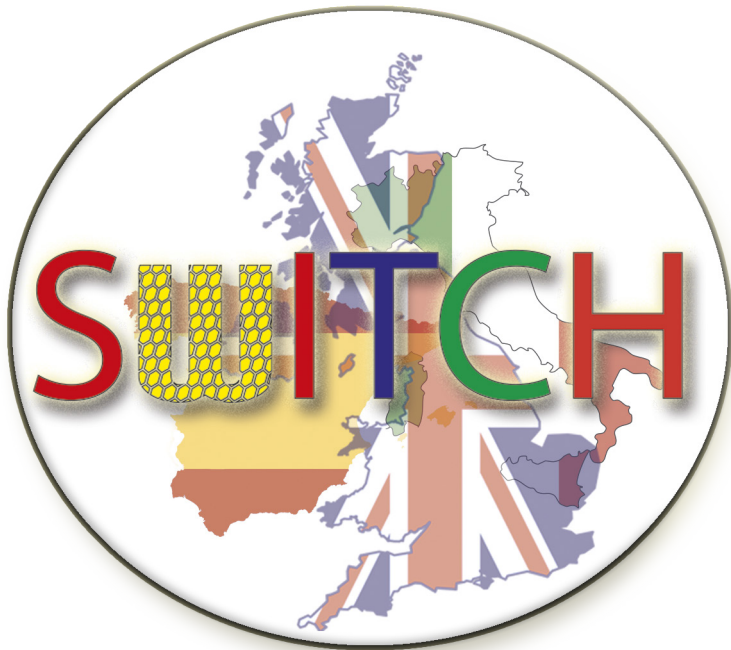




Erasmus +



AN ERASMUS PLUS PROJECT ENTITLED STAFF AND STUDENTS WORKING TOGETHER FOR CHANGE SEPTEMBER 2016-SEPTEMBER 2018

# INTRODUCING ... SWITCH

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# INTRODUCTION & WELCOME TO SWITCH

We are delighted to have received European funding to run an exciting and intensive staff development programme with two partner schools. Our partners are ITE Tambosi-Battisti School in Trento, Italy and Institut Puig Castellar in Santa Coloma de Gramenet, Barcelona, Spain.

The project is intended to enable the staff involved to teach basic skills or key competencies in new, engaging and inspiring ways. This will result in many more students gaining basic skills qualifications that they need in order to progress into higher level vocational education and training (VET) programmes or employment.

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- To enhance the quality of teaching and learning in the VET curriculum
- To create a model of collaborative staff development, working with local, regional, national and international organisations. This will be done by working together to develop innovative methods of delivery ( e.g. an eGuide to staff development, TEDx talks, and Teachmeets)
- Enable the effective delivery and assessment of Key Competencies ( basic skills, transversal skills, digital skills and entrepreneurship skills) within the VET curriculum.
- To establish a culture of learners who can work with teachers to develop and assess new learning resources to assist in teaching of Key Competencies
- To foster partnerships with local schools, employers and career agencies in the delivery of project activities
- To make explicit the outcomes, activities and outputs of the project through effective dissemination.

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

This project is innovative in that we will be using it as the basis of a 3 year Transformative Staff Development Programme and this will be linked to the group work tasks and virtual activities which we will carry out with our partners.

The project will involve learning, teaching and training events in the UK, Spain and Italy, including work shadowing, attendance at TeachMeets, visits to employers and student focus groups.

This project will draw on academically robust educational theories and practices and will result in the production of the following:

- A resource bank to support the teaching of Key Competences
- An eGuide for Staff Development,
- The investigation of development of an “ App” for Staff Development
- An evaluative learner voice blog

# PARTICIPATION IN PROJECT SWITCH

This project is designed to impact across all three organisations and communities. There are plenty of different ways for staff and students to be involved in the project.

**Q:** Can students be involved?

**R:** Most definitely yes! We need students to help develop learning resources and evaluate them. We will also need students to help us to run the TeachMeets and take pictures etc..

**Q:** Is this project just for teaching staff?

**R:** No. There are plenty of opportunities for all staff to be involved, in particular staff who are involved in the supporting of teaching and learning.

**Q:** What does the project involve?

**R:** Where do we start? It is a wide reaching project which has been developed to include specific outcomes such as the production of high quality teaching resources and the organisation of staff development events and educational conferences. In order to achieve these there many different types of jobs that need to be undertaken and that is where willing volunteers are more than welcome.

**Q:** Which curriculum areas are covered in the remit of the project?

**R:** Any vocational area is eligible for this project. Halesowen College is the lead partner and will select those areas that are best placed to meet the desired outcomes. It is our intention to involve as many curriculum areas as possible. Our Spanish and Italian partners offer vocational courses in mainly IT, Business, Marketing, Finance, Travel and Tourism and Administration.

## KEY CONTACTS

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