IES Juan Sebastián Elcano

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Description of the organisation

IES Juan Sebastián Elcano is a School for Secondary Compulsory Education and Post Compulsory Education (Bachillerato and Vocational Studies) with over 15 years of experience in bilingual teaching and international projects.

Established in Sanlúcar (Spain) in 1992, our school is engaged in a constant improvement in the management of foreign languages, in the context of secondary and post secondary education, as a means of intercultural communications, awareness of cultural diversity and an important skill for our students' future careers.

IES Juan Sebastián Elcano has a staff of 75 teachers and nearly one third of them are bilingual specialists.

The school has become an educational referent in our city due to its well-known academic level both in Compulsory and Post Compulsory Education, its good results in pre-university regional exams (PEvAU), its Vocational Studies on Hairdressing and Aesthetics, as well as its constant participation in diverse international projects in order to widen our students' way of thinking.

The school is actually involved in many educational plans and projects such as:

- Erasmus+ K229 "Rightful Perception of Reality"
- Erasmus+ K229 "Tackle Complex Challenges and Develop Innovative Solutions by Mastering Critical Thinking Abilities"
- Erasmus+ KA201 "Bilingualism in Monolingual Contexts"
- "Escuela Espacio de Paz" and "Plan de Convivencia". Both of them try to present school as a peaceful environment in which students learn how to manage their emotions and deal with conflicts. This way they will be much more likely to become positive and considerate adults.
- "Plan de Igualdad" and "Plan de Prevención de la Violencia de Género". They intend to make students aware of the importance of equality between men and women, and to prevent violence against women.
- "Plan Aldea". It deals with environmental awareness.
- "Plan Vivir y Sentir el Patrimonio", which highlights the knowledge and protection of our cultural patrimony.
- "Programa Impulsa". It focuses on the prevention of early school dropout and promotes post compulsory studies at colleges and universities.
- "Practicum Universitario". Teaching training for future teachers.
- Working groups dealing with the dissemination of educational online tools such as Google Classroom and Moodle.

Experience of the organization in previous European projects

IES Juan Sebastián Elcano has been participating in different international projects for over 10 years:

2010-2011. Comenius. *La Aventura Americana: Una Experiencia Compartida*. (Peterborough. UK) Developed together with the World School, students from both schools worked together for 11 days in order to share experiences about their cultures and the way each country contributed to the discovery and development of the American continent; a topic directly related with the First Circunnavigation and the person after whom our school is called.

2011-2012. Comenius. Acercando Culturas en Secundaria. (Peterborough. UK)

Developed together with the World School, students from both schools worked together for 11 days in order to share experiences about their culture, traditions, patrimony, constitution, language, etc

2011-2012. Comenius. Acercando Culturas en Bachillerato. (Edinburgh, UK)

Developed together with the World School, students from both schools worked together for 11 days in order to share experiences about their culture, traditions, patrimony, constitution, language, etc

2014-2015 Linguistic Immersion (Salamanca, Spain).

Students from Juan Sebastián Elcano School and Santa Eulalia School met together for several days in order to practice and improve their fluency and knowledge of the English language through different activities, cultural tours, specific projects, etc.

2015-2016 Linguistic Immersion (Salamanca, Spain).

Students from Juan Sebastián Elcano School and Santa Eulalia School (Mérida, Spain) met together for several days in Salamanca in order to practice and improve their fluency and knowledge of the English language through different activities, cultural tours, specific projects, etc.

2016-2017 Linguistic Immersion (Ronda, Spain)

Students from Juan Sebastián Elcano School and Milton Keynes School (London) met together in Ronda in order to practice and improve their fluency and knowledge of the English language through different activities, cultural tours, specific projects, etc.

2017-2018 Linguistic Immersion (Ronda, Spain)

Students from Juan Sebastián Elcano School and Milton Keynes School (London) met together in Ronda in order to practice and improve their fluency and knowledge of the English language through different activities, cultural tours, specific projects, etc.

2028-2019 Linguistic Immersion (Sanlúcar, Spain)

Students from Juan Sebastián Elcano School and Milton Keynes School (London) met together in Sanlúcar in order to practice and improve their fluency and knowledge of the English language through different activities, cultural tours, specific projects, etc.

2018-2021. Erasmus+ KA229. Rightful Perception of Reality. (Turkey, Italy, Greece, Portugal and Spain).

This project focuses on issues related to immigration, discrimination, associationism, and non-governmental organisations.

2020 – 2022. Erasmus+ KA229. *Tackle Complex Challenges and Develop Innovative Solutions by Mastering Critical Thinking Abilities.* (UK, Poland, Turkey, Greece and Spain).

We are currently working on this project, which deals with topics such as the truth and lies about immigration, media manipulation, democratic system, human rights, discrimination, and civic motivation and involvement.

2020-2022. Erasmus+ KA201. Bilingualism in Monolingual Contexts. (Italy, Spain, Lithuania, Romania)

We are currently working in cooperation with other schools from Spain and Portugal to apply for another Erasmus+ KA 229 project which will deal with the relation existing between our culture, traditions, history, patrimony, economy, etc. and the wine production in the local areas of the partners that will be participating in the project.

Experience and Expertise of the organization in the project's subject area

IES Juan Sebastián Elcano first started to be a bilingual school in 2005, once our application was approved by the educational authorities. Since then, the number of students groups included in our bilingual system has gradually increased. It is expected that next course all the secondary education groups will be bilingual, while in post secondary education (Bachillerato) 50% of our students will choose bilingual studies.

One third of our teaching staff are bilingual teachers who have at least a B2 certificate. Many of them continue working on their linguistic update by attending different courses, activities, Official Language School (EOI), linguistic immersions in foreign countries offered by educational authorities, etc. Our teachers are fully committed to the development of bilingualism and always try to present innovative material and resources for our students in order to involve them in the natural and fluent use of the foreign language during their lessons.

Our school has also been a Trinity Examination Centre from 2010 until 2017.

We are currently offering our students extra curricular formation to get the DELF Scolaire certificate.

Contributions that can be provided to the project

Our school can offer its experience as a bilingual educational institution. We can work with our students any topic suggested or needed to carry out the project.

Reasons of involvement in the project

We consider that bilingualism is essential nowadays to become a complete international citizen in our current global world. So we pretend to work in order to achieve different goals and know how to improve our way of dealing with it.

It is also a good project to share different points of view and approaches towards bilingualism in monolingual contexts depending on the country in which it is implemented.

Our students will obviously benefit from this, as they will hopefully enter the professional world enjoying better opportunities and formation.

Contact Person's Experience and Expertise

Juan Carlos López Torres

He is the School Principal. He graduated in Maths from the University of Seville. When he arrived at IES Juan Sebastián Elcano, he soon started working as the Chief of Studies and later on as the School Principal. In both positions he has participated in the implementation of the bilingual studies at our school, always trying to do the best for our students. He has also been the Coordinator of some of the plans carried out at our school, such as "Escuela Espacio de Paz" or "Plan de Convivencia".

Mariana Manuela Acosta Serrano

She graduated in Maths from the University of Cádiz. She is the current coordinator of our Erasmus+ KA229 project, and has actively participated in the previous Erasmus+ project *Rightful Perception of Reality*. Mariana is the current Coordinator of "Escuela Espacio de Paz" too. Since she became a member of the school's teaching staff back in 2017, she has also actively participated in the bilingual project.

Patricia Mena López

She graduated in English Philology from the University of Granada. Apart from teaching English, she is the current Bilingual Coordinator of our school. Since 2016, when she started teaching at our school, she has worked in order to improve the students' use of the English language in different contexts and for different purposes. She was also the Chief of the English Language Department from 2018 until 2020.