

## LESSONS FROM FINLAND WITH EDUCATIONAL VISITS TO SCHOOLS

### Who is this course for?

This course is aimed at teachers and school staff from pre-school level to primary, secondary, vocational, adult and special needs education, staff of non-government organizations, government and policy makers and company staff as well as students and all those who want learn about the education system and culture in Finland and get in touch with teachers and headmasters in Finnish schools. The course will focus on specific aspects of Finnish culture and education system highlighting the good teaching practices as well as providing networking opportunities and establishing possible future partnerships.

### Methodology

Methodology is based on theoretical lessons and presentations of examples of good practice as well as practical workshops, study visits to schools, field projects to places of natural, historical and cultural significance, discussions, reflections and cultural exchanges.

### Outcomes

- Familiarizing with the Finnish culture and education system.
- Enhancing understanding of the support systems for teachers in Finland.
- Understanding of organizational aspects of Finnish schools.
- Understanding student centered approaches applied in Finnish education system.
- Developing communication, collaboration, presentation, problem solving, negotiation, critical and creative thinking skills.
- Providing and exercising creative ideas and practical resources for successful implementation of student-centered pedagogical approaches.
- Improving English fluency (official language of the course).
- Promoting intercultural awareness.
- Exchanging views and opinions on challenges and solutions from different organizations in order to help each of us to be more effective in our work.
- Strengthening the European collaboration among people involved in education in different contexts.
- Providing insights into different education systems.

## Preparation

After registration participants will receive pre-course questionnaire which will be used by the trainer to learn about participants' teaching backgrounds and to assess their exact needs. Before the beginning of the course a basic reading list will be suggested to participants to prepare for the training. Participants will also be asked to prepare a presentation about themselves, their professional context and their culture. The presentation will be presented on the first day of the course to facilitate networking opportunities. Participants will receive information about the destination they are going to visit in order to prepare them for their cultural experience.

## Follow up

After the course participants will be asked to share what they have learned with the rest of the staff in their schools. Further books and articles to deepen the topic and contacts with some other practitioners all over Europe and in the world will be suggested by the trainer. The methods shared and explored and the bibliography given will allow the participants to complete and improve their educational path.

## 5 days programme (25 hours)

- course sessions (Monday to Friday)
  - Introduction of participants, outline of the programme, warm ups and ice breakers
  - Introduction to education system in Finland
  - School visit 1 - tapping into - organization of education
  - School visit 2 - tapping into - classroom management
  - Individual support
  - Presentation of outcomes, discussion, evaluation and closing session
- cultural and social programme
  - Teambuilding and networking activities
  - City tour or a cultural trip