

SIPP Newsletter

March 2018

Issue 2



Key Project Updates:

1. Training Event 1 – March 2018, UK
2. Data Update
3. Safe Arrival Project – Early school leaving prevention
4. Koski – Study credits & Study rights in Finland
5. The Value of Work Experience
6. Coláiste Bhaile Chláir

Training Event 1- March 2018, UK

Work is now well under way on this 5 day training course delivered by Learning Plus UK Data Ltd. Delegates, from our Partner organisations, will visit both a school and a Further Education College as part of the event.

The course will concentrate on preparing staff with the skills to trial the European Grade Predictor Tool in their country.

Delegates will also attend the Learning Plus UK Annual Summit event with national speakers from, the DFE, OFSTED and UCAS.

The training event will start with a welcome reception on Sunday 11th March and conclude on Friday 16th March 2018.

We expect delegates to use the training activities to inspire, upskill and provide resources and techniques in their own countries.

Each delegate will provide an action plan as to what they will implement in their own country and by when. Delegates will receive a Certificate to certify their participation and to indicate the topics covered.

We look forward to welcoming our European delegates at this event next month.

Data Update

The Learning Plus UK Data team is in contact with all partner organisations on their next steps to providing meaningful data; data templates have been sent out to each partner institution. Once this data is received, the Data team can get to work on developing the first build of the European Grade Predictor Tool for them to trial. Exciting times...!

Early school leaving prevention is not a new topic to the partners



Co-funded by the support of the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union



Zlínský kraj in the Czech Rep., Galway Technical Institute in Ireland and XABEC in Spain had worked together in the Lifelong Learning Programme project called Safe Arrival. The Safe Arrival Project was a project amongst a consortium of 5 institutions from 5 European countries: Sandwell MBC in the United Kingdom, Galway Technical Institute in Ireland, Partners Hungary Foundation in Hungary, XABEC in Spain and Zlínský kraj in the Czech Republic, who all want young people to safely arrive in employment or further training. The aim of the project was to reduce dropout and NEET (persons who are not in education, employment, or training) amongst high risk learners in initial vocational education and training (iVET) by equipping professionals to identify them early. The impacts of NEET are well known: limited qualifications, more likely to be teenage parents, a high risk of poor mental/general health, increased drug use, more likely to commit crime and shorter life expectancy. These all point to the risks of entering the NEET category when leaving education and a need for

interventions. The partnership has developed and implemented a tool which is a significant aid in the targeting of resources and interventions to address dropout. The Safe Arrival project contributed to raising awareness of early school leaving in partner countries and created a network of professionals which could be a solid foundation to build up The SIPP cooperation on. For more information please visit <http://www.safearrivalproject.com/>

Koski - Study credits and study rights combined in one service in Finland

Koski collects information on the education of each learner from a single piece of study up to the degrees completed. The service also includes information about the study rights and the core content and competence requirements of the completed qualifications.

Data is gathered from existing registers and registers which will be established now. The National Board of Education will build the service together with the Ministry of Education and Culture. The law required by the Koski service has been confirmed and will enter into force on 1 January 2018. The Koski service is planned for full use in 2019.

The Koski service can display the following information:

Primary school, high school, vocational school credits and study rights since January 2018

Matriculation examinations since 1990

Higher education credits and study rights are generally visible from 1995 onwards, but there may be university-specific exceptions.

Data can be utilized for example:

- in designing and personalizing your studies
- recognition of previously acquired competence
- job searching
- the progress of studies and the follow-up of attendance in education
- training funding
- training statistics
- training evaluation

Because of Koski Service, different authorities need not maintain duplicate registers. This saves both money and time. Information is automatically transferred to the system from education and training providers, so the collection and delivery will not be time-consuming.

The Value of Work Experience as an Intervention

Using The Grade Predictor tool in your institution might identify the need for an intervention to motivate and inspire your students. Do not forget about the benefits of work experience for doing this. In the UK it is something that is becoming less evident.

This is an interesting article found in the FE news that outlines its value -click [here](#) to read.

<https://www.fenews.co.uk/featured-article/15971-the-lack-of-work-experience-provision-is-a-black-mark-on-the-uk-s-education-system>

GRETB - Coláiste Bhaile Chláir

Coláiste Bhaile Chláir is delighted to be part of the School Improvement Partnership Project 2017-2020. Coláiste Bhaile Chláir (Claregalway College) is situated on the outskirts of Galway City in a village called Claregalway. The school first opened their doors in 2013 and have their first Leaving Certificate exam students in June 2018. It is a multid denominational school with approximately

1,000 students both boys and girls. Coláiste Bhaile Chláir is a very innovative school with students using Surface Pro's instead of school books where the teachers create their own ebooks.

Two teachers Ms Niamh Burke and Ms Karen Burke along with Deputy Principal Ms Claire Kilroy will attend the training week in Maidenhead in March and are really looking forward to learning more about the programme and how the grade predictors will unravel. Both Karen and Niamh come from a background of Maths and Science so they are enthused to see how the programme will work. See you all on the 12th March!



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

This publication/communication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.