

## **Dami Edu-Tours**

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Our project aims to improve professional development at Damjanich János Általános Iskola Isaszeg.

We have two main goals:

1. Strengthen the International dimensions of the school by setting up international partnerships
2. Improving and raising teaching standards at our school by a fundamental change in our language teaching policy.

In 2008 our school introduced a revised English language program where students have been able to access get to quality language classes. The program has fulfilled the expectations of both parents and students.

Now we feel the need to take that initiative a step further by introducing Hungarian-English bilingual education at our school. To be able to do so, the following changes are necessary:

- improving the English language competence of teachers participating in the program
- updating colleagues' methodological competence
- studying planning and organizing tasks related to bilingual programs

Reinforcement of the international status of our institution will be aided by a number of visits to various international partners where our colleagues will be able to study and acquire new forms of international cooperation by participating in job shadowing events.

Experience is also needed in planning and managing international projects.

Participating in the aforementioned teacher training programs also reinforces international relationships.

As well as broadening our colleagues' professional spectrum and picking up new ideas and practices, we are hoping to lay the foundations for future mobility programs.

With these aims in mind we are planning to:

1. In order to improve and refresh professional standards of education at our school, 7 colleagues will participate in professional training courses to improve their language competence and to pick up new ideas and practices in areas of great importance for our institution, such as CLIL, project and competency based education, Lego-aided learning, the story telling method, emotional education, knowledge about education of students with special needs. Some courses involve visits to different institutions.

Job shadowing also serves professional development and gaining experience in organizing bilingual education.

2. The international presence of our institution is supported by:
  - a 5-day visit to a Spanish bilingual school with 4 participants.

This way 11 colleagues will participate in various mobility projects.

Participants come from various professional areas of our institution: lower as well as upper grades, school management, project management.

### Results and effects of the planned activities.

General results:

The project increases participants' overall personal and professional motivation, improves their competencies needed for international cooperation.

Specific effects:

Participants in the project will be able to communicate and conduct classes in English at a high level. They will become familiar with and apply CLIL methodology.

They will become familiar with and incorporate innovative methodology into their everyday teaching practice.

Participants will improve skills needed for cooperation.

One important methodological gain will be the thorough knowledge of bilingual education.

In the long run

By spreading and this way multiplying the knowledge and experience gained at the various mobility programs, our colleagues will have an effect on their broader environment. They will motivate other colleagues to gain international experience.

Partnership programs for our students will raise the standards of intercultural education in general, this way increasing students' chances of future international employment.

Our school becomes more international and open, this way improving and refreshing the general quality of education.