

The First Year of Erasmus+ Accreditation At “Bogdan Voda” Theoretical Highschool in Hălăucești

In the autumn 2021, following the selection of the National Agency for Community Programmes in the Field of Education and Vocational Training, the “Bogdan Voda” Theoretical Highschool in Hălăucești – Iași County received the **Erasmus+ Accreditation** with the number RO01-KA120-SCH-000044014, for the period 2022 - 2027. This is a tool that provides simplified annual access to funding programmes under Key Action 1, mobility projects, confirming our organization’s ability to implement a medium and long-term strategic development plan.

In the 2022 – 2023 school year, the Erasmus Accreditation allowed the “Bogdan Voda” Theoretical Highschool in Hălăucești to run the Erasmus+ mobility project KA 121 Key Action 1 - School Education, with the number **2022-1-RO01-KA121-SCH-000053298**. The project included two mobilities and aimed at the personal and professional training of eight teachers in the school, in order to adopt and use European standards in the educational process, ensure equal opportunities for all learners, improve school results, reduce absenteeism, encourage as many students as possible to continue their high school studies in our institution, towards a successful career.

The training courses included in the project provided important opportunities for the 8 participating teachers to improve their skills, covering all 3 levels of education of our school, through the participation of 2 teachers for primary education and 6 teachers teaching at secondary and high school levels.

The first mobility took place in Barcelona, from 20th to 25th February 2023, on the theme ***Web Solutions for the Classroom***. A team of 5 teachers from “Bogdan Voda” Theoretical Highschool in Hălăucești participated in the training activities organized by Europass Teacher Academy, who trained together with other teachers from Poland and Croatia.

The course brought to the attention of the participants valuable information on various e-learning working strategies, ways of using and interconnecting ICT tools. New educational software and platforms meet the users with more and more complex solutions aimed at stimulating the interest and creativity of learners. The implementation of new strategies in the classroom based on the use of new technologies, platforms and applications - *Quizlet, StoryJumper, ClassDojo, Book Creator, ChatGPT, Plickers, Sutori, Snapseed, Animoto, Goosechase, Classroomscreen, Lyrics Training, FlipaClip* etc. - contributes to the modernisation of the teaching process, increasing the efficiency of learning by stimulating the interest and motivating pupils.

The second mobility, which took place from 14th to 20th May 2023, was attended by the management team of the from “Bogdan Voda” Theoretical Highschool in Hălăucești, composed of the principal, teacher NECULĂEȘ Lidia Mihaela, the deputy principal, teacher Ph. D. GHERCĂ Iulian and teacher CĂȘUNEANU Alina, member of the Board of Directors. The course, entitled ***Program Structured Erasmus + Course about the Finnish & Estonian Education System***, was organised by EduFuture, in Finland and Estonia.

At the end of the training programme the participants in the mobilities were evaluated by the European trainers through theoretical questionnaires and practical tests, which aimed at observing the level of knowledge acquisition, skills and competences training targeted in the project. Each teacher received a European certificate of participation in the course, which was awarded in a festive setting.

The two mobilities were followed by extensive activities to disseminate information, examples of good practice, within the teacher councils, methodological meetings, parent-teacher conferences, in order to implement it in the educational process. The project team has

taken on the mission of transmitting - at the level of the institution and the local community, of the other schools in the surrounding area and in the county - the knowledge and experience gained through direct contact with the education systems of other countries, with the current trends in the field of education, by presenting the most important aspects of mobility and how the new knowledge can be used in teaching - learning - evaluation.

A series of lessons and demonstration activities were carried out using modern methods and the concept of interactive teaching using new technologies. Based on the experience gained, the participating teachers created educational games, virtual books, video materials, which contributed to the development of the common database of games on each platform, to be used for the additional benefit of the participants and implicitly of all educational institutions.

Active learning has been reflected in the increase in the percentage of students taking and passing national exams at all levels. The pass rate for the National Assessment 2023 – 8th grade was 76.48% and for the Baccalaureate 91.11%.

The activities of the project were reflected in Issue 10 of the school magazine, entitled *Cultural – Educational Milestones*, published by Pim Publishing House Iași, in 100 copies, but which can also be accessed in electronic format on the official page of the from “Bogdan Voda” Theoretical Highschool Hălăucești. The magazine is well received by teachers, students and the local community, proving its necessity and sustainability during the festivities for the opening of the new school year, which leads to the idea of continuing the publishing effort.

In the main hall of the institution, the project team has made many posters dedicated to European projects, including the one dedicated to the Accreditation Project, containing suggestive information and pictures from the two mobilities.

The official website of the project, http://liceulhalaucesti.ro/erasmus/erasmus_KA120/index.htm, has made available to those interested, through bilingual electronic pages - Romanian and English - detailed information, constantly updated, about the initiation, design, planning, implementation, running and monitoring of the project, counting in the traffic statistics over 700 unique visitors and over 9,000 hits.

Together with the other projects run by our school, the Erasmus Accreditation Project has contributed to the promotion and media coverage of the institution. The dissemination activities carried out convinced parents and students from the locality, as well as from the neighbouring villages, of the quality of the teaching activities in our institution, of the importance of enrolling and continuing their studies in Hălăucești, with 56 students enrolled in the 9th grade, which led to the realisation of the schooling plan and the keeping of the two profiles of the high school - human and real.

Through their participation in the mobilities the teachers developed their communication and social skills, improved their language skills, developed their ability to manage unusual situations, developed their cultural competences, established links with other participants and trainers, contributing to the increased internationalisation of our institution.