

ESCOLA PALCAM, BARCELONA (SPAIN)

Escola Pàlcam is a semi-private state-funded school in the city centre of Barcelona. It was founded in 1956 as a small school and has been growing ever since in the district of Horta-Guinardó. Nowadays, we have about 1,600 students ranging from Preschool to Baccalaureate and Vocational Training and about 100 teachers. As a school, we have been working for the last ten years in quality processes and we obtained the ISO 9001 six years ago. We have also been working on strategic plans for the improvement of the education offered, aiming at foreign languages,



technology and values. Our students study robotics since preschool and take about 10 hours a week of subjects in English until they access university. Besides, we have been implementing several measures to ensure that our students get the most of their education.

We have an innovation department that promotes initiatives that will lead to a constant updating and improvement of the methodologies used in class. In the last few years, we have introduced project-based work, cooperative work, flipped classrooms and problem-based learning. We are going to start using tablets and digital materials instead of traditional paper books from grade 5 on. This will allow us to increase and improve cooperative work and our flipped-classroom approaches to achieve a learner-centered type of learning.

For us, international exchanges are also a key element. We have been having exchanges with schools from Denmark, Poland, Germany, England and the Netherlands. Moreover, we coordinated an Erasmus+ project from 2014 to 2016, and we are partners in an ongoing project called Europe-United diversity 2017-2019. We consider these projects an excellent tool to expand our students' horizons. We have a whole team of teachers devoted and committed to these projects as we want to keep giving these opportunities to our pupils. In our team, there are teachers from all the areas involved, and our international projects have become a top priority for them. This project will allow us to join some of the objectives we have as a school into one single project. We will be working at an international level, together with three European schools, exchanging beliefs, perspectives and experiences with them, and raising the awareness of our students regarding the main problems our societies are going through. All of this within a methodologically innovative environment, joining technology and learner-centered approaches. The people in charge of the project will be a team of teachers with wide experience in international projects and exchanges. They will be led by Marc Miret, in charge of International projects at the school.