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Erasmus+ t-MAIL project
<http://www.tmailproject.eu/>

Dear Colleague/s December, 2016

Are you interested in better understanding how to teach Learning-to-Learn strategies in the primary school classroom, or do you have colleagues who would benefit from such advice? We are currently involved in a European Erasmus+ project looking at a new methodology for professional development around the theme of Learning-to-Learn which also involves the use of mobile technologies. We anticipate that your involvement will enhance your own professional skills and also support the strategic aims of schools that are interested in Learning to Learn type approaches. These benefits are explained in more detail below.

The t-MAIL project is exploring how mobile devices (e.g. Smartphones and tablet computers) can be used to deliver blended professional development in primary schools, and the effectiveness of this training model in developing knowledge, understanding and in changing practice in the classroom. For this pilot we are looking at Learning to Learn (referred to in this project as Self-Regulated Learning) as the content of the professional development. We hope that this will give us a model for the delivery of other content via this method.

If you are interested in taking part in this work your involvement would include:

1. Two 90 minute face-to-face sessions at a location in central London
 **Monday January 23rd and Wednesday March 15th 2017 (each 4.30 – 6.00 PM)**
2. Approximately 3-4 hours between these sessions completing some trial courses in Self-Regulated Learning on the mobile application (freely available)
3. Trying out some of the suggested strategies in your classrooms, reflecting on and reporting back some of the ideas contained in the courses with the opportunity for a Skype call or other feedback with one of the organisers midway through the trial.
4. Project evaluation – this will be an online survey with an additional short survey for your Headteacher (if appropriate).

The benefits of being involved in this project include:

1. Certification from the Erasmus project and from the University of Hull (project partners in the UK)
2. Support in applying for Key Action 1 funding from Erasmus+ to support hosting or exchanges with other teachers in the project in Belgium and Spain, if applicable (see below)
3. Access to a bank of support resources both academic and practical on Learning to Learn
4. A small token payment of £20.00/participant to cover travel costs.
5. The provision of coffee and cake at the face-to-face sessions.

We look forward to hearing from you. To register we will need your name, school name and contact details (email address). We will be in touch with location details for the sessions in early January.

Kind regards

Ray Kirtley (R.Kirtley@hull.ac.uk Tel: 01482 465125 or 07453 476869)

**Further details:**

**Self Regulated Learning (SRL)**

Sometimes called **Self Directed Learning**, or **Learning to Learn**, or **Metacognition** this refers to learning that is guided by *metacognition* (thinking about one's thinking), *strategic action* (planning, monitoring, and evaluating personal progress against a standard), and *motivation to learn*. "Self-regulated" describes a process of taking control of and evaluating one's own learning and/or behaviour. This project uses Zimmerman’s model and divides SRL into three phases:

The **Forethought** Phase: Work that prepares students before the start their activities or studying and involves setting learning goals;

The **Performance** Phase: Work that they carry out as part of their activities or studying and involved attention and willpower;

The **Self-Reflection** Phase: Work they carry out after their activities or studying and review their performance from allied to their initial goals.

**Erasmus+ Key Action 1 funding for teacher mobility**

This is an EU project with pilots taking place in primary schools in Belgium (Brussels), Spain (Madrid) and in the UK. Teachers who are participating have similar interests both in SRL and in this training model and the potential to widen their learning through direct observation and sharing of classroom practices. We are therefore keen to support pilot schools in applying for Erasmus + Key Action 1 funding which would enable interested teachers, headteachers and/or classroom assistants to visit one of the pilot schools for a short job shadowing experience (2-5 days). A ‘sending’ school receives funding for travel, accommodation and a €300 management grant per member of staff taking part. The application deadline is 2nd February 2017 so we will support any interested schools through January as they complete the application form. We will also set up a ‘dating database’ so that everyone can see which schools are interested in professional development visits and which on hosting teacher(s). We hope to receive this information from our colleagues in Belgium and Spain early in 2017.

**What to do next:**

Every school needs a Participant Identification Code (PIC) number before it can be part of a KA1 ‘project’ and this includes those schools who wish to act as hosts. This is explained step by step at: <https://www.erasmusplus.org.uk/schools-funding> where you will also be able to download a 2017 application form and guidelines. Look out also for webinars and other help our national agency (the British Council) provides in the run up to the deadline.

**Adding other training opportunities to your application:**

KA 1 applications can cover up to 24 months so why not take the opportunity to add further activities to your application form that also help to support the strategic aims of the school? Many schools not only apply for a job shadowing but also include in their application related training courses (which are also fully funded). You can name a particular course or simply identify a general training need in the school which an appropriate course could satisfy. We are involved with colleagues in the provision of courses on using mobile devices for classroom based research (Malta), on enhancing language teaching in primary schools (France and Spain) and on school leadership and management (Sweden). Please ask for further details.