

Opportunities for schools with funding
from the EU Erasmus+ programme:
previous experiences



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ERASMUS+ KEY ACTION 1 TRAINING COURSES FOR TEACHERS AND OTHER SCHOOL STAFF



What were the needs identified?

- Primary teachers needing to be upskilled to teach Spanish
- To develop relationships with partner schools in Madrid for both primary and secondary colleagues

How needs met?

- Found partners for each school through the Comunidad de Madrid
- Set up 7-day courses in Madrid and Salamanca for primary teachers and other staff between 2016 and 2022 which included 2 days in schools + language training
- Helped schools to complete the application form
- Schools took up to 10 teachers each either in the same year or over 2 years
- Ran these during the Easter holidays or October half term

IMPACT: GCSE Spanish Entries



YEAR	SPANISH
2018	808
2019	1010
2020	1213
2021 No exams	1319
2022	1250
2023 1 ST Cohort from primary sat GCSE	1266
2024	1199
2025	1162

IMPACT: GCSE Entries



“Analysis of the 2024/25 GCSE entry data shows Hackney had the highest take-up of Spanish of all local authorities in England”

P91 of the Curriculum and Assessment Review (November 2025)

2023 Ebacc National 45.0%

Hackney 64.3%

2023 cohort entering GCSE 2450 of whom 2027 were entered for a language

IMPACT



- All primary schools are teaching Spanish and Year 6 Spanish data is transferred to the receiving secondary school
- Secondary schools teach Spanish as the First Foreign Language plus they teach a range of other languages, including French, Arabic, Mandarin, Modern Hebrew, Polish, Turkish.
- Access to language learning and to the celebration of all languages is a feature of the Hackney Inclusion strategy
- There were entries in 17 different languages at GCSE in 2025 from Hackney schools from Arabic to Urdu
- Hispanic Week activities take place in schools across the borough in June

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Non-Language courses run between 2019 – 2022

Identify an over-riding theme:

1. “From Good to Outstanding” €185,800 – 4 visits with 75 places
 - a) Inclusion to Berlin to look at their Welcome programme for Syrian pupils (previous contact from Comenius days)
 - b) Developing excellent CLIL practice to Tenerife (Hackney has a Memorandum of Agreement with the Canary Island Gov)
 - c) Enhancing the Music provision to Finland (a teacher who used to teach at the HMS returned to Finland)
 - d) Daily Supported Reading for KS1/KS2 to Tenerife

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Non-Language courses run between 2019 – 2022

Over riding theme: 2. Leadership €179,625 – 3 visits with 75 places

- a) School Leadership to Helsinki (contact via OECD contact)
- b) Maths Leadership to Estonia (contact found on Erasmus+ site)
- c) Mentoring to Tenerife (was meant to be to Germany but they pulled out)

Key Action 2 Partnerships including staff and pupil mobility



School partnerships

- St John of Jerusalem Primary on Developing an Eco school with their partner in Madrid
- Orchard Primary on Art with their partner school in Madrid
- Parkwood Primary School on Art and Architecture with partner schools in Zamora, Spain and Oporto, Portugal

Strategic Partnership on the Synergy between EAL and CLIL approaches with 11 partners in 4 different countries: UK, Spain, Portugal, Poland - including 7 primary schools, 1 University, 1 Regional Education Dept, 1 Embassy, 1 Local Authority
€234,367