Erasmus+ Day with ACE+UK

September 2026

Notes from Steven Fawkes

Terminology etc.

Erasmus+ **Actions** include

Key Action 1 (**KA1**) – largely to do with **Mobilities** (i.e. teachers or learners travelling to learn something). Focus is on a **School** and partners come later.

Key Action 2 (**KA2**) – largely projects (not just mobilities) with partners in different countries. Focus is on a **shared idea**, and making it a reality. Partners are included in the application.

The new Erasmus+ **Programme Guide** is coming; it is very substantial, and serves also as a **rule book**.

An Erasmus+ **consortium** is a group of organisations in the same country who apply together. Consortium co-ordinators can gain **accreditation**, which gives them **fast track access** to yearly funding, based on a **long-term strategic pl**an.

UK Dept. for Education and British Council will define who can be a co-ordinator in the UK but we know that schools, Local Authorities, multi academy trusts and FE colleges will be able to apply and / or lead a consortium.

2027 and the UK

For this year accreditation is waived for the UK, and UK groups are encouraged to apply freely.

There is a large budget and a massive demand for UK partners from other countries. The UK Secretary of State for Education has written to all schools to **urge participation.** The Department of Education is preparing a **Toolkit on Taking pupils overseas** (advice on risk assessment / sample letters to parents.)

Additional funding is available to support **disadvantaged** students, or people with SEND.

An Erasmus+ experience can be linked to the **International School Award**
https://www.britishcouncil.org/school-resources/accreditation/international-school-award

NB 'the beneficiary organisations must keep ownership of core implementation tasks and may not outsource these tasks to other organisations'. Erasmus+ funding is intended to support educational institutions - schools can't just give their Erasmus+ funding to use a travel company.

The Erasmus+ priority areas:

Inclusion and Diversity – *offering unique experiences to disadvantaged learners?*

Participation in Democratic Life – *enhancing the sense of active citizenship?*

Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change – *engaging the minds of young people on issues of global importance?*

Digital Transformation – *addressing ethical issues and developing safe behaviours*?

Recommendations from experienced co-ordinators:

Involve your School Leaders in developing a plan, in line with the School Development Plan priorities. ALL is drafting a document to engage School Leaders.
Start small and successful – e.g. with KA1 courses for Teachers, including CPD abroad, and job shadow projects. You can also apply for pupil mobility under the same KA1 application form.

In your application, allow some scope for flexibility.

Don't obsess over details that everyone else will be including.

Be honest about the current situation and practical about the steps you envisage to the outcome you are aiming at.

Create an Erasmus+ project webpage – to share your success and draw others in for future projects.

Where to get help:

ACE+UK For institutions considering coordinating a consortium Erasmus+ bid, the not for profit ACE+UK has been created to support you (Association of Coordinators for Erasmus+): https://aceplusuk.org/

British Council: https://www.britishcouncil.org/school-resources/erasmusplus
https://www.erasmusplus.org.uk/