



In this issue:

- ✓ Results of the Trials
- ✓ Impact of the project
- ✓ Final partner meeting

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Directorate Of Primary
Education Of Western
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[http://dipe-v-
thess.thess.sch.gr/](http://dipe-v-thess.thess.sch.gr/)



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Konya

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www.konya.bel.tr



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Testing the Scheme



Teacher training session in Spain

Partners have been continuing to trial the Young Interpreter scheme and they have reached far more individuals than first planned. When we planned this project the aim was to involve 20 pupils in total as Young Interpreters. In fact the project has reached 100. We aimed to support 120 pupils but supported 398 overall and instead of involving only 20 teachers or teaching assistants we had 92 involved.

We worked with pupils from a very wide range of languages, 19 in total – including Middle Eastern, Asian and European languages.

At the time that this project was planned, there was a focus on the Syrian war, but in the three years that we have been working on this project, the Taliban has taken over in Afghanistan and Russia invaded Ukraine. This led to new waves of migration and created a further need to provide support to those nationalities.

The ways in which partners implemented the scheme has reflected their own context. One of the challenges faced was how to manage the scheme when the Young Interpreter was in a different class to the pupil who was supported. This required some creativity. An example of this comes for Greece, where Karim, who speaks Arabic at home and is in grade 5 was trained as Young Interpreter to help a child in grade 1. In order to create time to do this, Karim was removed from RE, and used this time to support his partner in her Year 1 class.



Karim helping his new Year 1 friend

In the UK, the project was used to develop a model of peer support for those needing greater help with their literacy and aligned it to the school's development of student leadership, starting with pupils aged 7. The school also used the scheme to help with interpreting for parents and there were also examples of using a similar approach in Turkey.

Testing the Accreditation Scheme

Partners evaluated the scheme and analysed the impact. This has been collated into an overall Impact report which is available on the Project website younginterpretersEU.weebly.com and the Erasmus+ Results platform.

For the young interpreters the project had an impact on their competence in literacy and language development, but also on other skills such as initiative, leadership and creativity. For the supported pupils there was a very significant impact on language development and the ability to build relationships, and with both sets of target groups, a big improvement in confidence and self-esteem.



David receives his Award in Italy

The impact on the teachers led to them changing their practice and in some cases making changes to the timetable to facilitate the programme. There was evidence that teachers saw the benefits for both their own practice and for their pupils. There was also an impact on parents. Pupils required parental approval to become involved, and this led to improvements in communication and engagement of parents, some of whom were reluctant to be closely involved with the schools, because of their own language barriers.



Young Interpreter Paraskevi in Greece

Final Partner Meeting

Partners came together for a final meeting in Thessaloniki in Greece in October 2022. It provided an opportunity to celebrate however and to meet some of the Greek pupils who had been involved and to formally present them with their Gold awards. The main item of discussion was the Impact of the project and all partners were able to leave with the feeling that this had been an extremely successful project.



Final meeting in Greece

The Future

All partners have shared the programme through a series of events in each of the partner countries. The scheme is free to download from the project website. The resources are also available on the Erasmus+ Results platform which makes them open to all European countries.

We are also planning a training course which will be eligible for an Erasmus KA1 grant next year. If any organisation is interested in applying for a grant to attend you can contact us for advice and support through the project website.



KEEP IN TOUCH

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Click on the icon or follow:

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Erasmus+ is the European Union's programme to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe. Its budget between 2014 and 2020 of €14.7 billion will provide opportunities for over 4 million Europeans to study, train, and gain experience abroad.

Find out more on: <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/>

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