

# SIPP Newsletter

January 18, 2018

Issue 1



## Key Project Updates:

1. Project Kick Off – 1<sup>st</sup> Transnational Meeting & External Evaluator Update

2. Delivering Data

3. Training Event 1 – March 2018, UK

## Erasmus+ - School Improvement Partnership Project

The School Improvement Partnership Project is a 3 year project co-funded by the support of the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union.

The following five international partner organisations will be working together, led by Learning Plus UK Data Ltd, on a pilot scheme to trial a European Grade Predictor Tool in their respective countries:

- Learning Plus UK Data Ltd, UK
- Centro de Formacion Profesional Xabec, Spain
- Galway and Roscommon Education and Training Board, Ireland
- Sataedu, Finland
- Zlínský kraj, Czech Republic



The SIP Project will utilise the idea of the LPUK Grade Predictor and how its concept could be used in other education systems to support:

- Students choosing appropriate courses to study and so aid retention at Post-16
- Sharing practice and resources across education systems to help support target setting and progress at Post-16

The Grade Predictor methodology in the UK is based on robust data which is then interpreted to predict students' performance in the future, based on their achievement in the past. The SIP Project will oversee this formula being transferred to the international partner organisations and their education systems.

Further details on the project milestones, progress and activities will be circulated in future issues...

## Project Kick-Off Meeting – 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017, UK

The Project Coordinators and those assisting in the project from the partner organisations, braved the cold, snowy UK weather for the 1<sup>st</sup> Transnational Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

The meeting was used to review operational matters, contractual requirements, introduce the project, plan dates for future activities and undertake one-to-one sessions. The meeting also enabled each partner organisation to better understand the education systems in each country.



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A number of partner organisations have previously worked together on other Erasmus+ programmes and those strong bonds were notably evident.

## Transnational Meeting Evaluation – a Very Good Start!

Brian Martin the external evaluator attended the transnational meeting, He reported that:



- The meeting met the requirements of the project. Schedules were adhered to, the pace seemed right. It was a very full and comprehensive programme. Questions and discussions were encouraged. Delegates seemed to appreciate the efforts very much that the organiser made to provide an environment which was accessible and provided a good facility to meet. Comments from delegates included: "The one to one was helpful in relation to next steps", "In general the meeting has been well planned and gave us the next steps "and "We have found that the meeting was extremely explanatory especially as one of our team was inexperienced in Erasmus".
- The leadership shown by Learning Plus UK was well appreciated and partners welcomed this strong but also inclusive approach. This should be continued. The mixture of group and one to one sessions worked well and should continue throughout the project. The participation of all partners in the agenda is to be encouraged.

Brian concluded by saying "As the external evaluator I felt included in all the activity and had a voice which was listened to similar to all participants. I was very grateful for that and am looking forward to working on a project which will have a major impact on the lives of students.



## Delivering Data

The next step in the project lies with each partner organisation. Previous year's data in electronic format will be needed to develop the European Grade Predictor Tools. Locally, the schools and colleges that will be involved need to be defined and a project team assigned.

## Training Event 1- March 2018, UK

A 5 day training course will be held in the UK in March 2018. The course will be delivered by Learning Plus UK Data Ltd and will include observation, shadowing, lecture, workshop and discussion of the LPUK Grade Predictor Tool in a school and a further education college where it is currently being used. Delegates will also be attending the Learning Plus UK Annual Summit event with national speakers from, the DFE, OFSTED and UCAS. More details on this event will be announced in future issues..



If you would like more information about the School Improvement Partnership Project, email us at [office@learningplusuk.org](mailto:office@learningplusuk.org) or call +44 118 324 6696.

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