

# Contemporary Literacy in Contemporary Kids

## ABOUT SUSTAINABILITY

For any educational project sustainability means diversity and intensity of the activities/outputs maintained or developed after the end of funding. Alternatively it may refer to the intensity and enlargement of project partners' future potential collaboration. In the former case, the partner schools would continue working on the familiar topics by engaging increasingly larger audiences. In the latter case, the schools would be running a new project to take them one or two steps further.

For us sustainability means that we'll be maintaining the outcomes of the project activities, and we'll be drawing from the ideas we generated to move on and try out something even more daring. Critical thinking, collaboration, skilled communication and creativity are the factors we value. The most important conclusion we've drawn, however, is that the progressive views of learning and teaching should go hand in hand with the traditional ones. Higher order thinking can only happen when the basics are intact. With this quite helpful finding our teachers can feel much more confident and autonomous in their choice of teaching methods.

As partner schools we have much in common, but there are some specific things each of us would like to pursue in particular. For TTG this project means more innovation and for CTMB — more European level collaboration in their everyday practice. 10iCampus will use our project outcomes to support their international strategy. C.E. Rivas Luna will take advantage of intercultural dialogue, mutual learning and shared experience. CFPIMM will focus on pedagogical competencies in their staff and European intercultural conscience in their students. Finally, TSAAL will apply their teachers' and students' intercultural communication skills in order to raise cultural awareness of their community in general.

Our project paid a lot of attention to modern didactics, European dimension and intercultural communication. Moreover, human rights, democracy, respect and tolerance were continuously highlighted along the way. As a direct result, the teachers grew more confident and autonomous in their choice of study methods and topics. The partner schools paid much more attention to European dimension in education. Everyone raised their intercultural awareness, and thanks to intensive interaction, both teachers and students considerably improved their communicative English. All these improvements directly refer to the sustainability of this project as they define how the participants and the schools will act in the future.

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The quality of the project design, a sense of ownership, motivation of the participants, effective management, leadership, as well as adequate resources for continuation add value to sustainability, too. Let us therefore look at these aspects more closely below.

The quality of our project management was monitored throughout the project period through six feedback sessions after each transnational event, three joint mid-term evaluations after each learning, teaching and training activity, one joint quality check done in the second project meeting, and the final evaluation done in the third project meeting. Apart from that, the partner schools carried out three quality checks locally. The evaluation sessions turned out to be quite valuable as they helped to make sure we were on the right track. There were very few problems we had to face, however, as each partner school carried out their responsibilities with due diligence.

So we decided during the evaluation sessions that all activities we planned for our students were functional, relevant and suitable. In addition, we made sure that from activity to activity high standards of delivery didn't change, so we actually never failed. We worked hard on setting appropriate homework tasks, inviting effective speakers, dividing responsibilities, staying on schedule and delivering against our promises. We had some problems with our website, a few misunderstandings due to cultural differences, and sometimes the participants couldn't contribute as much as they would have wanted because they lacked English skills.

Still, our partnership agreement worked very well. According to our agreement, TTG monitored the budget and time. CFPIMM took care of the quality management and TSAAL looked after the risk management. C.E. Rivas Luna reported on implementation and CTMB helped with sustainability issues. Finally, 10iCampus modelled our way through dissemination activities.

We really created something significant through this partnership: a special group feeling, constructive working atmosphere and smooth intercultural communication patterns. We worked hard and intensively, and we had lots of fun together. We felt ownership and togetherness in almost everything we did. So we can proudly state that our project was worth our while in every sense.

CLICK project team  
August 2017