

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT. IES FUENTESNUEVAS 2021-2027.

The secondary and vocational training education school of Fuentesnuevas offers 5 vocational training cycles of higher education:

Higher Technician in Laboratory of Analysis and Quality Control, Higher Technician in Processes and Quality in the Food Industry, Higher Technician in Integral Aesthetics and Wellness, Higher Technician in Dietetics and Higher Technician in Health Documentation.

Among the objectives included in the Educational Project, we read " training for the exercise of professional activities, promoting the use of IT as a means of optimizing performance in lifelong learning and in the workplace.", in addition to the following precepts:

- a) Personalized training.
- b) Effective gender equality of rights.
- c) The development of creative and critical skills.
- d) Encouraging habits of democratic behaviour.
- e) The integration of minorities.

Any activity or project (e.g. Erasmus) in which IES Fuentesnuevas participates must be in accordance with the Educational Project of the Centre, which includes the identity of our institution.

The areas of knowledge as well as the objectives set out in the Educational Project will be the starting point and the criteria on which to base the choice of the partner institutions. That is to say, they will be institutions related to the areas of knowledge of Health, Chemistry, Food Industries or Personal Image, to be able to carry out an interchange of contents, methods, in general, of experiences of interest both for our centre and for the partner institution.

The Erasmus programme will enable the modernisation and internationalisation of an area, such as ours, which is lagging behind in its development due to the closure of mines and the dismantling of thermal power stations, accompanied by a large part of the industrial network which they supported. IES Fuentesnuevas' participation in the Erasmus Program will definitely contribute to the modernization of our institution:

1. There will be increasing performance levels to provide Europe with the graduates and researchers needed.
2. There will be an improvement on the quality and relevance of higher education. Fuentesnuevas High School keeps track of the employability of its graduates. This information is highly useful to know the real demand on different job sectors, to promote the use of new technologies and to support continuous training in teachers.
3. Quality will be strengthened through mobility and cross-border cooperation. Erasmus mobility implementation improves the conditions of employment and the chances of progress for students.
4. There will be a consolidation of the so-called knowledge triangle: Higher Education, Research and Business Excellence, Regional Development. IES

Fuentesnuevas has a partner- company network which has been shaped over the years: students have performed their FCT (training at the workplace) and some of them have taken part in other collaborative projects, including innovation projects; and teachers have also performed academic visits.

Moreover, training and living abroad is an enriching experience that, in addition to the professional skills, allows the completion of the personal and digital and social skills of the future higher technicians and improves skills in another language and stimulates the ability to adapt to different environments. This will provide for the experience of European identity in all its diversity, contributing this way to the construction of a European Education Area.

Furthermore, Erasmus activities support the exchange of experiences between educational institutions and between companies and the educational institution, allowing the transfer and updating of knowledge.

Our participation in Erasmus has as its main objective that our Higher Education students may carry out the Workplace Training Module in an internship in a company abroad, but both for students in Higher Education and for staff who carry out a mobility, we also aim to:

1. Complete professional skills of the students and staff of the centre.
2. Promote mobility and create job opportunities at European level.
3. Develop social and linguistic skills.
4. Extend and enhance our knowledge in the use of IT and promote the use of technology throughout the Erasmus programme by supporting a zero-paper policy which is linked to the development of good environmental practices
5. Encourage entrepreneurship, creative thinking and innovative approaches within the curricula as well as the methodology used by the teaching staff.
6. Get to know the culture and way of life of other European countries and become aware of the common values which belong to all of them.

By obtaining the Erasmus Charter for the next period 2021-2027, IES Fuentesnuevas will be able to promote the transfer of knowledge with European companies, since the students carry out simultaneously the Workplace Training Module in the company and a project, which usually has to do with research. This project is an essential 30-hour module to obtain the Higher Technician's degree. The collaboration of the companies in carrying out this project will enrich our students, both on a technical and a linguistic level, as they are usually obliged to do it in the language of the host company and in Spanish.

Finally, but also very important, IES Fuentesnuevas wants to continue carrying out staff mobilities as we have done in previous years. These mobilities are a great contribution both to the training and experience of the staff that participates and to the educational centre.

The activities to be carried out will be:

- Internships for students in public or private organisations active in the labour market.
- Teaching by our staff at homologous institutions of higher education

- Training for teaching and non-teaching staff of higher education institutions.
- Participation in collaborative projects with other homologous institutions of higher education in the development of innovative intellectual products.
- Collaboration with private companies to develop and implement new protocols and/or professional techniques.

The implementation of these activities will contribute to the achievement of the objectives mentioned in the previous section.

The implementation of internships and training by teachers through the Erasmus+ programme will allow the development of skills in other languages, one of our objectives. It will also allow the completion of participants' academic and professional skills and the development of cultural awareness of those elements that make up European identity.

On the other hand, this internship, as it is included in the official curriculum, allows the combination of the academic and professional fields.

In addition, participation in collaborative projects will provide approaches to innovative points of view and promote entrepreneurial culture and creative thinking, another of our objectives. For the search of collaboration, we will use tools such as e-Twinning and other.

In the same way, collaboration with private companies will imply the expansion of work possibilities for our students and teachers. We will make use here of the network of companies that our school already has and which will ensure the quality and compatibility of the new companies with which we can sign collaboration agreements.

The establishment of a network of European contacts with companies and institutions that are related to the training cycles taught in our centre and the various cooperations mentioned will allow an expansion of educational and employment opportunities for our students and staff that will result in a better job placement and an excellent academic update

We will make a fair and transparent selection of candidates, ensuring compatibility with other scholarships. Of the whole process, we will make the corresponding publicity, record keeping and publication in our web and social networks. In this regard, we will also be involved in the use of the Erasmus+ app and digital technology (web, blog, links to the National Agency and European institutions...) in the development of the Erasmus actions.

Finally, we will follow up our Erasmus+ students at the end of their internships, as we do with the rest of our students, through the Employment Bureau already set up in our centre in recent years.

About 150 VET students related to the areas of Health, Chemistry, Food Industry or Personal Image and 100 teaching and non-teaching staff may benefit from the project.

IES Fuentesnuevas expects to produce 5 internship mobilities for students and 6 teaching and training mobilities for staff per school year.

For students, their participation in the Erasmus+ Programme improves their employability and they end up in better- paid jobs (up to 25% more).

Internships in European countries open the door to different ways of business organization which they can then apply in the companies of their country and allow them to establish contacts at European level which can be very useful in their future work.

Participating in the Erasmus+ Programme also increases their knowledge of languages and their cultural level, so important when looking for a job.

Finally, it enriches their life experience, offering a development of maturity and personal and social skills that would not be possible without knowing cultures and societies different from theirs.

Most of the targets just mentioned can also be applied to teachers, who, in addition, can benefit from the exchange of experiences between educational institutions and between companies and the educational institution, allowing the transfer and updating of knowledge and educational methodology.

IES Fuentesnuevas will seek the most appropriate strategy for the organization and implementation of the cooperation projects in which it participates, those related to education and training and, also, those from the different areas of knowledge which are taught at the School: Health, Personal Image, Food and Chemical Industries.

To do so, we will take advantage of our previous experience in education and training projects, both with our students and teachers.

Each different teaching Department will choose the most suitable and profitable project (in educational terms) related to the different knowledge areas, and the teachers at the Department will be responsible for its execution.

For participation in collaborative projects, the staff involved will have Headmistress Office's support. All necessary resources will be provided as far as possible, and the Erasmus Coordinator will assist in the administration of official documentation