problem, analyzing a possible solution and coming up with their own conclusions through innovations. This way, they increase their level of competencies, are motivated to study, develop their interdisciplinary skills and raise their awareness of active participation in pursuing their education and future career. It enables them to become competitive on the job market since there are more and more companies dealing with the issue of water in every European country. Also, teachers can develop their teaching skills by incorporating innovative teaching approach (neurodidactics). They also improve their language and ICT skills through working together and visiting partner schools, as well as sharing their experiences and good practices. This encourages life-long learning.

'Water Equals Hundreds of Opportunities' project enables people from different European countries to realize what water-related problems other nations have, and how their local and national governments' decisions concerning water can affect their own country or region. As a result, students' and local communities' awareness are raised and the feeling of facing the same problems and necessity of cooperation among different European nations can be created.

The end results, such as improved school curriculums, a brochure on water springs and spas, e-book containing teaching and studying material for English, Mathematics and Sciences, lesson plans of brain-friendly classes and activities, 'flipped classroom' activities, as well as instructions for carrying out experiments will ensure the widespread usage of the project ideas in other educational institutions across European community.

Erasmus+ KA1 – 'Content and language integrated learning combined with information and communication technology in teaching are the key to successful bilingual classes'

Project 'Content and language integrated learning combined with information and communication technology in teaching are the key to successful bilingual classes' has been carried out by teachers from Gimnazjum nr 3, which is a part of Zespół Szkół nr 2 w Świdniku. It addressed the needs of improving unsatisfactory exam results and the lack of effective methods and resources in English bilingual classes. Seven teachers who were involved in bilingual teaching acquired new competences and developed their abilities in order to create a strategy for the development of English bilingual classes, effective implementation of bilingual programme in Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and English. Improved competences of the teachers ensured higher exam results. Improved curriculums, operating e-learning platform and innovative teaching methods, such as brain-friendly lessons, flipped classroom, allowed to achieve the main goals of the school and resulted in increased motivation among students. These changes also enable the students of the participating institution to continue their education in high schools which follow the International Baccalaureate and bilingual programmes, and, in the future, the possibility to study at renowned universities in the European Union and pursue their career.

Socrates/Comenius – ‘Beware – Be Aware’

The project dealt with the issues of healthy lifestyle, eating disorders, e.g. bulimia, anorexia, consumerism and ergonomics.

Socrates/Comenius – ‘What makes us European’

The 3-year project allowed the students to look for common themes in the arts, architecture, folk culture, sports and myths and legends to discover common features present in each European country.

Youth in Action – ‘Stop the Rubbish’

The project focused on the environmental issues, such as measuring water quality, planting trees in the neighbourhood and designing ‘green’ neighbourhoods.

Youth in Action – ‘Never Forget’

The project concentrated on teaching about the Holocaust and genocide. It involved visiting a concentration camp of Majdanek, taking part in a drama workshop by Teatr NN in Lublin and debating about human rights.

Socrates School Development Project – ‘A Caring School’

Comparing different European school counselling services for students, e.g. welcoming freshmen, preventing addictions, providing healthy food.

Socrates/Comenius – ‘Europe Alive’

The project focused on the cultural diversity of European countries. Its aim was to prevent prejudice and foster understanding and cooperation of students from 8 different European schools.

Socrates/Comenius – ‘European Ways’

The project focused on the cultural diversity of European countries. Its aim was to prevent prejudice and foster understanding and cooperation of students from 8 different European schools.

Experience and Expertise of the organization in the project’s subject area

In the school there are a lot of activities connected with healthy lifestyle and preventing addictions. Form teachers organise classes in order to raise awareness and make sure that the students know the dire consequences of alcohol addiction. Maths, Science, English and Spanish teachers also use an e-learning platform which enables teachers to use blended learning in order to enhance students’ performances, which plays a vital role in the case of students from broken families and with difficult background.

The school has taken part in numerous Comenius and Erasmus+ projects in the past. The key teachers who are involved in the project are experienced educators who are good in planning project activities for young participants, organising workshops and coordinating mobilities. The school accountant has also significant experience in planning the budget and controlling the expenses.

The school has 2 psychologists (**Ms Elżbieta Czerniak**) and 2 students’ counsellors (**Ms Halina Koperda, Ms Anna Król**) who offer their support to students and their families who are struggling with with learning difficulties, addictions and/or with special needs.

The school closely cooperates with the Regional Prophylactic Centre which organizes classes, workshops and regular events to raise awareness of the problem of addiction.

Contributions that can be provided to the project

All the teachers who will be involved in the project have been participating in the alcohol prevention programmes, e.g. “Seven Steps” for a number of years, teaching them to students aged 13-16.

Other teachers of foreign languages, ICT and all form teachers will also be involved in the implementation of the project, and if necessary, they will be able to continue the project. Due to many years of experience in implementing youth exchange and school cooperation projects, Szkoła Podstawowa nr 5 w Świdniku and its employees will ensure efficient and reliable project management, good cooperation between partner institutions, and very good dissemination of the project results.

The intellectual outputs of the project will be visible both at school and on its internet channels,

e.g. website. The school will disseminate the results of the project in the local area and its educational institutions so as to ensure the project sustainability and help it make the biggest impact.

Reasons of involvement in the project

Information, awareness and training courses, equipped with teaching aids, aimed at education and psychophysical health of young people in primary and secondary schools are the key factors to obtain. An Erasmus+ project would certainly help address a very important issue nowadays, namely preventing alcohol addiction, and be an excellent opportunity to develop linguistic competences of students and improve the level of education. The entire school community counts on the participation in the project, which will enable teacher to share experience and good practices between partner institutions, and focus the attention of the local community on the prevention addiction among teenagers, which will bring substantial benefits in the future.

Contact Person's Experience and Expertise

Mr Marcin Paśnikowski, who will be coordinating the project, has a considerable experience in carrying out such projects. He has successfully coordinated 'Erasmus+', 'Comenius' and 'Youth in Action' projects, as well as a number of other international initiatives, e.g. a students' exchange projects with the USA. He is an experienced teacher with MA in English teaching, enabling him to carry out an effective communication with partner institutions and to successfully coordinate the project.

Ms Aneta Seremak is a teacher who has taken part in numerous programmes and who will support Mr Paśnikowski in managing the project. Ms Seremak has MA in English teaching and MSc in Maths.