**From:** UK LON erasmusplusapplications (British Council) <erasmusplus.applications@britishcouncil.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 31, 2015 4:40 PM  
**To:** Christopher Souvlis  
**Subject:** Erasmus+ Key Action 201 - Outcome of Selection Process

Dear Chris,

**Erasmus+ 2015 Key Action 2, School Education Strategic Partnership Project**

**Outcome of selection process**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project name:** | Pupil Health & Well-Being -- An Education Priority 4 Europe's Schools |
| **Reference number:** | 2015-1-UK01-KA201-013732 |
| **Overall score:** | 89/100 |

Thank you for your interest in the Erasmus+ programme and for submitting a KA2 School Education Strategic Partnership Project. Weare pleased to inform you that your application **has been approved for funding.**

**Please note:** this offer of funding is **conditional** **on validation checks** being completed successfully by the UK National Agency.

**Validation checks**

The UK National Agency is required to carry out further checks on the documents you have provided via the [Participant Portal](https://3c-bs.gmx.com/mail/client/dereferrer?redirectUrl=http%3A%2F%2Fec.europa.eu%2Feducation%2Fparticipants%2Fportal%2Fdesktop%2Fen%2Fhome.html)before contracting with your organisation. Therefore, please ensure that all required documents are correctly completed, up-to-date and uploaded in the Participant Portal **by 10th August 2015 at the latest**. Please advise all partners in your project to do the same. If any documents are missing after this date or if the UK National Agency is not able to verify any of the information provided, the offer of funding may be withdrawn.

The two forms that need to be completed as a part of the validation checks are the Legal Entity form (public, private or individual) with supporting evidence of your organisation’s legal status and Financial Identification form with supporting bank statement or bank stamp. Bank accounts need to be in the name of your organisation, we cannot contract with individuals.

**Budget**

Total approved grant: €169926

Reductions: Exceptional costs

**Appeals Process**

We are only able to award costs that are within the funding rules stipulated in the [Erasmus+ programme guide](https://3c-bs.gmx.com/mail/client/dereferrer?redirectUrl=https%3A%2F%2Ferasmusplus.org.uk%2Ffile%2F170%2Fdownload) by the European Commission (EC). For Erasmus+ applicants (the organisation/institution submitting a grant application to the UK National Agency), appeals may be considered where, for example, your budget has been reduced. Please note that we can only change the status of your application in the event of an administrative error on our part or where published procedures have not been adhered to as detailed in our [How to Apply pages](https://3c-bs.gmx.com/mail/client/dereferrer?redirectUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.erasmusplus.org.uk%2Fhow-to-apply) of the Erasmus+ website. We cannot consider information that was not included in the original application form.

An appeal must be submitted within 30 days of the date of this email, using the [appeal form](https://3c-bs.gmx.com/mail/client/dereferrer?redirectUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.erasmusplus.org.uk%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2FErasmus%252B%2520Appeals%2520Form.doc).  We aim to hear appeals within 10 working days of receipt and to provide you with an outcome within 10 days of hearing the appeal. You can find more information on the appeals process [here](https://3c-bs.gmx.com/mail/client/dereferrer?redirectUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.erasmusplus.org.uk%2Fcontact-us%2Fhow-to-make-an-appeal).

**Issuing of Grant Agreements and starting your project**

We aim to issue you with your Grant Agreement no later than the 28th August 2015. After you receive your Grant Agreement, please check, sign and return it to us. We will countersign the Grant Agreement **once all the documentation is correct and when we receive the programme funds from the** **E.C**. We will send your payment to you within 30 days of countersigning. We would like to inform you that we have not yet received the 2015 programme funds as we are currently awaiting this year’s Delegation Agreement from the E.C. The Delegation Agreement gives the UK National Agency the authority to issue Grant Agreements and the programme funding to successful applicants. We would therefore advise you to make alternative arrangements if necessary, such as moving your activity dates. Please contact us if you feel this will affect your activity and would require advice from us.

Your project duration specified in your application form is  – . Any project activity occurring outside of these dates cannot be funded.

**\*\*\*Any activity undertaken before the Grant Agreement is signed by the UK National Agency is done so at your own risk. If for any reason we are not able to contract with you, these costs will not be covered by the UK National Agency.\*\*\***

**Travel Advice**

For projects taking place outside of the UK, you must check and follow the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) travel advice prior to departure ([https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice](https://3c-bs.gmx.com/mail/client/dereferrer?redirectUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Fforeign-travel-advice)). Should the FCO restrict travel to the country or region you are travelling to, please contact us to discuss the situation. Depending on the precise FCO advice activities may need to be postponed or cancelled.

**Assessor Feedback**

**Total score: 89/100**

**Relevance: 27/30**

This project addresses European objectives related to strengthening the profile of the teaching professions, and strengthening education and training paths of educators and youth workers. It is also indicated that the project is of relevance to enhancing the quality of early childhood education and care (ECEC), although there is very little specific reference to this objective in the project design or implementation plans.

It is claimed that the approach is innovative although many schools across Europe have been involved in health promotion schemes and activities for a number of years. However, a concerted attempt to focus on health and well-being within teacher training courses builds on the recommendations of some universities and research institutions and represents an innovation of potential significance to schools and others in the field of education.

Ineffective health education is a problem across Europe and it is therefore appropriate to take a transnational approach to the issues enabling the participants to learn from cultural and educational good practice.

**Quality of the project design and implementation: 17.5/20**

The proposal demonstrates that all phases of the project have been carefully considered and there are plans to construct joint strategies for communication, evaluation, and dissemination. There are detailed proposals to ensure that budget control and time management systems are effective.

The training modules will form the basis of a one week in-service training course for current school staff and will be incorporated into the teacher training syllabus for the partnership universities. The work programme to achieve this is realistic and appropriate

The Gantt timetable attachment provides a clear overview of the proposed activities over the duration of the project.

There are some insightful strategies to be used in monitoring and evaluation activities including ascertaining whether newly qualified teachers from Year 1 of the project incorporate anticipated developments in their teaching. However, it is not entirely clear whether there will be appropriate control measures in place to ensure the reliability and validity of the findings.

Although it appears that the universities will certificate any achievements during this project it is not clear whether there will be an attempt to unify accreditation through a European scheme such as Europass.

**Quality of the project team and the cooperation arrangements: 17.5/20**

The project partners were chosen for their awareness and expertise of the project theme in relation to school education.  Each institution has demonstrated the potential to share, develop and transfer innovative practice within the partnership and to wider school education communities.   The 3 university partners each train future teachers and have a strong research background and project management experience.

The application helpfully provides clear details about the experience, skills and expertise of each institution’s project teams. It is evident that the partnership has a mixture of experience with respect to international cooperation.

The partnership comprises a wide range of expertise.

The responsibility for coordinating the communication schedule has been delegated to one partner and there will be 4 transnational meetings during the 2 years of the project. Although the dates for these meetings are shown it might have been helpful to have provided a clearer outline of the purpose for these meetings. It might also have been useful to give more information about team structures and how all stakeholders in the overall partnership will be kept informed and / or involved. The partners intend using a variety of platforms to aid communication including eTwinning.

**Impact:  27/30**

Monitoring and evaluation methods and techniques proposed are detailed and will help to move the project towards achieving its aims and ensuring that the project is good value for money. Many varied monitoring techniques are planned which include surveys; questionnaires; web statistics; interviews; and observations. The frequency of their use will be agreed, at the first project meeting, with the external evaluators sharing strategies which will be incorporated for dissemination.  E-twinning shared space will also be used for dissemination purposes between the schools. Measuring longer term impact will be by monitoring the partner Universities to ensure that they are all delivering the training modules developed for the education of future teachers.  There will be ongoing tracking of whether student teachers are using the module learning in practice in year 2. Teacher trainees and teachers in partner schools will complete a needs analysis survey at the start of the project. Areas for development will be identified from the needs analysis and success criteria for the project set from these.  At the end of the project, outcomes will be measured against the success criteria by way of a second survey.

**Overall comments from Assessor:**

The proposal demonstrates that all phases of the project have been carefully considered and there are plans to construct joint strategies for communication, evaluation, and dissemination. There are detailed proposals to ensure that budget control and time management systems are effective.

There are some insightful strategies to be used in monitoring and evaluation activities including ascertaining whether newly qualified teachers from Year 1 of the project incorporate anticipated developments in their teaching. However, it is not entirely clear whether there will be appropriate control measures in place to ensure the reliability and validity of the findings.

The application helpfully provides clear details about the experience, skills and expertise of each institution’s project teams. It is intended that each country contributes equally in an ongoing manner which fully exploits particular expertise.

There is an effective communication strategy although it might have been useful to give more information about team structures and how all stakeholders in the overall partnership will be kept informed and / or involved.

There are appropriate qualitative and quantitative measures in place to determine the extent to which the majority of the objectives and anticipated impacts are achieved. However, although the application mentions that pupils might become “beneficiaries” there is no elaboration of the actual anticipated impact on pupils nor does there appear to be any explicit intention to evaluate any benefits which do occur.

The partnership has significant experience in effective dissemination and it intends creating an overall dissemination plan which will be used throughout the duration of the project. The plan will be aimed at a variety of target audiences, will be synchronised to project milestones, and will use a number of strategies to ensure the optimal means of publicising and informing about project findings and outputs.

**Your Contact Details**

We use the following email address csouvlis@johndonne.southwark.sch.uk for all correspondence relating to your project. Please advise us immediately if there have been any changes to the contact details provided in your application form, or if you do not want to accept the grant offer.

**Further Support**

We will contact you with further information about the support the UK National Agency will offer to help you get your project started and manage it in line with the programme requirements. We would also recommend you visit the [Erasmus+ website](https://3c-bs.gmx.com/mail/client/dereferrer?redirectUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.erasmusplus.org.uk%2F) and sign up to the Erasmus+ newsletter for the latest news and updates.

In the meantime, if you have any queries, please contact the Erasmus+ Helpline on 0161 957 7755 or email us aterasmusplus.applications@britishcouncil.org.

On behalf of the UK National Agency, we would like to congratulate you on your success and we look forward to working with you.

Yours sincerely

**Erasmus+ Applications Team**

Erasmus+ UK National Agency | British Council Wales

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Wed 9/2/2015 3:58 PM

Deleted Items

**To:**

Christopher Souvlis;

You replied on 9/9/2015 12:00 PM.

Action Items

Project reference: 2015-1-UK01-KA201-013732

Dear Chris,

I am writing to you regarding the appeal you submitted in relation to your Erasmus+ project application. The appeal has been reviewed by the Appeals Committee taking into account the programme rules as defined in the [2015 Programme Guide](https://erasmusplus.org.uk/file/170/download) and we are able to partially accept your appeal.

Please see below the Exceptional Costs that we are able to reinstate on the ones that remain reduced.

Translation costs of Intellectual Outputs €6,000 – **Reinstate.**These costs for translating Intellectual Outputs are sufficiently justified in the form and it is clear that these are being subcontracted.

Costs for Project website €6,000 – **Remain reduced.**There is insufficient justification for these costs in the application form. “An experienced web designer will be contracted to design and manage our web site (interactive) allowing all partners to upload documentation and for the project and its outcomes to be disseminated”. This is not clear enough justification that these costs should be awarded under Exceptional Costs. Costs for project dissemination should be accounted for under the Project Management and Implementation budget category.

Wiki page €2,600 – **Remain reduced**. There is insufficient justification for these costs in the application form. In your appeal you stated that this is needed for dissemination. The application form states that the Wiki page will “be used by all partners as a forum for communication”. The Project Management and Implementation budget should primarily be used for costs associated with dissemination activities and communication between partners.

Interpreters €7,650 – **Remain reduced**. There is insufficient justification for these costs. In your appeal you state that the Spanish participants would not be able to fully participate and contribute to the development of the outcomes (or to adequately host the 2 international meetings and the training event scheduled to be held in Las Palmas). Costs to facilitate communication between partners should be covered through Project Management and Implementation budget.

External evaluation €17,000 – **Remain reduced.** There is insufficient justification for these costs in the application form. Although Global Learning Association and their external evaluation are mentioned in the narrative of the form the need for this external evaluation is not explained in significant depth, neither is how the significant total of €17,000 in funding has been calculated.

Training venue hire €2,250 –**Remain reduced**. There is insufficient justification for these costs in the application form. With two partners located in Las Palmas it is unclear from the application form why these costs are necessary. “We will hire the Teachers In-service Training Centre 2, Las Palmas ES  for the 1 week Training event venue in 2017 in order to accommodate the training sessions: including Lecture Halls, break out rooms, PA system and ICT support”. As per the funding rules an Exceptional Cost “has to be related to services that cannot be provided directly by the participating organisations for duly justified reasons”.

The funding rules for Exceptional Costs are as follows:

**Exceptional costs***Contribution to real costs related to subcontracting or purchase of goods and services. Costs for providing a financial guarantee, if the National Agency asks for it. Real costs 75% of eligible costs Maximum of 50.000 EUR per project (excluding costs for providing a financial guarantee)*

**Conditional:***subcontracting has to be related to services that cannot be provided directly by the participating organisations for duly justified reasons. Equipment cannot concern normal office equipment or equipment normally used by the participating organisations.*

The funding rules for Project Management and Implementation are:

**Project Management and Implementation:***Project management (e.g. planning, finances, coordination and communication between partners, etc.); small scale learning/teaching/training materials, tools, approaches etc. Virtual cooperation and local project activities (e.g. class-room project work with learners, youth work activities, organisation and mentoring of embedded learning/training activities, etc.); information, promotion and dissemination (e.g. brochures, leaflets, web information, etc.).Costs linked to the implementation of transnational youth initiatives.*

The starting point for funding is that many of the above costs relating to dissemination and communication between project partners should be accounted for through the Project Management and Implementation budget and other elements like the venue and management of a website through the resources and capacity of the partner organisations. This is in line with the programme rules on co-financing found on page 237 of the 2015 Programme Guide “…an EU grant is an incentive to carry out a project which would not be feasible without the EU financial support, and is based on the principle of co-financing. Co-financing implies that the EU grant may not finance the entire costs of the project; the project must be funded by sources of co-financing other than the EU grant.” In order for Exceptional Costs to successfully funded items must been be duly and clearly justified in terms of them being above and beyond what the partners can provide themselves.

In summary €6,000 will be reinstated to your Exceptional Costs budget to cover translation costs meaning that your total grant awarded will be €175,926.

Kind regards,

Jeanette

Erasmus+ UK National Agency | British Council Wales

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